

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/6553/P	Karen Winton	12A Princess Mews Hampstead NW3 5AP NW3 5AP	11/01/2017 15:38:02	OBJ	<p>Since June 2015, when we moved into Princess Mews, renovation and construction works have been undertaken at nos.12 and 1 Princess Mews (five months and six weeks duration, respectively); 3 Belsize Place (between Akenside Court and Princess Mews; ongoing for more than 12 months now and nowhere near finished); the basement of 62 Belsize Lane (duration one month); construction on the Belsize Lane sub station plot adjacent to Village Close (six months plus); and nos.2, 3, 4 and 6 Belsize Crescent (roughly one month each). These works are within 100 metres of each other. Some of them have overrun by weeks, with no apparent penalty/consequence. At least one of them did not comply with the conditions under which the planning application was granted, using it as cover and an opportunity to carry out a complete house renovation, not simply those works for which approval was given.</p> <p>Continual construction works in the immediate vicinity has marred the past 18 months. I am contemplating moving house because of the noise, drilling, dust, waste and excess traffic problems caused by the contractors working on these various renovations, many of which seem to be vanity projects. I work from home and when the drilling begins it is impossible to have a phone conversation or concentrate on a piece of work.</p> <p>Multiple studies (such as those done by the University of Michigan School of Public Health, University College in London, the WHO Noise Environmental Burden on Disease working group and published in journals including Environmental Health Perspectives, etc) have shown that noise is a threat to health and well-being. Studies of occupational and environmental noise exposure suggest an association with hypertension, and potential health problems including stress, sleep disturbances, and heart disease.</p> <p>I understand that construction works happen from time-to-time. But endless construction on properties that are neighbouring, on opposite sides of the street, within feet of each other, has been nonstop in this neighbourhood - this short mews street - for more than 18 months. This is completely out of balance. It is not reasonable. Camden Council is granting so many approvals for construction works that the environment in which we live is becoming untenable.</p> <p>An enlightened borough council would protect its citizens from the ongoing, excessive and adverse effects of this construction by recognizing the lack of balance in its continuing approval of endless planning applications and working instead to redress this.</p> <p>In these circumstances, I do not comprehend why this application would be viewed favourably.</p>