

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2019/5214/P		29/11/2019 23:06:05	OBJ	<p>My objection to the proposed extension at Premier Inn Dukes Road will have three components, (1) Personal health, (2) Safety and privacy and (3) Whitbread's dreadful conduct and lack of responsibility to their neighbours.</p> <p>(1). In 2014, I was diagnosed with anxiety and depression. This stemmed from a diagnosis of PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) as a result of a vicious attack on the Euston Road where I was found unconscious and with a severe arm injury. My recuperation has been a long journey and it is still ongoing.</p> <p>As part of my recovery and to manage my anxiety, I am frequently prescribed with anti-depressant medications and anti-anxiety medications. These vary according to assessment. My illness not a constant and it is not related to variations in the seasons. That means that I can get ill at anytime of the year, and have indeed been ill at all parts of the year.</p> <p>As a result of the above, my cycle of sleep is fractious and frequently interrupted by anxiety and the effects of the medications. The noise that will be generated, on top of the already abundant noise from the deliveries generated by Whitbread, will have a detrimental effect on my already precarious sleep. Fifteen months of trucks, tractors, pile drivers and construction will have a huge impact on the lives of the people of Somerton House and will interrupt our quality of life.</p> <p>In May 2019, I was diagnosed with two blood disorders. The most problematic, in one aspect of the two diagnoses, is Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura. It can cause extreme lethargy, and it has. This leads to a very complex situation where I need rest but cannot due to anxiety and as a result, they form a very unhealthy symbiosis. Fifteen months of vehicles delivering at all hours, construction and delivery personnel shouting at each other, the usual cohort of deliveries that is required for the hotel to function and the very distant possibility that this construction schedule will overrun means that I will have my life further disrupted. It will be torture, corporate torture.</p> <p>The rooftop extension, if built, will dramatically reduce the amount of light into my flat. East facing, one of our windows is redundant as it is blocked by the fire escape/refuse chute. I currently have a view of The Blood Lab which frames a majority of the aspect, the Pullman London and the Unison Building. Another structure a few metres away will drastically reduce our horizon (such as it is) and will drop light levels by 30%. I am aware that the Council have stipulated that the 'right to light' is not a consideration for them but it is for me and the other residents. This is a really poor policy and should shame the Council when a development like this is already making poor light worse. Camden's commitment of care to its tenants is really found wanting here, shame on Camden for such a regressive policy,</p> <p>The effect of having a darker and gloomier flat will also have an impact on my mental health, fragile as it is which will not be offset by a higher Whitbread profit margin. All Somerton House flats that have an east aspect will have an interruption to their already negligible view and primary light source. This is unacceptable.</p> <p>Camden have a responsibility to all their tenants, which includes wellbeing. I believe that this Whitbread proposal will make the quality of lives in Somerton House poorer by a considerable factor and this application should be rejected as a duty of care to tenants.</p> <p>(2). The annex proposed will greatly reduce the space that is available in the shared access area. Under Whitbread proposals, during the construction phase and post construction, there will only be space for one delivery truck in the carpark. As deliveries are inconsistent, more of this to be provided in part three, residents</p>

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will be living in a block that will have greatly reduced provision in case of an emergency. If, in the dreadful case of an emergency, a delivery vehicle would have to five-point reverse out of an already tight space. Then, that would only allow access to an emergency vehicle.

This time-lag could be crucial, and in some cases could be fatal. The delivery of bed linen should not decide the life of a Camden resident. To propose that this is acceptable from a corporation is irresponsible and negligent on the grounds of profit.

The provided space that may result in the annex extension also encumbers first responders and their ability to fight a fire as they will require space to carry out an effective operation without also endangering themselves. A narrow space under a burning building is not ideal for emergency crews to be their most effective in saving lives and homes. As I have noted, these proposals are irresponsible and possibly criminal.

Adding to the danger of the car park annex, the rooftop extension, whilst blocking much needed light, will also privilege their guests to stare directly into the homes of a number of flats. I do not want to live in a 'fish-bowl' for the profit of a very successful corporation. As mentioned above, this will also have a huge effect on my mental health. To provide privacy, I will have to block my windows, further reducing the reduced light available. The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (Article 12) provides that "no one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks". Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights provides a right to respect for one's "private and family life, his home and his correspondence", subject to certain restrictions that are "in accordance with law" and "necessary in a democratic society".

Are Whitbread and Camden Council, if they allow this application deliberately circumventing international conventions? If so, that is a gross irresponsibility on both parties and will possibly be subject to legal intervention. I believe that this Whitbread proposal will make the quality of lives in Somerton House poorer by a considerable factor and this application should be rejected as a duty of care to tenants.

