Sweeney, Robert (LBB)

To:

From: Sent: 14 June 2024 14:21

Forward Planning Concerns Regarding the Edgware Policy in Barnet Local Plan Main Modifications Subject:

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Representation from John Sheer

Address:

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

As Edgware is my local town centre, I use it for shopping and as a travel hub to access central London via public transport. I also frequently travel across Edgware to get to other parts of the suburb and neighbouring areas.

The local plan, if carried out, will adversely affect most areas of my life:

- Apart from 5 to 10 years of added congestion during the construction phase, the plan will add considerably to the population of the suburb with nearly 5,000 new homes;
- Yet despite the planned substantial increase in residents, there is nothing in the plan that provides a commensurate enhancement in infrastructure or public services: no improvement in public transport, no extra doctors' surgeries (it is nearly impossible to get an appointment now, without an additional 20,000 residents adding to the burden), no extra schools etc;
- Traffic in and around the centre of Edgware will be permanently congested it is bad enough at the moment:
- Suburban Edgware will be turned into a high density inner city area, destroying our chosen way of life; and
- The environment will be transformed from that of a leafy suburb to a monstrous mini-Manhattan city of sky-scrapers.

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.
As a resident of the Harrow side of Edgware 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, wider notification would have been helpful.
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 fully the <u>representations</u> made by Save Our Edgware and the Edgware Community Association. Please consider their submissions as reflecting my own concerns.
Yours sincerely
John Sheer