

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Subject: Concerns Regarding the Edgware Policy in Barnet Local Plan Main Modifications  
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Representation from: Robert Vertes [REDACTED]

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

My wife and I have lived in Edgware for almost 50 years. We have enjoyed the use of good services including transport and library, parks, and good choice of schools, banks, restaurants, shops and medical services. The Broadwalk Shopping Centre has been important to us to be able shop locally for almost all our essential needs, and for me as someone who can't ride a bicycle, and physically often needs a parking place, was accessible. Both my wife and are in recovery from cancer and are in our seventies; while we enjoy walking if we can, we have many friends who also need the parking available to make use of the Broadwalk facilities, including the shops, pharmacy and optical services. If we were doing a major shop, parking spaces were always available, and this was especially helpful when I was under treatment for cancer and had less strength to walk. Although now reasonably fit, I am aware that this may not always be the case and have many friends who could not use the local shops if they were unable to park.

The above starts to explain why I object very much to some of the proposals in the Edgware Local Development plan. This plan represents a massive overdevelopment which will damage the character of the area and the quality of life for local residents without creating good quality affordable homes – the huge tower block which has taken ages to build is still unoccupied, and it's already affecting our TV reception from Crystal Palace and Alexandra Palace. The proposed height of the buildings is disproportionately high compared to all but the two current tower blocks and will affect residents negatively in the rest of Edgware. Local services will be seriously affected by the potential density of the housing; the loss of the shops and other facilities currently in the Broadwalk will mean many local residents having to travel further afield to obtain important shopping, medical, and other services causing serious inconvenience and needing public transport or cars to reach them. Elderly and disabled residents will be especially badly affected.

There is insufficient space for play areas and green walkways in the excessively dense compactness planned, and in the alleyways there is likely, as in the South of London estates, opportunities for inappropriate activities, criminal and antisocial. The proposed estate number of homes will also create huge pressure on parking in Edgware as the number of parking spaces on the site are so limited. Current parking restrictions in local streets will create competition for spaces outside the new development. Residents in the one tower block that exists already have to park in local streets. The plan appears not to recognise that many people need vehicles to be able to work or have access to facilities. There is no space in local schools, nor seemingly any proposals for new schools, for the expansion this population increase will cause. Doctors' surgeries and other medical facilities will be overwhelmed too. The effect on Station Road will be tremendously unhelpful for local citizens. There will also be huge additional pressure on Edgware tube station, which already has a large footfall and yet does not have toilet facilities. There seems no plan for redevelopment of our station unlike that in Colindale. The new estate there at least has a lovely park nearby for residents, but relatively few affordable shops. There must be a plan to improve Edgware Station's facilities for both trains and buses whatever the outcome of this consultation - but the impending closure of the line for 6 months for Colindale; station's redevelopment makes me seriously worried about the effect on local services during any proposed local building and improvement affecting Edgware station. The proposal for a new underground bus depot has apparently already been identified as a fire risk by the London Fire Service and needs to be reconsidered.

I have attended a number of the demonstrations which took place in recent months by concerned local citizens, objecting to issues on the local plan for Edgware . In the 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.

Yours sincerely  
Robert N Vertes

