

Gordon Mansions Residents Association

Please reply to: Clive Henderson, Chair, Gordon Mansions Residents Association,
5 Gordon Mansions, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HE.

email:
mobile:



Members Briefing Panel,
Camden Planning
London Borough of Camden
Camden Town Hall,
Argyle Street, London WC1H 8ND.

4th September 2022

For: Development Management: Members Briefing Panel of Monday 5th September 2022

Dear Members Briefing Panel,

Re: Ref 2022/0898/P: Rockefeller Building - Welfare Facility at 96A-98 Chenies Mews.

I am writing on behalf of Gordon Mansions Residents Association.
The second block of the Gordon Mansions flats is on the western side of Chenies Mews street with Gordon Mansions flats overlooking the Mews.

We wish to support the Chenies Mews Working Group's objections to the proposed continued use of the Chenies Mews building as a welfare facility by UCL and UCL's contractors.

UCL (University College London) and UCLH (University College London Hospitals) are separate entities – in recent years, both UCL (University) and UCLH (Hospital) have carried out large developments next to Gordon Mansions and in our immediate area. It needs to be appreciated that, from our experience, UCLH (Hospital) has consistently been good at managing its site and its contractors. By contrast, from residents' point of view, the UCL (University) sites and their contractors have been badly managed.

The reason for our support of the Chenies Mews Working Group's objections is that individual residents living in Chenies Mews have had to put up with unacceptable behaviour over a long time period by UCL's contractors using this Chenies Mews Welfare Facility – despite rules forbidding it, contractors' staff would smoke and/or talk on their mobile phones in front of the mews houses/flats and or in their doorways. Individual residents got tired of continuously complaining to UCL and/or the managers of the Facility – no action/enforcement seemed to be taken.

One of UCL's building sites was at 1-19 Torrington Place, on the party wall of Gordon Mansions first block of flats – for the conversion of the underground car parks into UCL's Big Data Centre, with the main site entrance next to our party wall. I live in one of the Gordon Mansions flats on this party wall and next to the site entrance. I experienced similar unacceptable behaviour throughout the Big Data Centre contract from UCL's contractor – despite requests, the contractor's staff would smoke and/or talk on their mobiles immediately below our windows – if I asked them not to, the staff would literally laugh at me. This type of behaviour shows that UCL and its contractors has no respect for the local residential community, including those living in Chenies Mews; and that UCL is not good at managing its contractors.

Yours sincerely,

Clive Henderson,
Chair,
On behalf of Gordon Mansions Residents Association.