

From: Jo Syz
Sent: 05 March 2022 22:19
To: Planning
Subject: Objection 2022/0419/T

Dear Camden Council,

I am very concerned about the proposed removal of two mature plane trees at 8 Doughty Mews.

I work in Camden and for several years delivered food to the housing estate from which the trees are clearly visible and are a beautiful part of the local natural environment and skyline.

Camden Council has declared a Climate Emergency and mature trees such as these two planes are one of our most vital assets for helping us reach our climate targets and creating a liveable world for our children. Mature trees are particularly important in urban areas such as this, where they help reduce air pollution and are host to thousands of varieties of insects and birds, as well as being integral links in urban wildlife corridors.

Planting new trees is important, but the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has clearly stated that we only have a very few years in which to shift to a sustainable trajectory that will mean we can reach our targets, that will keep away from climate breakdown. New trees take 30-40 years to reach maturity, so one of our most valuable assets in fighting climate change is the mature trees that we already have.

Because they are such important parts of our natural ecosystem with in the city, we should be protecting our mature urban trees and managing them appropriately for their setting. Assessments for these two plane trees have already been made and potential plans drawn up that could allow them to be managed within their current location. The total removal of mature trees can cause major subsidence issues of their own, so a responsible management plan should be put into place instead.

The removal of these two trees would be a profound loss to both the local environment and the community. Every time I delivered to that housing estate and looked at that view, I did feel so grateful for the important natural elements that we can have, even in the middle of the city. It is vital that, wherever possible, we are able to preserve them, for our communities and for the health of future generations.

John Syz