(3). I have been privileged and grateful to live in Somerton House from 2006. The conduct of Premier Inn has always been questionable, almost to the point of abusive. I know that the Somerton House Residents Association have been battling for any more years than I have been resident, to established agreed norms for harmonious cohabitation. In all these areas, Whitbread consistently fail or abuse the relationship.

Deliveries should happen between agreed hours. These are frequently ignored. Earliest recorded delivery has been 06:02 and latest 23:15 (Video can be supplied). This is common. In addition, despite clear signage in the shared access space, trucks frequently block Somerton House access space. Photos can be supplied that demonstrate a small sample from the past few months. As a fraction, it can be postulated that there have been multiples of thousands over the last 13 years of my tenancy. They are a bad neighbour.

Refridgerated vehicles are instructed to turn their chillers off. They ignore this. This adds to the noise pollution in all the flats with an east aspect. The hotel staff should be obliged to state the terms to the delivery drivers but they do not, possibly because they are not trained in this or because they do not care. Therefore, it is corporate negligence to the residents of Somerton House. They are diminishing their responsibilities to the Somerton House tenants, and their own Premier Inn guests.

Whitbread recently installed a gate to access the car park. Before this, it was open to anyone to walk down to it. This of course included drug dealers and users, homeless people and people using the area for sex and prostitution. As this is a shared space, it was completely inappropriate for residents leaving their building to

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				<p>see someone shooting up heroin, drug dealers intimidating residents with collective stares and gesturing or people defecating in the area where they park their cars. This was ignored by Whitbread for many, many years and it was only through pressure from Somerton House Residents Association, after years of campaigning that a gate was installed.</p> <p>This was not enough. As they do not monitor who is going in and out of the car park, photos to be supplied show a car that was used for a drug dealing enterprise, reported to The Metropolitan Police after 4 months of monitoring. The Police broke into the car in June, it is still there which demonstrates a lack of care for residents and guests of their enterprise. This is deeply irresponsible for a corporation who claim to have a progressive corporate social responsibility.</p> <p>In 2013, Whitbread wanted to extend the hours of their bar, One Dukes Road and submitted an application to Camden Council Licensing Committee. In order to access the beer garden from the hotel, patrons have to take their drinks outside the entrance, walk onto the public footpath and into their area. The lawyer sent from Sheffield with no local knowledge of the area OR THE HOTEL to represent Whitbread lied to the committee and the alcohol extension was granted. Another example of Whitbread expanding truth for profit, as they have done with this application. I believe that this Whitbread proposal will make the quality of lives in Somerton House poorer by a considerable factor and this application should be rejected as a duty of care to tenants.</p> <p>I reject all aspects of this proposal and call on Camden Council, bearing in mind their responsibilities to their tenants, to reject this proposal in all it forms. We are not going to be collateral damage for corporate greed and corporate torture.</p>
2019/5214/P		28/11/2019 18:47:34	OBJ	<p>As a resident of neighbouring Burton Street, I am extremely concerned and dismayed by this application and fully support the strong objections of our neighbours in Duke's Road. In fact, I can scarcely believe the Council would even contemplate blighting the lives of so many local people and in an area of such historic importance.</p> <p>I appreciate such a development can provide needed funds for the Council, but this is the wrong place in every way. Please refuse this application. Thank you.</p>
2019/5214/P		28/11/2019 15:05:26	OBJ	<p>I strongly object to this planning application being approved.</p> <p>Currently, Burton Street is already used as a rat run, coupled to being used by all and sundry as a delivery loading and unloading bay, most especially by the BMA. I do not even want to imagine the noise, dirt and disruption that the work will cause. If things run true to form, I suspect that a mere 15 months for completion of the work is wildly optimistic.</p> <p>Speaking as a housebound senior citizen I dread the noise and disruption. I just wonder how the proposers of this project, and Camden Council staff, would like this happening, as it were, on their own doorsteps.</p>

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2019/5214/P		29/11/2019 09:13:15	WREP	Please see DWD letter dated 29.11.2019 sent via email to Ben Farrant.
2019/5214/P		28/11/2019 19:59:07	OBJ	<p>This plan will severely affect the quality of life of people in Flaxman Court and will jeopardise the operation of The Place, an important meeting point and cultural hub in the community. Enlarging the building will rob us from daylight and will make our place very dark. Plus the noise of having yet another construction site next to the place where we live. During the construction of UCL accommodation we had to face a lot of noise and disruption. This was not long ago. We strongly oppose the proposal and more disruption to our lives.</p>