

## **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:** The present plans for the development are outrageous as they do not conform to the Council planning policy which says "social and community uses" should be protected and retained, to protect low-value uses, such as residential - NOT super-luxury 1 and 2 flats costing up to £7.75 million with huge services charges. (Council's Local Planning Policy CK1)

They can only be for buy-to-leave-empty properties owned through offshore companies for occasional uses or with the 1 year lease option which would appeal to medical tourists. A way to park money in London. These occasional residents do not contribute to the local economy.

The scheme only involves minimal level of "extra-care" and the developer claims the plans are the equivalent of a care home - which is patently untrue as it has everything for luxury housing - but they claim exemption from providing affordable housing.

THIS IS NOT A SOCIAL & COMMUNITY BENEFIT. Just another development which spoils our local community. In the developer's phrase flats for "Ultra High Net Worth" buyers.

The plans involve massively increased scale - over 3 times floor space of present buildings.

The deck over TFL Rail lines must be stopped - the plan needs separate long-term planning consideration.

The 5 year construction traffic nightmare running daily down our road and through quiet side streets with no benefit to the local community whatsoever.

The planning committee should remember that their duty to the community and their decisions should keep and preserve

Kensington for its real residents and not offshore people to have buy-to-leave-empty properties.

Date of Comment:

12/10/2018 11:00:05

Comment type:

Objection