Sweeney, Robert (LBB)

From:

Sent: 18 June 2024 12:53
To: Forward Planning

Subject: Oppose the Edgware Policy in the Barnet Local Plan

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Representation from: Anthony, Paula and Benjamin Kopitko

Address:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the Edgware Policy in the proposed Main Modifications to the Barnet Local Plan.

I have lived in Edgware for over 20 years. I really really like that I can go to the shops, gym, bank, restaurants and park easily. The proposed development seems to be severely overpopulated, creating high density residences which Edgware will not be able to support especially in terms of parking. I'm also extremely concerned about the pressure the increased number of residents will put on doctors surgeries when it is already difficult to get an appointment. The same can be said for dentist appointments too. As a family with 2 children, I am also hugely concerned about the level of crime with such a large influx of people to the area. Policing is almost impossible at the moment. How will Edgware residents be made to feel safe? In addition, the ridiculous large amount of litter on and around Edgware High Street is horrendous and already unmanageable. How do you think this will improve with such increased numbers of people moving to Edgware?

Beyond the practicalities above the aesthetics of having huge tower blocks that are over 12 storeys high when all of the surrounding properties (with the exception of 3 buildings) are only a maximum of 4 levels high will mean that the centre of Edgware will look and feel like a concrete jungle and not a suburb at the edge of London.

We have experienced a similar development in Colindale where parking is impossible. We tried to go out for dinner there and we had to give up and go home after driving around for 30 minutes looking unsuccessfully for parking.

As a resident of Edgware, I understand the plan has been under development since 2020. However, I only recently became aware of its existence and its potential impact on our community.

Unfortunately, I haven't received any written communication from Barnet Council about the Local Plan, despite its significance for Edgware's future. Given the potential for significant change to Edgware's character and residents' quality of life, I believe wider notification would have been helpful.

I found the volume and complexity of the Local Plan and the related documents overwhelming. The 42-day consultation period seems insufficient for anybody to comprehend the plan's details – especially for anyone with work or caring commitments.

However, I am deeply concerned about the impact of the Local Plan on Edgware and its residents, both present and future.

In light of these concerns, I would like to express my support for any representations made by Save Our Edgware and the Edgware Community Association. Please consider their submissions as reflecting my own concerns.

Please can you arrange for this letter to be considered as part of the Equality Impact Assessment? Please please can you acknowledge receipt.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Paula and Benjamin Kopitko