

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Paula	Brisbane QLD	16/02/2017 19:35:41	COMMNT	Astor provides affordable, safe, professional, family style accommodation for travellers, students and young professionals during they stays in London. The staff are all friendly, knowledgeable and helpful to their customers, always promoting local businesses and restaurants within the area.
2016/7062/P	Tiago P	Est Ext Circunvalacao	16/02/2017 12:08:26	OBJ	Save Astor Museum!
2016/7062/P	Jorge Fernandez	Avinguda Constitució 185 3 Castelldefels P.C. 08860 Barcelona Spain	16/02/2017 10:18:03	OBJ	There would be a loss of jobs for young people, particularly a first job where they develop skills and learn about the hospitality industry. Astor Hostels Company does a lot for London in several ways, providing jobs and hosting tourists with a great atmosphere. Definetely one of the reasons I've been living in London and keep on coming everytime I can.
2016/7062/P	maria	Eh11 2ae	16/02/2017 10:11:08	OBJ	It is a shame to destroy a hotel that is working leaving people with no jobs. Luxury appartments can be built somewhere el se.
2016/7062/P	Nicole Dimas	447 china road	17/02/2017 20:40:46	OBJ	Many will be displaced. Someone I know will be and there is no need for these "luxury" buildings. Keep the Hostel's as is.
2016/7062/P	Faltin Alexandra Cristina	St.Paul road 310 n12lf	16/02/2017 00:20:29	OBJ	You shouldn't close it .it is an amazing place and plus it s amazing for our restaorant business wich is very near to British museum. IT s making benefit for all of us
2016/7062/P	Gina M. Mason	420 N. Geneva Street Apt. 1 Ithaca New York 14850	18/02/2017 15:21:16	COMMNT	Please don't convert the hostel- it provides a home and accommodations for a diversity of individuals (students, employees, and travellers from all walks of life) who could not afford to live in or visit London otherwise. I lived in the hostel for 4 months. Thank you for your consideration!
2016/7062/P	Paulo Oliveira	Quinta da Palmeira Rua Fonte da Loba Vale de Santarém 2005-377 Portugal	18/02/2017 11:28:41	OBJ	London is one of my favorite European cities. And this little hotel is a pearl of London. Please do not let profit override people and affections

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Katharina	Germany	16/02/2017 12:23:59	OBJ	Save Astor Museum! Last summer I stayed a few times in London for a weekend. From my experience I can say that the Astor Museum is a special place and very different than other hostels in this city. Beside the typical international flair it is full of familiar atmosphere. The friendly staff is planning great events and knows the best places in London to visit. Here they bring people from different cultural backgrounds together. London is flooded with luxury, isn't it? Instead of building expensive flats for the rich you should keep its little treasures for the young people! That's why I object to this planning application.
2016/7062/P	Ben Crosbie	86/5 Spring Gardens Edinburgh EH8 8HX	15/02/2017 23:06:59	OBJ	Affordable accomodation for young people is rare. Please think before you contibute more to making the cost of housing for young people more unbearable.
