

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2021/2911/P	DR ELIZABETH MONCK	24/08/2021 18:26:12	INT	<p>I write to express strong objections to the proposed change of use at 24 Lady Margaret Road, NW52XL. I have considerable experience in the level of need of these children/teenagers and there is nothing in the proposal that suggests the Children's Home will provide for them. At the Inst. of Child Health and at the Inst. of Education I led research into the progress of children placed for fostering and adoption. I served for a decade as Trustee of a charity involved in supporting children after the courts had found parents unable to cope. In our research we found that new parents were given substantial support but even so some children's problems were so severe that placements failed. In selecting children for our studies we knew there were many so severely traumatised by their abuse/neglect that they could not be placed in family settings. These are the children/teenagers this new Home will be providing for. There is no evidence that the Home will be staffed appropriately; the staffing ratios would appear completely inadequate; there are no rooms set aside for therapeutic support. There is a strong impression of simply packing in as many children and as few staff as the owners can get away with.</p> <p>It surely goes against local planning principles to allow the owners to build a extra 'room' in the garden. My first concern therefore is that the proposal offers nothing that might suggest the owners have a full understanding of these children's needs. In addition, this part of Camden is not a good environment for them. Camden, unfortunately, has a reputation of teenage violence and drug dealing that the police and the local authority seem unable to deal with effectively. A Home run by the same owners in Falkland rd became a focus of drug taking and drug dealing and had to close. There is nothing in this proposal that suggests their approach has changed. It is important that my objection is not dismissed as NIMBY-ism. The reality is that this is not a suitable neighbourhood in which to place such a Home.</p> <p>Locally, parking is already in short supply. The new Home will generate more.</p> <p>My second concern is that Lady Margaret road and surrounding streets contain a large number of families with children; but also a high number of single person households where elderly people are managing to go to the shop, the hairdresser, the doctor even if with a little difficulty. Any disruption or interruption of their venturing out can feel very threatening for those in their 70s and 80s. It is important to these older folk that the streets contain people whose name they may not know but who they can rely on to be helpful and kind if something goes wrong. A large, ill-staffed Children's Home for needy, inherently unsocial children will without doubt form a specific threat to some of my neighbours.</p>
2021/2911/P	William Adams	24/08/2021 18:07:41	PETITNOBJE	<p>The planing application as submitted does not provide enough information upon the impact the change of use will have upon the residents in the immediate area. I feel the application should be refused at present. S as to make a full assessment of the proposal needs, a full breakdown of staffing levels, the young peoples level of support needs, local existing support from other organisations.</p> <p>The impact of possible noise and antisocial behaviour that may occur.</p> <p>There are many young families in the area and the class C2 proposal is causing great anxiety.</p>