

**From:** Michael Carley  
**Sent:** 01 August 2023 18:17  
**To:** Planning  
**Cc:** David Fowler; Sarah Carley; Anne Sutherland  
**Subject:** 2023/2510/P and 2023/2653/L

Dear Camden Council,

As Camden residents, my wife and I object to this overblown development proposal, which is completely inappropriate for the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, and adjacent to Hawksmoor's St George's Church, and the grade I listed British Museum and Bedford Square. It will also dominate the skyline from many locations in Bloomsbury and Covent Garden.

An ignorant decision in the 1960s to allow Selkirk House to be built was mistake enough, but to compound that mistake by allowing this development flies in the face of all rational considerations. Rather than contributing in any way to the quality of the local environment in Bloomsbury, or to life in the Borough of Camden, it is clearly intended to do just one thing: to maximise floor area to increase the developer's profits. In short, it is an expression of greed over environmental and social considerations.

There is also a larger issue. This is that, time and again, a supposedly Labour Council sides with property developers at the expense of quality of life in Camden. The ten-storey tower replacing Belgrove House, which will diminish the quality of Georgian Argyle Square, is a recent example. While we understand the Council is short of funds, and thus afraid to stand up for its residents, allowing poor quality development blights quality of life in Camden for present and future generations, and degrades our architectural heritage.

Your sincerely,

Michael Carley, PhD. (Professor of the Built Environment, retired)  
Sarah Carley

105 Queen Alexandra Mansions, WC1H 9DP