From:
 Fowler, David

 Sent:
 06 June 2019 15:19

To: Planning

Subject: FW: Abacus Planning Application 2019/2375/P

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Please log objection.

Thanks,

David

David Fowler Principal Planner

Telephone: 0207 974 2123



Sent: 06 June 2019 08:55

To: Fowler, David < <u>David.Fowler@camden.gov.uk</u>> Subject: Abacus Planning Application 2019/2375/P

Dear Mr Fowler

I wish to object to the Abacus Planning Application on three grounds:

- 1. **Existing Schools policy**: It is already Camden's policy that there should be no more schools in Hampstead. This policy is strongly supported by Residents' Groups.
 - The proposed Abacus school should not be an exception since it is in the wrong place for its
 catchment area. There are already enough places available at Camden primary schools, some of
 which are nearer the catchment area than the Police Station.
 - I am not sure if this is a planning issue but it's certainly a school policy one: the school will be the most expensive in the country to build at taxpayers' expense, and the revenue from the business centre would go to Abacus. Meanwhile Camden primary schools would struggle for funding. Surely the Council should take this into account?
- 2. <u>Traffic</u>: The school will increase traffic congestion at peak times. The school has no way of enforcing its "no car policy".
 - It is naive to believe that primary school children will all walk or cycle when the school is a long
 way and uphill from the lower half of its catchment area. Whenever the family is running late, or
 the weather is bad, or the parent has somewhere to go after dropping the child, they will take their
 car or an "Uber".

1

- In addition to parent and teacher traffic, the school will require deliveries of supplies, adding van deliveries to congestion throughout the day. The new business centre will also create traffic.
- This congestion (even parents using bicycles) will slow the flow of traffic disrupting the busy bus routes, used by working people and those going to the Royal Free.
- Congestion in Haverstock Hill and Downshire Hill will lead to rat running through narrow side streets.
- The new Pears Building is only about a hundred yards away and there will be increased traffic from Royal Free staff and patients in Haverstock Hill when it opens. Abacus "movements" would be on top of this already scheduled increase.
- 3. <u>Noise and Pollution:</u> This increase in traffic, and cars idling while slowed, will add to the already dire pollution problem in Hampstead, which I understand is already above safe levels and a priority issue for the Council.
 - The school says it will have a good ventilation system, but what about the residents?

I urge Camden to reject this application.