2016/7062/P	Mathilde	4 forrester park grove	15/02/2017 22:25:54	OBJ	It's always important to have rooms for everybody and not only for pepole with a lot of money.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Steve Lowy	BETA PO BOX 182 Carshalton Surrey SM5 2XW	15/02/2017 11:26:56	OBJ	<p>I write this email in my position as Chairman of BETA (British Educational Travel Association) as well as a director of a number businesses operating in the Youth Travel space, to object to the application to change Astor Museum Hostel into three residential flats.</p> <p>This planning application is contrary to Policy DP14 of Camden's Development Policy, which helps to protect visitor accommodation in Central Areas such as that occupied by Astor Hostels.</p> <p>I was concerned to learn of the decision to remove the hostel use from their property in Bloomsbury. I have known Astor Hostels as a business for many years, and they are a great asset to the London tourism industry, providing high quality, affordable accommodation.</p> <p>London as a City is starved of good quality budget accommodation and over the previous decades, many good operators have had to close their premises due to land prices and/or owners decisions to change properties for High-End Residential. This is in huge contrast to many other cities in Europe who are encouraging hostels to provide their cities with a higher volume of young people, and to provide a more sustainable long-term tourism industry.</p> <p>From 2010 - 2016 there has been year on year growth in visitor numbers to the UK and London in particular, and 2017 looks like it will show strong growth as well. There have been very few additions to the supply of hostel beds in Central London for a number of years, and particularly in the Borough of Camden, which has only seen one new hostel, SoHostel opened in the last five years.</p> <p>The Youth Travel industry, at last count (2011), was bringing an annual contribution of around £20bn to the UK economy, and reducing budget accommodation stock in London, will have very detrimental effects on this contribution.</p> <p>I urge you to reconsider your view, reject the application, and allow Astor Hostels to continue their many years of contribution to the local economy, and tourism in general.</p> <p>Steve Lowy Chairman, BETA</p> <p>(Also sent by letter)</p>
2016/7062/P	Jennifer Fatogun	27 Montague Street London WC1B 5BH	17/02/2017 06:54:43	COMMNT	Objection
2016/7062/P	Monica Fatogun	sanker mawroh shillong	16/02/2017 21:43:10	COMMNT	Where will the residents of the hostel go to? These are cheap accommodations taken away for more expensive luxurious flats ugh.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Mesrob Kassemdjian	Grenfell road Grenfell tower 141 W11 1TQ	16/02/2017 18:21:11	COMMNT	I reject the removal of this hostel.
2016/7062/P	Maria Manuela Oliveira Soares	Praceta Dr. Afonso Vilela 6 3° Esq 2560-293 Torres Vedras Portugal	16/02/2017 23:26:19	COMMNT	This is one of the best hostels in the UK. Many young people return there each time they come to London. It's horrible to think that it will disappear. London is known for being a cosmopolitan city where lots of cultural events attract people from all the world. A very good hostel (as this one is) is a key element in the city center. It's the hostel that I choose whenever I come to London.
2016/7062/P	Byron O'Grady	286a Bethnal green rd E2 0AG	15/02/2017 13:32:33	OBJ	I recently heard about the proposed closure of Astor Museum Hostel and would like to strongly object to its conversion to residential. When I arrived in London as an 18-year-old, I had a small amount of money and was finding it hard to find work and impossible to find permanent accommodation. Astor Museum was the only hostel of those that I stayed in in London offering help for people in my situation. They had jobs boards available on their walls for places around the city and they offered help writing my CV and gave me tips for my job interviews. I worked for them for a small period of time, during which I learn skills in hospitality and time management, which were invaluable being my first real job. I now live in my own house in London, but think that without the help and shelter that Astor Museum and its staff members provided me, this would have been an impossibility. Please do not convert this property into residential flats, it was as vital for me as it will be for many more young people coming to this city who do not have any financial backing from their parents
2016/7062/P	Seth Jonczak	8 carriage road greensburg PA 15601	16/02/2017 00:34:35	PETITNSU PP	The Astor hotel is more than just a simple hostel in London. It is a chance for everyday travelers and students to enjoy a great part of the city in a way which is unique and fun. A passionate staff and wonderful atmosphere has created something much larger than a simple stop on a journey. Astor museum is a family and in it I have countless memories. It would be an endless shame to strip this from future generations of travelers as it truly is a diamond in a wonderful place. I would ask anyone who might read this to really think about the impact this could have. Getting rid of such a place would be a travesty to be certain. I love Astor museum, and have made it a must stay each time I'm in London. I hope it's legacy and passion can extend into the years.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Amanda Luck	95 Union Street Northcote VIC Australia 3070	15/02/2017 15:32:53	OBJ	<p>There are 3 clear reasons why I seek to oppose the current planning permits. These points are highlighted below.</p> <p>Firstly however, I wish to address how integral the hostel was for me personally. This hostel provided me with an opportunity to make social connections; affordable accommodation allowed me time to plan; and essentially build a life and a career in London, where I otherwise may not have had the option or desire to stay.</p> <p>The proposed planning would see the closure of a business, which I believe remains an essential base for many to begin their work, study and lives in London.</p> <p>This brings me to my three points. For guests, Astor Museum Hostel provides an opportunity to meet like-minded people who are in a similar situation. The hostel therefore provides:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social interaction, which keeps travellers in the city; and allows newcomers to feel welcome and integrate. 2. Affordable accommodation allows guests to find work or begin study (with the hostels location close to a number of universities). <p>The hostel also serves as the ideal base for travellers; close to theatres, museums and iconic tourist attractions. I would image closure of this hostel may also impact business, including supermarkets, cafes and smaller business within the immediate area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Moreover, the hostel continues to provide excellent service. This is substantiated by many of the recent guest reviews, which can be seen on multiple hostel booking sites. These reviews rate the hostel highly for security, location, and for it's welcoming and helpful staff. <p>I therefore hope the hostel is allowed to remain, and continue to serve the local and wider community as it has done successfully for many years.</p> <p>Thank you for your time in reviewing these comments.</p>
2016/7062/P	Ben Crosbie	86/5Spring Gardens	15/02/2017 23:06:13	OBJ	Affordable accomodation for young people is rare. Please think before you contibute more to making the cost of housing for young people more unbearable.
