

Clare McKitrick
on behalf of 7 Brownlow Mews Residents Association Ltd
c/- Flat 5, 7 Brownlow Mews
London WC1N 2LD

Planning Department
Camden Council
5 Pancras Sq
London N1C 4AG

20 October 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Planning Application for Relocation of Entrance at 7 Brownlow Mews

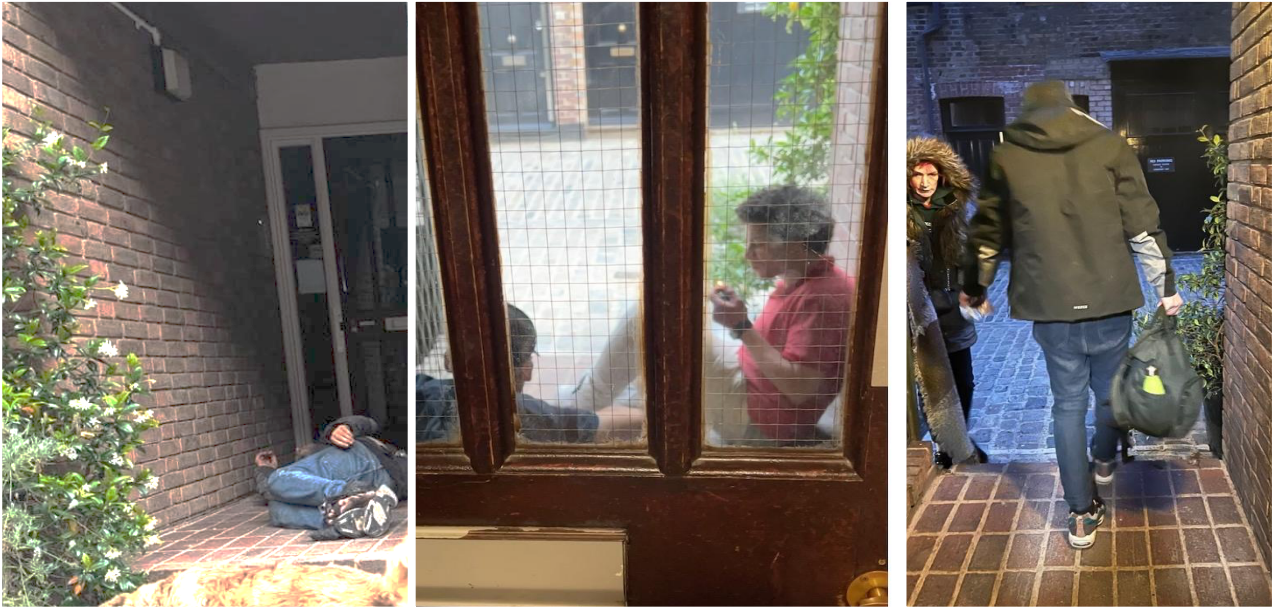
I am writing concerning our application above, to outline the necessity of the proposed work and to highlight the widespread support it has garnered from various stakeholders.

Why the Work is Needed:

Our community at 7 Brownlow Mews has been grappling with persistent issues of drug dealing and vagrancy in the entryway. Despite diligent efforts, including direct action and numerous calls to the police and other authorities, these problems remain, causing significant nuisance, safety, and hygiene concerns for the residents of our building, and the Mews in general. The current design of the entrance to the building makes it an obvious location for drug dealing and other forms of antisocial behaviour, because it shields perpetrators from public view. Below are photographs of the existing entryway:



And below is evidence from just a few of the incidents of drug dealing and anti-social behaviour we have experienced:



Scope of Work:

The work proposed will incorporate a small section of the currently external entryway into the internal hallway of the building. The entire area is within the existing boundaries of the titled area and site.

This change is designed to reduce and prevent the significant criminal and anti-social activities in the current open entryway, in line with Designing out Crime principles. The proposed changes will bring the building entrance closer to street level, addressing the concerns raised by our community.

As part of the work, the existing entry door will be brought forward and repainted, the entryphone panel will be relocated, and an external light will be installed over the entryway. Internally, the hallway will undergo redecoration, and internal lighting, including emergency lighting, will be extended to cover the incorporated area.

Engagement with Stakeholders:

We have actively engaged with various stakeholders and authorities during our quest to manage the existing incidents of drug dealing and antisocial behaviour, and to collaborate on a redesign of the entryway to prevent it.

Our engagement has involved discussions with council representatives, police officials, homelessness teams and community stakeholders. Notable figures expressing support include:

- Gary Bakall in the Planning Department, Camden
- Claudio da Silva Pinheiro from Camden's Community Safety team
- James Watson, Community Presence Manager for Camden

- Councillor Pat Callaghan
- Councillor Sue Vincent
- Aran Johnston from the Met Police's London Safety Centre, and
- Chloe Spong from the Kings Cross Neighbourhood Policing Team

A similar proposal on the same safety and crime prevention grounds was granted to another building in Brownlow Mews at number 10-13, under application 2018/1737/P.

In conclusion, we firmly believe that the proposed changes are crucial in enhancing the safety and well-being of our residents. The collaboration and support we have received from various stakeholders underscore the importance of this project for the community. We kindly request the Camden Council's favourable consideration of our planning application.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to a positive resolution that will contribute to the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

Clare McKitrick
on behalf of 7 Brownlow Mews Residents Association Ltd