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**Subject:**

Objection to application 2023/0282/P



To Camden Planning:

I was completely shocked at the Crown Estate's proposal and application to remove approximately 20 trees from the Chester Terrace Garden in Regents Park. This should under no circumstances be permitted as it goes against all Camden Council and London assembly guidelines.

The application in question has been made after what appears to be an invalid proposal to demolish and rebuild the garden balustrade wall which is an unnecessary project.

There has been no independent survey carried out on the wall and the corresponding work proposals despite requests from residents. The wall can be repaired rather than being demolished and replaced. We are therefore writing today with our strong objections to the submitted planning application as per the reasons below:

We are of the understanding that an independent structural engineer has surveyed the current balustrade surrounding Chester Terrace gardens. After studying the previous reports and quotes submitted by the CEPC this engineer does not believe the proposed works to the wall are necessary. This would in turn mean that the trees would not need to be removed. It is understood that repairs to the balustrade can be carried out to overcome any current cracks and stability issues. It would be in everyone's interest to monitor the balustrade over the following years, after repairing the cracks, and before making such a rash decision as to remove the 20 or so mature trees that are situated in the garden. Especially as these would in fact be removed for works that are completely unnecessary.

The removal of these trees would result in further noise and air pollution as well as taking away a vital security shield for residents especially in the current increased crime environment.

With the mayor's drive for less air pollution on busy roads such as Marylebone Road (adjacent to the park and a few steps from Chester Terrace) it would be contradictory to allow these mature trees to be cut down and removed. With the current push for more environmental consideration by maintaining as much greenery and green land as possible, it is beyond comprehension that the Crown Estate would want to cut down these trees and that Camden Planning would even consider allowing it to move forward. The trees are a feature of Regents Park's landscape and provide essential beauty to the area.

Taking into account that there really is no valid reason for these trees to be cut down (as the balustrade can clearly be repaired rather than removed and replaced) I would urge Camden Planning to reject this application in its entirety.

If you require anything further please feel free to contact us, and I would hope Camden will do all they can to reject this application and its proposed works.

Kind regards,