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Sent: 14 November 2019 00:01
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: 100avenueroadCMP [REDACTED]
Subject: 100 Avenue Road

To Camden Council

Why, when thousands of people signed a petition against adding this monstrosity to a square that is supposed to be a cultural and recreational hub, has the public been ignored (once again) and the developers given carte blanche to pollute the environment with their lorries and then with all increased traffic and traffic jams it will create? Why?

The few independent shops in the area will be put out of business; Swiss Cottage library and leisure centre will be covered with black soot and the bus stops in front of it will be closed, meaning fewer people will go to the library and leisure centre.

Not a day goes by when we are not told that the air in London is killing people, and yet Camden has approved a scheme that will see 25 huge construction lorries a day pass through, and block traffic in the area and idle their engines along Swiss Cottage for the next two years? The Nitrogen Dioxide levels in Swiss Cottage are already 65% higher than the tolerable limit set by the EU and this heavy industrial building will see the levels rise. This will directly endanger the lives of all of us who use the area and no doubt kill people who have respiratory problems or the young and the old who are less tolerant to high pollution levels.

That tiny open space is the only open space in a densely packed neighbourhood. There are thousands of council tenants who use that open space as their gardens and I see children running around and in summer playing in the fountain - and kids and young adults playing basketball in front of the Leisure Centre instead of stabbing one another on the streets. This construction site will condemn them to death if not close everything down. And when the building is finally constructed, it will block out the sun and they will play in shadows, closed in by concrete.

Along with all of this pollution is the noise. My neighbour had an extension built to her kitchen. A tiny job compared with what is in store for the residents of Swiss Cottage and the theatre and library. And yet the noise woke me up daily and was so loud I could not work from home. The noise of this construction site will mean no one will have the quiet enjoyment of their homes or leisure activities. I use the library, theatre and leisure centre all the time and will be covering my ears and eyes while I am there — but what do those who live around the square do?

Swiss Cottage Open Space was supposed to be a haven and a cultural and recreational hub, and has been fairly successful as such even if the full vision was not realised. If anything, trees and grass should be planted and the play area extended into where the Ham & High building used to be, certainly not another building. There are thousands of families that desperately need this open space area in order to get out of their tower blocks and breathe and read and have some contact with nature. Now they will be kept indoors. What a crime is being committed here against the people of Swiss Cottage and indeed farther afield. What shall we all think when we get our council tax bills and realise that the people those taxes are paying in league with developers dead set on destroying the only decent part of Swiss Cottage left?

I would like an answer.

Yours faithfully,

Joyce Glasser

