
Subject: Murphy's Yard Planning Application - ward councillor views

Dear Jonathan McClue,

We are writing to you as ward councillors on behalf of many hundreds of residents who have raised significant concerns about the Murphy's Yard development.

While we recognise this is an area that has potential to positively contribute new housing and amenities we are concerned about the plans in their current form.

Firstly and most importantly we do not feel the current plans do enough to address the urgent need for affordable family size homes for local people. They do not meet the council's policy on genuinely affordable housing and they do not acknowledge that a section of the site is public land (Network Rail). We have over 6,000 people on the waiting list in Camden with a ratio of 13 families to each available larger family size council home. We are seeing young people who grow up here driven out of the area by high house prices and school rolls falling. We would like to strongly push for an increase in affordable housing on this site.

Secondly, we want to see guarantees of community amenities and benefit such as step free access for Kentish Town tube station and a new bridge linking Kentish Town to Gospel Oak.

Thirdly, Issues such as the impact on neighbouring areas, their amenity and key public views needs to be fully considered and weighed in the committee's decision.

Finally we are asking you to work with local residents, understand the strong feeling locally and ensure they are listened to as the process continues.

Kind regards,

Meric Apak
Georgia Gould
Jenny Headlam-Wells

Kentish Town ward councillors