

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: As a resident of Victoria Road who has lived in the area for more than twenty years, I have decided to express my concern about the proposed development of Heythrop College and the harm it is likely to do to this beautiful area of the RBK&C if approved.
The proposed development would eliminate all social and community uses - a college with a hall of residence - contrary to the Council's Local Plan Policy CK1, which seeks to preserve low-value Social & Community uses, against high-value uses such as luxury housing.
The "extra care" formula is not a care home but expensive residential retirement homes with huge service charges for what developers call "Ultra High Net Worth" buyers aimed at mostly foreign "Buy-to-Leave-Empty" buyers.
I am appalled at the massive scale of the development, which is totally inappropriate to site and area and the nightmare of a 5-year construction traffic peaking at 60 heavy lorry runs daily down quiet side streets such as Victoria Road, St Albans Grove and South End. In the circumstances, I ask the RBK&C to put a stop to this development.

Date of Comment: 22/10/2018 11:11:11
Comment type: Objection