From: Francis Fawcett

Sent: 17 February 2021 18:30

To: Planning

Subject: 2020/5513/P (Spectrum House) - Objection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

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2020/5513/P (CLEUD for 13x externally mounted fan coil units on Spectrum House)

Strong objection on multiple grounds:

- 1. Procedural: I believe that the breach for which a Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use or Development (CLEUD) is sought is not suitable for these uses in this location, for the following reasons.
- 1.a Lawful development certificates "are not relevant to situations where breaches of listed building or conservation area controls may be alleged". Spectrum House is located in the Dartmouth Park Conservation Area, so the installation without consent of these units represents a breach of conservation area controls. In this way a CLEUD is not relevant and the application should be dismissed.
- 1.b If the council deems a CLEUD appropriate despite 1.a, as a breach of planning conditions this means that evidence of a minimum of 10 years (not 4 years) are required to be able to normalise via this process.
- 2. Noise (Environmental Health): Excessive noise 24h a day coming from the air conditioning / heating units in close proximity to residential bedrooms. There are noise complaints in place with Camden (e.g. no. 275805 in October 2020) relating to these units which operate in summer (cooling) and are particularly relentless in winter months (heating). Noise levels hugely exceed 10db under local ambient noise levels particularly during 'non-work' 6pm-8am hours of operation.
- 3. Sustainability: In any case these units directly contradict Camden's policy of minimising energy use and carbon emissions. The council should seek to encourage the applicants to first adequately insulate the inefficient building fabric, to avoid the need for dozens of polluting and wasteful fan coil units.
- 4. Appearance: The units are very ugly and higly visible from distant and nearby views, with no consideration given to layout, screening, or any other mitigating approach. They are entirely unsuitable in a Conservation Area and singularly fail to "preserve or enhance" the character of the area; they are a major detracting factor from the appearance of the area.
- 5. Process: There are a further 21 fan coil units recently applied for by the applicant (2020/2612/P), and withdrawn following numerous strong local objections. By attempting to use this CLEUD process the applicant is seeking to avoid due scrutiny of their poor-quality application materials but it is vital that these materials are re-presented and allowed to be scrutinised in full applications. This also seeks to set a precedent for a similar approach for the remaining units; this should be most strongly avoided.

For these reasons the application should be refused.