

From: viviana muscettola

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 10:10 AM

To: Planning

Cc: Awale Olad (Councillor); Sue Vincent (Councillor); Julian Fulbrook (Councillor)

Subject: Objection to Application 2022/0419/T

Re: **Objection to Application 2022/0419/T**

Dear all,

I'm writing to oppose to the planning application to eliminate the two veteran plane trees in the garden of 8 Doughty St. WC1N 2PL.

Cutting down the two veteran trees can have several negative impacts and I like to point out few key reasons why preserving these trees is crucial.

The Mayor of London's Biodiversity Strategy outlines measures to conserve and increase tree cover as part of a broader commitment to enhance green spaces and in London Plan, which includes policies to protect and enhance the urban forest. It aims to increase tree cover and improve the quality of existing trees and woodlands.

From an **ecological perspective**, trees provide unique habitats for a wide range of species, including fungi, lichens, invertebrates, birds, and mammals. Their complex structure offers niches that younger trees cannot. Many organisms depend on veteran trees for food, shelter, and breeding sites. Removing these trees can disrupt local ecosystems and reduce biodiversity.

Older trees typically store more **carbon** than younger trees, playing a significant role in mitigating climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The trees help improve air quality by filtering pollutants and particulates from the air.

Finally, studies have shown that access to green spaces and mature trees can **reduce stress**, improve mood, and enhance overall mental well-being. With the proximity to Great Ormond Street child hospital and the local schools, the trees contribute to the beauty and tranquility of the area.

In summary, cutting down these trees is detrimental due to the loss of ecological, environmental, cultural, and social benefits they provide. Preserving these trees is essential for maintaining biodiversity, enhancing urban resilience, and promoting the well-being of residents.

I urge Camden Council to reject this re-application.

Best regards,

Viviana Muscettola, Sara Pasca di Magliano 16 years, Riccardo Pasca di Magliano 11 years.

Viviana Muscettola

Director
Zaha Hadid Architects
29 Doughty Mews
WC1N 2PF