Barnett, Jessica: PC-Plan

From: Philip Apostolides
Sent: 26 March 2014 22:08
To: Planning Policy

Subject: PARTIAL REVIEW OF THE CORE STRATEGY: BASEMENTS

PARTIAL REVIEW OF THE CORE STRATEGY: BASEMENTS

Dear Sir,

We are very concerned by the rapidly increasing number of basement developments and the inadequacy of the Council's current planning policies to deal with the extreme pressure to excavate basements. These developments due to their scale, duration and impacts on our neighbourhood during construction and the cumulative effect of successive schemes have severely affected our quality of life through both noise, vibration and dust and through the impact of construction traffic and long-term parking suspensions. I hope that your measure to ensure more control over dust, dirt, traffic etc. will mean that you will not allow numerous deep excavations to be carried out in the same small street at the same time.

We would like to have our support recorded in favour of the proposed changes.

However, we also share the reservations voiced by many of our neighbours about allowing basements to be built under the gardens of listed buildings such as those in Canning Place/Victoria Grove/Launceston Place and, therefore, would request that listed buildings be exempted from the proposal that basements may cover up to 50% of the garden.

As you know, these grade 2 listed buildings are not only old and carefully preserved but very tightly terraced and we are therefore concerned about the impact major basement projects will inevitably have on the structures of the neighbouring houses. Our houses, in Victoria Grove, have no substantial foundations.

Kind regards,

Philip and Charlotte Apostolides