
From: Stephen Staples
Sent: 03 February 2025 16:50
To: Planning
Subject: Objections to planning applications to upgrade heating & windows Alexandra Road Estate

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Heating infrastructure full planning application 2023/5338/P
Heating infrastructure listed building consent 2024/0091/L
Windows and thermal improvements full planning application 2023/5339/P
Windows and thermal improvements listed building consent 2024/0286/L

I wish to object to the above planning applications. I am not alone. When I look through the documents accompanying the applications there are 642 signatories objecting to the proposals. The vast majority of these come from residents on the estate both tenants and leaseholders. These are the people most affected by the proposals and they object.

I object as a tax payer. Camden has wasted tax payers money by failing to maintain the existing heating system allowing it to fail. They now propose to waste more tax payers money by prolonging the use of the gas boilers, hoping they will last until 2049. Hoval engineers have suggested that 9 years is a more likely lifetime due to lack of maintenance. Last year one of the boilers was out of commission for six months because parts were difficult to obtain. That situation is unlikely to improve.

I object as a citizen of the world and on behalf of my children and grandchildren. The Government has committed to zero carbon by 2050 and is giving grants to householders to replace their gas boilers with heat pumps. Yet Camden is trying to keep using gas as a fuel as long as possible, pumping carbon into the atmosphere.

This estate was ground breaking and world leading in its design including the heating system, yet Camden is proposing a system which even the Government is trying to make obsolete.

I object as a citizen of the U.K. who is proud of its architectural heritage. Alexandra Road is a masterpiece of urban design and these proposals are mundane. Not only do they lack imagination with thoughtless proposals but they do positive harm to the interiors of the flats and the exterior of the blocks. The proposals for the windows are very questionable with the heavy double glazing resulting in windows having to be screwed shut in a trial flat because the existing frames can not take the load.

No insulation is included in these proposals and reports from residents who have had radiators installed suggest that extra heating is required to keep the flats warm in winter. Residents are rightly concerned about condensation but this issue is not addressed. A similar heating scheme at the nearby Whittington estate resulted in 700 repair call-outs in one year according to the *Ham & High* as well as regular periods where residents have no heating or hot water. This proposal calls for the use of HIU's which have proved disastrous at the Whittington where the filters clog up with dirt. Why is

Camden trying to repeat this at Rowley Way?

I accept that the heating system on the estate is in need of repair but these proposals continue with a fuel which does damage to the environment and a design which damages a wonderful building that Camden should be proud of. These proposals should be refused.