

## Hazelton, Laura

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 October 2018 13:01  
**To:** Hazelton, Laura  
**Subject:** Planning reference number 2018/3956/P

Dear Laura,

Please accept this email in support of the planning application as referenced above to convert this building into a dedicated breast cancer support centre.

A breast cancer diagnosis, whilst sadly not rare, brings huge emotional, physical and psychosocial effects to both the patients and their family and friends. Whilst we have made great strides in improving the survival rates for breast cancer with significant leaps forward in our surgical, chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatments, we still do not know how to stop breast cancers from developing. Therefore the number of people living with and beyond a breast cancer diagnosis continues to grow.

Breast cancer in particular is a very cruel cancer. Firstly; no breast cancer patient will ever receive the news that they are definitely cured, unlike for many other cancers. Secondly, breast cancer, when detected early, does not make the person feel unwell. However, our treatments that aim to stop the breast cancer from killing that person, do make them unwell. These patients experience difficult short and long term side effects from their treatment that may impact on their normal everyday life, for the rest of their life. Finally, most women that I treat have significant difficulty accepting their diagnosis and treatment. My younger patients may be building successful careers and / or be nurturing their young families. My more mature patients may have just started to enjoy their retirement and / or be carers for their grandchildren whilst their children work. For any woman who is dealt this diagnosis; it comes out of the blue; they are too busy to be unwell and; they are far too important to not be around for their family and friends. They therefore need significant support, beyond medicine.

My colleagues and I at UCLH can use every tool we have to ensure that our patients are given the best chance to survive their breast cancer; however, the extra services provided by the Haven and Futuredreams address many of the other elements of living with breast cancer, that we just do not have the ability to deliver. I rely significantly on the services provided by the Haven, and feel genuine concern for the well-being of my patients if the services they provide to our local population are no longer available due to not having a local base. They provide amazing supportive care; counselling, side-effect management, financial advice, return to work support, end-of-life advice, family grievance counselling to name but a few.

The application to convert this building, is with the aim to provide a safe, caring, accessible, kind and person-centred base for people with breast cancer. Approving this application will have a hugely positive impact on their ability to complete their treatment (side effect management), adjust to their diagnosis (be that into survivorship or if diagnosed as having terminal disease) and re-establish their role in society.

I sincerely hope that I have provided a little insight into the hugely positive effect that such a centre has on my patients and their families; and what a terrible impact not having this centre would have on our local population.

Please do contact me if I can provide any more information.

Very best wishes,

Sairanne

**Sairanne Wickers**  
**Consultant Breast Radiographer**

**UCLH**

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