From: Maria Grubmueller
Sent: 03 October 2023 16:18
To: Planning; David Fowler
Subject: Reference: 2023/2510/P and 2023/2653/L

Objection to One Museum Street: Reference: 2023/2510/P and 2023/2653/L

This email is coming to you from Vienna in Austria where I am joining the fight to save this historic area from being obliterated by a very tall tower.

I object to the proposal to replace an existing building which is too tall for the area and shouldn't have been allowed to be built when it was with an even taller and more imposing tower. It will overlook and over-shadow all nearby buildings and dominate the skyline. It will look completely out of place in this area and won't provide what is needed in this area/London: more affordable housing. There is already a lot of surplus office space in London, some of which should and will have to be converted to other uses. The scheme intends to demolish the existing tower and replace it with a brand new and much bigger one. Demolition is contrary to the climate change policies of the UK, the Greater London Council and Camden, all of which advocate retaining existing buildings and retrofitting them to bring them up to modern standards (which is perfectly possible). Putting a taller building on the site will set a precedent for even more taller buildings in the neighbourhood, which Camden will then find very hard to refuse.

It will adversely affect the listed buildings nearby such as St George's Church, Bedford Square, and the British Museum as well as the local Conservation Areas of Covent Garden, Bloomsbury and Soho.

This is the wrong scheme for everyone. It is wrong for Bloomsbury and for the community who lives here. It is wrong for those who value history and heritage, for the tourists and visitors who visit Bloomsbury. It is wrong for the climate, for the health and wellbeing of our children. It is wrong for responsible planners and politicians to approve this scheme as it is.

The absence of fresh ideas for improving the site rather than turning it into a big trough for venal contractors and politicians, speaks to the lack of imagination invested in this. I really do hope to hear that you've hired some new architects and are moving in a more humane direction.

Maria Grubmueller Vienna, Austria