

To Camden Council

**Reference:**

Proposed works at Alexandra and Ainsworth Estate, Rowley, Way, London NW8

- **2023/5338/P** (new heating plant and distribution pipework)
- **2023/5339/P** Replacement of existing single glazing with double glazing and associated works
- **2024/0286/L** External and Internal works including replacement of existing single glazing with double glazing, removal of domestic hot water cylinders and installation of new heating interface unit, emitters and associated pipework
- **2024/0091/L** replacement of the existing estate-wide heating distribution infrastructure including removal of redundant pipework, installation of two new sub-pant rooms, installation of cold water storage tank rooms; replacement of existing side hoarding and installation of new replacement infrastructure pipework

I am Anthony Watkins

I live on Rowley Way, NW8 at Flat number 37D Rowley Way

I have lived here for 2 years 6 months


I write to categorically object to the planning applications for the Alexandra and Ainsworth Estate (hereafter referred to as 'the Estate') as they are interrelated. I am aware that the planned installation of a 'new' heating and hot water system is similar to that which had been installed at the Whittington Estate six (6) years ago, a Heat Interface Unit (HIU). The problems faced by those residents are well documented and have been widely reported in the press.

I would contend that you and your Contractors, Gem, have not shown an aptitude to dealing with the vagaries of the present system in place on the Estate, ie Alexandra and Ainsworth, nor would it seem the 'new' one at Whittington. I can but expect just as much disruption, in fact perhaps more than the Whittington has faced. Maintenance of the present heating and hot water system on the Estate is very poor and there are frequent problems related to provision of hot water and heating and our service from Gem as the heating engineers has been very unreliable. There is no demonstration of consideration of our views as residents of the Estate and insufficient analysis of the effects of increased gas usage and its effect on the climate has not been considered.

I understand that the HIU emits a constant intrusive background noise and I do not believe that it will deliver a marked change to our present problems. The radiators and pipes within the flats will be obtrusive and the job is likely to cause severe disruption to our routine for months and possibly years and the level of dust and health and safety of residents have not been properly assessed, nor conveyed. There is still time to get the right system in place. Yes to double glazing now and insulation to various parts of the buildings which can be done now without the building looking any different. Replace some of the pipe work and proper maintenance of the present boilers. We should then review the internals of the buildings with a view to creating a system befitting it while taking us into the 22nd century. No HIUs! We would also like to see continuity planning in maintaining the present system.

We do not believe Heritage England has any idea of the changes Camden proposes. We want a conversation with them and you should too. Camden should be putting themselves forward as a leader in retrofit for listed buildings such as ours NOT a council that plunging us into debt and even more absolute misery for residents. I also object to the applications on the grounds of what it will mean to the eventual heritage value of our Grade II\* listed buildings. There are many parts to this application that have not even been mentioned to the residents of this estate and I never heard of! What are cold water storage tank rooms? What are the two new substations?

**I believe that the applications are wrong in essence and principle  
In conclusion, I object to these planning applications and wish them to be denied.**

Yours sincerely 

Signed: ..... Date: 18/12/24