



**Subject:**

Murphy's Yard Development



Murphy's Yard Development: Planning application number 2021/3225/P

I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the above proposal, which contravenes almost every planning principle.

**Tower blocks**

No-one wants to live in or near tower blocks. This should be well established by now. The claustrophobic effect is apparent from developments around Moorgate and Victoria, where when you emerge out of the Underground you are completely disoriented and have no landmarks by which to navigate. I raised the issue of the height of the tower block at one of the original consultation meetings and did not receive a satisfactory response. At that time there was only one tall block. Now there appear to be three. Their erection would create an unacceptable precedent.

**Lack of adequate green space**

Originally it looked as though there would be sufficient green areas. Now it appears there is a paved area with a few flower beds and isolated trees of negligible ecological value. Wildlife requires hedges.

**Density**

The grossly excessive density with no agreed percentage of so-called affordable housing merely reflects greed and a lack of consideration of the effects of introducing further population into an already densely populated area, which will have disastrous consequences for local services, including schools, hospitals and traffic. The effect of lockdown on the Heath demonstrated the already existing excessive population in this area without adequate green space for recreation.

**Contravention of agreed planning principles**

The proposal is opposed by both the City of London Corporation on the grounds of loss of views from the Heath and by the Heath & Hampstead Society, one of whose charitable objects is to promote and maintain the amenities and characteristics of the environs of the Heath. The planning requirement that any development near the Heath must not harm its openness and the views from it also contravenes the Hampstead and Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plans, Camden Local Plan, the Mayor's London Plan and the National Policy Planning Framework. It also contravenes the principle enshrined and agreed in the Kentish Town Neighbourhood Plan to preserve the view of the Heath from Kentish Town.

Its only saving grace is that there is a good chance I shall not live to it.

Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth Valentine  
41 Falkland Road,

Kentish Town.

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