

The Francis Crick Institute Limited
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By email:

Jonathan McClue - Principal Planning Officer
London Borough of Camden
5 Pancras Square
LONDON N1C 4AG

22 March 2021
Our ref: PN/SB/JB

Dear Mr McClue

Application Ref: 2020/5593/P

UCL Ear Institute: Proposed redevelopment of former Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital 330 Gray's Inn Road

We write as a biomedical research institute, which is a partner of UCL, to express our great concerns about the proposed redevelopment of the former Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear (RNTNE) Hospital at 330 Gray's Inn Road.

The Institute forms an integral part of our partner UCL's Faculty of Brain Sciences and brings together world-leading academics and clinicians to understand hearing and fight deafness. It is one of the world's leading centres for auditory research and ranked 1st based on bibliometric analysis of highly cited publications in England.

The proposed redevelopment and associated construction of 330 Gray's Inn Road will result in significant noise, vibration, security and servicing impacts, as well as Party Wall and Neighbourly issues. Without appropriate mitigation, these impacts will severely prejudice the Ear Institute's research operations and funding of future research programmes. The proposed development would therefore conflict with the strategic aims of the London Plan and Camden's Local Plan policies by undermining the strategic importance of London's cluster of world-leading medical research and academic institutions of which the Ear Institute is an integral component.

As the development proposals do not appropriately mitigate for these very significant impacts, we ask that they are amended to ensure that appropriate mitigation is provided. In the event that this is not provided, we respectfully request that the application is refused.

Yours sincerely

Paul Nurse FRS
Director

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