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Planning application ref: 2013/1598/P

Site address: University of London Garden Halls and Cartwright Gardens Open Space London WC1H 9FF - 9EF

Dear Mr McEllistrum,

We wish to lodge our objection to the above planning application. Our objections are as follows:

1. The entrances to the residences should remain on the side they are currently on. This is for the following reasons:

- people will smoke outside entrances which will be unpleasant for Sandwich House residents and any users of the roof garden in Sandwich/Sinclair/Thanet Houses. Currently there are very few people that 'hang around' at the back of the student halls on Sandwich Street. The street is quiet and residential and changing the entrances will completely change this;
- when fire alarms go off in the middle of the night there will be hundreds of people crowding near residential homes/flats where young families live and are not currently disturbed by this kind of noise. Fire alarms do go off at unusual hours - even on Thanet Street we can hear the students when they have to evacuate. Bringing this closer will cause a significant anti-social disturbance.
- Having entrances on this side will attract certain people e.g. drug dealers to use Sandwich Street which is undesirable to those using this residential street.

2. The loss of amenities to the residents in the immediate vicinity will be very significant. Sunlight will be lost almost completely from residents of SST if the development is much higher than the middle block is now. The height of the buildings should be in keeping with the majority of the surrounding buildings - i.e. no higher than for example Sandwich/Sinclair/Thanet House - 6 stories.

3. Common rooms should be kept in basements to minimise noise. There is enough noise emanating from the halls already even in the daytime without bringing the common rooms upstairs. This is why the halls were designed like this in the first place with the common rooms downstairs - it should be kept this way.

4. Overall the development should be in scale and in keeping with this part of Bloomsbury. The wishes of the residents should be taken into account and given sufficient weight against the University of London applicant.

As a final point, one of us is a UCL student and has lived in John Dodgson House so is acutely aware of the problems that can arise with large numbers of students in a concentrated area. This is why we have raised the above points.

Yours sincerely,