2016/7062/P	Daisy Lawson	8 Brunswick terr The knoll Beckenham BR3 5LL	16/02/2017 00:03:38	OBJ	The hostel is really important for students who can't afford high accommodation prices in London.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Daria Sviridova	102 UPPER STREET N1 1QN	16/02/2017 00:21:49	PETITNOBJ E	This hostel is home to a number of the most vibrant, kind, and interesting people I've met while living in London. It allows great souls to travel to this beautiful city and enjoy the life us Londoners take for granted. The people here are warm and share everything from customs to food, spreading positivity even in the gloom of winter. Some of them are from countries that are hot and old fashioned, others from glitzy capitals, yet more from remote places some people may not have even heard of... And they come together through a chain of events and places, one of which is this hostel. I don't believe three flats are worth the piece of beauty London has developed from the people we welcome in our city.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	mark paniagua	111 clarendon road w11 4JG	15/02/2017 23:59:14	OBJ	<p>Hostels in Central London provide an invaluable service, they allow a large number of students, young professionals, and tourists, both national and international, to stay here inexpensively. Hostels afford these people access to locations that would normally be entirely prohibitive to a person living off of a student loan, a starting or part-time salary, or visiting the capital on a budget.</p> <p>The demand for tourist accommodation in Central London is at a record high, and it is consistently growing year on year, but this is being countered by the closure of hotels, hostels and B&Bs in favour of residential dwellings. This in turn, is of great detriment to local businesses, in particular to small, independent shop owners, who rely heavily on the greater footfall generated by these types of accommodation providers.</p> <p>Now more than ever, it is important not to ostracize, but to retain and welcome good quality hostel providers into the City Centre. When intending to increase the number of tourists in an area, the square footage used by a hostel to accommodate tourists, is much more efficient than that of a budget hotel, and much, much greater than that of a non-budget hotel. A good quality hostel, such as Astor Museum, not only has a higher occupancy level than the average hotel, but it also manages a greater volume of people per square foot. Therefore, at a time when tourist accommodation is in high demand, and as stated in the development plan, there is a need to increase the number of beds in London; the protection of hostels should be paramount, and in fact a growth in the market should be encouraged, as it is the accommodation provider who can satisfy this need most efficiently.</p> <p>Similarly, when looking at the impact on local businesses, a hostel generates a greater footfall than a hotel, and in turn, a much greater footfall than residential flats. From the period of September 1st to December 31st 2016 (generally regarded as a low season) Astor Museum sold 9,960 bed nights. This is almost 10,000 potential impressions for local businesses in a quarter. In comparison, the number of impressions generated by the potential development of residential flats would only be equal to the number of current staff members and external contractors at the hostel. The loss of custom of the hostel guests would without a doubt be of harmful consequence to the surrounding businesses.</p> <p>The ramifications of this change-of-use would extend far beyond local economics and housing planning. A great number of people find their first employment opportunity at Astor Museum and develop and learn new skills to prepare them for working life. In addition, there are many students at the local universities who use the hostel as their part-time home while they finish their studies. Many local contractors, researchers, etc on short-term contracts are only able to stay in London due to the affordability and security provided by the hostel.</p> <p>The London property market has swayed towards residential for several years, and it is becoming increasingly clear that when a hostel, budget hotel or B&B is developed into residential in Central London, those beds are not recovered. In order to resupply the London market following the closure of a 100-bed hostel (as is being proposed in this planning application), it would require at a minimum a 50-bedroom budget hotel, which is considerably bigger than the 20-bedrooms presently used within the hostel. For this reason and for those stated above, I strongly object to this change of use.</p>

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Seth Jonczak	8 carriage road greensburg PA 15601	16/02/2017 00:34:34	PETITNSU PP	The Astor hotel is more than just a simple hostel in London. It is a chance for everyday travelers and students to enjoy a great part of the city in a way which is unique and fun. A passionate staff and wonderful atmosphere has created something much larger than a simple stop on a journey. Astor museum is a family and in it I have countless memories. It would be an endless shame to strip this from future generations of travelers as it truly is a diamond in a wonderful place. I would ask anyone who might read this to really think about the impact this could have. Getting rid of such a place would be a travesty to be certain. I love Astor museum, and have made it a must stay each time I'm in London. I hope it's legacy and passion can extend into the years.
