

PLANNING APPLICATION PUBLIC COMMENT

Application number: PP/18/05313
Site Address: Heythrop College, 23-24 Kensington Square, LONDON, W8 5HH
Proposal: Reinstatement of three townhouses (Class C3), (part of 23 and 24 Kensington Square); refurbishment of college building (part of 23 Kensington Square) and use as an extra care facility (Class C2). Demolition of all other buildings on site. Erection of deck over adjacent London Underground line and construction of 5 buildings (ranging between 1 and 8 storeys in height) for use as an extra care facility including units, communal facilities and services areas, community hall and on-site affordable housing and associated access parking, servicing and landscaping. (MAJOR DEVELOPMENT)

Comment received: I object to this proposed project for many reasons. I question whether this area needs yet another block of luxury housing that will not bring much benefit to the general local community. I feel that the loss of the college itself, along with the Dyslexia Centre and kindergarten is very sad for the community.
The Heythrop site is an exceptional and beautiful property and the planned development shows no respect for the integrity of the existing property. To triple the amount of building on the site, enabled only by building over the tube line, cramming in housing for the wealthy while destroying the surrounding area is totally insensitive. I don't understand why a more site-appropriate proposal hasn't been put forward. As the proposal stands, the disruption to the community would be unbearable, unjustifiable, unprecedented, and clearly unacceptable. I am concerned about the price of the proposed luxury flats as they will clearly only be available to the very rich and therefore encourage even more "absentee landlords" than we have already in London. This site is a precious London asset and should be treated with more respect. I strongly urge the Council to refuse this application.

Date of Comment: 02/10/2018 17:48:12
Comment type: Objection