

Edgware Policy in the proposed Main Modifications to the Barnet Local Plan 16 June 2024 23:46:02

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I am not against redevelopment but I am writing to express my concerns regarding the Edgware Policy in the proposed Main Modifications to the Barnet Local Plan which seems to mean that the future slums of tomorrow will be dumped on Edgware.

I live in what was known as the old village of Edgware which is in the Town Centre an area already heavily congested with traffic, limited parking and massive anti-social behaviour. Many years ago a labour controlled council vowed to bring Edgware down to Burnt Oak level which they have now succeeded in doing and are hell bent on continuing to ruin the area. Edgware means little to Barnet Council because it is on the edge of the Borough adjoining the London Borough of Harrow. Why has Hadley Wood or Totteridge not been considered for this development?

The building of approximately 4,700 residential units and 29 storey tower blocks is absolutely absurd and will turn Edgware from feeling like a suburb, into inner city living. Edgware cannot cope with the scale of this proposed development in such a small area. The research undertaken many years ago about the detrimental effect of living in high rise buildings has been completely ignored. It brings the risk of depression, suicide and loneliness. Telling us they would be careful to whom they sell or rent these properties is a complete joke. These high rise blocks are not the right environment to bring up a young family. I would suggest that those proposing this new development move in themselves.

The loss of the Broadwalk Centre as an **indoor** community hub where people can meet to enjoy a coffee and browse the shops will be a loss to the community and to the many elderly residents who love to meet there. Building more outside individual coffee shops and restaurants will not offer a community feel.

This development will not improve the already run down High Street or Station Road because it is concentrated on TFL and Broadwalk land and there is no finance available to renovate the existing exteriors of local shops.

The Mayor of London wishes to limit parking in Edgware. He has no idea that many residents choose not to go into London but like to drive into Hertfordshire which is on Edgware's borders. E.g. There is no bus service along the A5 into Radlett and St Albans.

Access to/long waiting lists at GP's surgeries is already stretched and even if you build a new health centre with the shortage of GP's and other medical practitioners there will be no staff to run it.

A congested skyline with tower blocks is likely to block out the sun and residents will be living in shadow.

According to Ballymore they are not involved in anything to do with infrastructure like the pressure on water, electricity, gas, sewage – it's not their problem but down to Barnet Council. Living in the centre of Edgware for us, sewage is already a major problem with constant blockages and stinking drains and manholes which Thames water can do nothing about

The streets are filthy and no matter how much time the street cleaner spends time picking up litter it is back within minutes. We are plagued with men urinating in our streets, using the churchyard as a toilet and people generally vandalising the area. This development will not enhance our side of Station Road at all.

And one final matter don't say you were not warned about the dangers of fire in the underground bus garage.

Maxine Weber