Dear Mr. Benmbarek,

It has come to my attention that Dr Mark Silvert has applied to change the use of the first floor of 39 College Crescent, NW3 5LB from office use (B1a) to a therapy clinic (Class D1) under planning application 2019/1070/P.

I am writing on behalf of my daughter and her family who live at 39 College Crescent and have done for the past 3 years. I have witnessed first-hand how much they all enjoy living there knowing it is a secure complex for her and her children to play outside in the courtyard during the summer weather without the worry of strangers and traffic in a totally safe environment. There is a real feel of a neighbourhood community even with only 6 families living there who seem to look after each other and I feel if this application was to get approved it would completely remove this.

The previous tenant for the office block had around 6 members of staff where they would work all day and with no other through traffic. With the proposed application of turning the current office into a therapy clinic, this would obviously generate a lot more through traffic with multiple clients attending throughout the day. Obviously, this would be really worrying for my daughter, her children and her neighbours and their children because they would not know who the people attending will be, their past history, or having any recognition whereas if it was to stay the same as an office facility they would become familiar with the staff there and the staff would understand the rules of the gates/ garage etc.

The garage facilities are extremely tight with only one space allocated to each dwelling and are only privately accessed. There are no parking facilities or indeed parking metres servicing the development and so it is impossible to stop there even briefly, and none at all to park. The 2 large parking areas situated in the road are commercial spaces reserved for the 2 commercial trucks servicing the adjacent flower stall. The flower stall which is immediately opposite the entrance to the development generates a lot of customers and so therefore in my view it's not ideal for people attending a clinic, because if they can't park nearby they are going to have to walk to the entrance.

The development has only one single entrance which is on a security pad and on a camera and currently generates a very secure environment. Having a clinic within the facility with an increased number of people using this, would render it pretty useless because the numbers would make maintaining a high security, pretty impossible to manage.

There are no other entrances into the development other than an electronic garage/gate which gives access to the 6 parking spaces underground and is not suitable for pedestrian access.

There are numerous schools in close proximity of the property as well as South Hampstead School which is immediately opposite, which is very large and caters for children 5-18 years old. And along with the flower stall I do not believe it makes this an ideal location

I feel this facility would be far better based in a more commercial or rural area or a facility where all the amenities are already geared for this type of service for the safety of the children and our small community.

I understand there are various mental health hospitals around London, such as 'Highgate Mental Health Centre or Nightingale Hospital' and it would make sense if this facility was closer to these hospitals for obvious reasons.

If you would like to discuss my objection in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me on