2016/7062/P	Kitti Megyeri	1 Alma street e15 1qa e15 1qa	16/02/2017 10:45:51	COMMNT	Please save the affordable accommodation for students
2016/7062/P	Simone Accastello	9/18 grandview grove	15/02/2017 10:35:45	OBJ	I started my life in London with Astor Hostels. It is an indispensable service for people of many backgrounds, particularly those of lower-means to find their way in London. I had the opportunity to become the manager of Astor Museum a couple of years ago after starting as a cleaner. I learnt how to manage a business, deal with staff and host a variety of guests from all walks of life. During my tenure, we had many university students, people on short term vocational courses, builders working on local building sites, people who had started their first jobs away from home, and a whole host of other people who needed somewhere safe to stay while they found somewhere permanent. There is a major shortage of this type of accommodation, particularly of the quality offered by Astor Museum in Central London. Changing the usage to residential would be a major disservice to young people, not only for those staying as guests on a budget, but to the many young people who will lose the opportunity to learn and develop skills with an employer who focuses on their advancement.
2016/7062/P	Joseph Schneider	10 Lion Mews Richardson Road BN3 5RA	18/02/2017 20:07:21	OBJ	Enough overpriced private flats are available in this area of London. But budget accomodation is being pushed out. The character of this area in part is formed by the large amount of overseas students staying there. To lose this would be severely detrimental to the area. I have frequented this area my whole life. And although I now live in Hove I often come up to Bloomsbury for work or leisure. I also often come to meet with my wife who studies in the area.
2016/7062/P	Concha	José María Fuentes Calderón 5	19/02/2017 16:27:34	OBJ	Astor Hostels are the best place to stay in London when you go with friends and want to have a great time meeting new people from all over the world.

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/7062/P	Diana Patricia Godínez Guerrero	Juana María Estrada 260 Colonia Juana Pavón. C.p. 58080. Morelia Michoacán México.	21/02/2017 04:37:05	OBJ	<p>To start, the hostel staff is incredibly kind and helpful. Every member of the staff makes an enormous effort to help, even with language barriers.</p> <p>As a frequent traveller, I know the importance of safe housing for travelling students. Most students have a very limited budget. Astor Museum Hostel is one of the few affordable places for students to stay in the area.</p> <p>Additionally, AMH promotes cultural exchange--receiving hundreds of young travellers from around the globe.</p> <p>I am disappointed to hear that a family business like AMH might be changed to flats. I hope this decision is not finalized and that the AMH can continue to safely house students for years to come.</p>
2016/7062/P	Christian Mejia	27 Montague Street	16/02/2017 12:14:38	OBJ	<p>I think that this project is not good for London, because London as a turistic place needs quality hotels and hostels. If you close astor museum you are closing one of the best hostels and a lot of people, almost all of them are young people that want to enjoy London, visit the museums, buy in the local stores. And all the guys who are working there will be fired, all of them nice people who enjoy helping their jobs, that always have a smile and want to help everybody to visit London.</p> <p>3 flats? Do you really think that is necessary?</p>