

Kristina Smith
Camden Council Planning Department
5 Pancras Square
N1C 5AG

5 June 2020

Dear Ms Smith,

Re: A letter of support for the London Irish Centre Redevelopment Project 02020/1481/P

We are writing to support the redevelopment of the London Irish Centre. We are regular users of the Centre, some of our members have been using the Centre for over 50 years. It is a highly valued lifeline to us and others in the local community in the Camden and Islington area in particular. We attend the Day Centre, Wellbeing Service, Advice service, Tea Dances and Culture events. Some of us also volunteer at the Centre.

While the Day Centre is wonderful and the staff are so caring and warm it is very difficult to move from one part of the building to another, for example when we want to go to an afternoon event in the main part of the building we have to walk around the Centre, and up the stairs. This can be very difficult as many of us are less abled and find it a very difficult journey, trying to use the ramps and the small lift. It is also impossible for many of us to attend events in the Presidential Suite as there are steps to this space and with no disability lift, apart from a one person stannah, and using this is undignified for someone unable to manage the stairs.

There are a lot of new members joining but it is also a very difficult building to navigate for new members as there is no reception area or proper place to meet, with lots of corridors and narrow stairs which can be very daunting especially for those in our group who might have issues with memory loss and dementia.

We are very excited by the idea of the beautiful new building, having not just a new Day Centre but also a much bigger community area on the ground floor where we will be able to meet and chat. At the moment we have no outside space at all, though we do have some small window boxes which are lovingly looked after. The plan for the new therapy garden is wonderful news, it means we will be able to sit outside during the fine weather and starting growing plants and looking after the flowers. Many of use other community services like the Library, Health Navigation, Befriending, Culture events and having better facilities will give the community a new lease of life.

The London Irish Centre is a huge part of our lives and we are really missing the friendship and fun while the lockdown is going on and we realise how important it is for our health and wellbeing and look forward to a redeveloped and improved London Irish Centre.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]	Docura House, [REDACTED] Corker Walk, London, N7 7RU	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Princes Avenue, London, N3 2DA	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Shepperton Road, London, N1 3DQ	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Gillepsie Road, London, N5 1LP	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Camden Terrace, London, NW1 9BP	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Mildmay Grove North, London, N1 4PL	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Hillfield Road, London, NW6 1QA	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Tufnell Park Road, London, N7 0DT	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Highgate Westhill, London, N6 6NP	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Rochester Road, London, NW1 9JH	[REDACTED]