

[REDACTED]

From: Thuaire, Charles
Sent: 15 December 2014 18:37
To: Planning
Subject: FW: Planning Application 2014/6845/P - ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL

Please register this on m3 as an objection to 2014/6845/P
thanks

Charles Thuaire
Senior Planning Officer

Telephone: [REDACTED]

From: Judith Fiennes [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 December 2014 20:29
To: Thuaire, Charles
Subject: Planning Application 2014/6845/P - ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL

Dear Mr Thuaire

Planning Application 2014/6845/P - ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL

I would like to object to the above planning application from the Royal Free Hospital (RFH) in its present form.

The project and the building itself. Whilst the concept and aim of the project is undoubtedly good - who would not welcome more funding for an international medical research institute - what is proposed seems too ambitious, too big, and not suitable for the proposed site.

I understand that the RFH now has a connection with Barnet Hospitals. If it is felt that it is essential to have the building in the form proposed, I would suggest that it would be better sited in Barnet where there is much more open space, and there would be scope for further development in the future.

However if it is considered essential that it should be near the RFH for medical and operational reasons, I would ask that it should be reduced in size quite substantially. Is it really necessary to have a 2-storey patient hotel on top of the research building? Could this not be located elsewhere? Is it necessary to have it at all? Do other hospitals offer this facility? I feel it is a luxury that the site cannot really afford. Two storeys?? Maybe one at the most, to make the building less overpoweringly tall.

I suppose the funding is ring-fenced for this particular project, but I suggest that it would be good if some of it could be diverted to improving the facilities at the existing RFH to make better use of the existing hospital. e.g. buying more state-of-the art equipment, employing more staff to use it in the evenings and at weekends, and making the A&E Department function more efficiently.

Longterm environmental considerations. I am also particularly concerned about the inevitable knock-on effect for the local community. How can the reduction of carpark spaces have even been considered when even now hospital visitors have great difficulty in parking? Where will all those staying in the patient hotel, or their visitors, leave their cars (which they will inevitably have and indeed need)? I would suggest that serious consideration should be given to the provision of a substantial number of **additional** carpark spaces, rather than reducing the number available now.

Not only will there be parking problems, but also a considerable increase in traffic in an area where traffic jams build up regularly at busy times. At present ambulances often have problems getting through the traffic, and this situation

would inevitably arise more often and get worse. None of the parking and traffic problems would be so serious if a Barnet site were chosen.

Short-term environmental considerations. The construction work for such a major project would inevitably cause considerable disruption and inconvenience to those living nearby, including noisy working, dust and frequent visits from contractors' lorries, bringing materials, etc, over a considerable period of time. All this could be reduced if the plans for the building were scaled down. I imagine also that it would reduce the value of neighbouring properties and indeed might make some of them virtually unsaleable for several years.

I hope you will be able to give serious consideration to these objections, and will be able to suggest modification of the present plans which would make the whole project more acceptable.

I am writing to you in a personal capacity, and also as Secretary of the Parliament Court Residents Co Ltd.

Yours sincerely

Judith Fiennes, 5 Parliament Court, Parliament Hill, London NW3 2TS.



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