

I object to these two planning applications and have stated my reasons below.

2024/0091/L (Listed Building) and 2023/5338/P (New heating plant and distribution pipe work)

- The installation of external pipe-work would not only be detrimental to the overall appearance of the building, it would also be an evasion of Camden's responsibilities to protect this Grade 2 listed property. Considering the objections Camden has always raised in the past regarding for example: paint on patio walls, installation of cameras on top level walkway and sky discs – (none of which would seriously impact the appearance of the building as much as the proposed pipe work) – this proposal is both hypocritical and unwarranted.
- As all stages of the heating proposal have not yet been submitted, residents have not had access to the full picture. Camden needs to be totally transparent about all the details of what the heating proposal involves before even considering planning permission being granted. The concerns of residents are paramount so they need to be honestly informed.
- Sadly, the lack of maintenance work on the estate has certainly contributed to the current issues and problems with the heating/hot water system. Surely the focus should be upon fixing and properly maintaining the present system. Being proactive instead of reactive and endeavouring to locate experts within this field rather than some of the incompetence that residents have had to contend with. This is a building Camden should be proud of and take care of.
- The increase in costs with using radiators would cause hardship to many residents and inevitably lead to stinting on heating. This in turn would be structurally damaging to a concrete building. Also living space in the flats would be diminished and residents would be greatly inconvenienced by the work that would be required – with implications for both mental and physical health.
- If the heating system was properly and regularly checked and maintained it would be far more preferable than the installation of radiators; even with insulation one radiator in a room would not provide sufficient heat. The present contractor, GEM, does not appear to have staff with the necessary expertise and experience to solve the heating problems; and as well as the woeful neglect of maintenance to the building, some employees display a negative attitude to the work.
- In the event that changes need to be made, Camden should provide residents with detailed and full research findings into all proposals they have considered, this should of course contain greener alternatives, as this is the way ahead.