



Dear Mr Thuair, I am writing to you both as a resident of Hampstead Village [redacted] and as a member of Christ Church, to object to the application for the demolition of the former Nurses' Home in New End and the construction of a vast underground car park with luxury flats above. I don't propose to reiterate the numerous objections already being lodged in terms of the danger to the stability of nearby buildings by such a massive excavation, the long nightmare of disruption that would blight the lives of local residents, the architectural banality of the new building's design, the coach-and-horses that would be driven through the Council's own regulations and guideline and so on. I want to make another point. Seventeen multi-million pound luxury apartments are just what Hampstead Village doesn't need. What it needs are reasonably affordable one- and two-bedroom flats – and it is obvious that the existing building could be renovated, improved and converted into such flats at a relatively modest cost, with minimum disruption to the local environment and no danger to nearby buildings. Such a scheme would doubtless yield less profit to the site's owners. But it would be very odd if a Labour-run Council was seen to be in the business of enriching the remote, already super-rich while ignoring the legitimate concerns and real needs of its Council Tax payers.

Yours sincerely,

