From: Robin Berkeley
Sent: 31 August 2013 13:26
To: Planning Policy

Subject: RBKC Consultation on a new basement Policy relating to state planning policy CL7

Dear Sirs,

Returning from a long absence, I have time only to make a brief response to your consultation before the stated deadline.

The planning policy to which I am referring is CL7

I do consider the planning policy to be sound. Furthermore, as a layman, it appears to me that the planning policy is legally compliant.

The policy seems eminently sensible in that it is intended to tighten the far more lax existing policy that has led to abuse in many areas: ever-deeper digging, lengthy works, nuisance from noise dust and traffic disruption as well as damage to neighbouring properties, risk of flooding, etc. Each of the specific paragraphs in the proposed new policy is designed specifically to counter the many objectionable features of basement construction which have led to such resentment and public opposition from RBKC residents.

My hope is that the prohibition on basement construction under existing basements will lead to a clear definition of the difference between a "lower ground floor" and a "basement", which is open to abuse.

Kind regards

**Robin Berkeley**