

From: Mike Leigh
Sent: 29 August 2023 12:02
To: Planning
Cc: David Fowler; Save Museum Street; Keir Starmer
Subject: Museum Street/Travelodge Proposals

Your References: 2023/2510/P, 2023/2653/L

29th August 2023

Dear Sirs,

I wish to join the many concerned voices of serious objection to the proposed oversized replacement tower on the Museum Street Travelodge site.

Having lived and worked in this area for many years, I remember only too well the public alarm at the prospect of Centre Point, and the widely-expressed objections to that ill-conceived project.

The planners' total disregard for that popular concern, and the cynical way in which the duplicitous developer was allowed to proceed, resulted in the grotesque building that still tastelessly dominates the area, and you will be aware that many whole floors of the property stood empty for years.

And here we are again, doomed by the prospect of an even bigger and more irresponsible monstrosity.

Regarding matters both environmental and communal, we are in more enlightened times than those of sixty years ago - or so we are told. And yet Camden Council runs the risk of riding rough-shod over the community's highly intelligent and well-researched objections, which are supported by a comprehensively thought-out alternative scheme.

As we know, your own climate change policies, like those of the Government and the GLC, should naturally advocate retrofitting the Travelodge Tower, rather than sanctioning its wanton demolition, with all the inevitable far-reaching consequences.

I need not itemise here all the sound reasons why the Travelodge Tower proposals are preposterous: these have been comprehensively listed elsewhere by the Bloomsbury Association and many others.

But I do wish to express my profound consternation at the possibility that a popularly-elected council such as Camden should have the hypocrisy to turn a blind eye to the cultural, historic, communal and commercial importance of one its key districts by threatening to sanction a project as irresponsible as the Museum Street scheme.

Yours sincerely
Mike Leigh OBE

2 Museum Mansions
63A Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3BJ