



www.saveealingscentre.com

mail@saveealingscentre.com

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By email to: boris.johnson@london.gov.uk

Dear Boris

**Comments on Planning Application LB Ealing P/2015/3479
Proposed development at 9-42 The Broadway**

I am writing on behalf of Save Ealing's Centre (an alliance of 27 local residents' associations and community groups including Ealing Civic Society (ECS)) with regard to the above planning application which was approved on February 24th by the London Borough of Ealing (LBE) and is being referred to you for direction.

The application has raised a storm of protest in Ealing, including almost 2000 signatures on our change.org petition gathered over the last two weeks, along with opposition from many local community groups. It would rip out the heart of Ealing Town Centre Conservation Area, and the town centre as a whole. Historic England has objected to it in the strongest possible terms (see attached), but the officer's report brushed their objections aside, although we understand LBE's report was not written nor contributed to by anyone qualified or experienced in matters of heritage and conservation.

The site lies at the very heart of the metropolitan centre and raises strategic Londonwide issues which we are sure you will wish to examine very carefully. It seems clear to us that the development would conflict totally with local character and heritage policies 7.4, 7.8 and 7.9 of the London plan. This is in addition to non-compliance with national legislation, policy and guidance, and even with LBE's own published local conservation policy.

You should also be aware that previous plans for this site were called in by the Secretary Of State and overturned following approval by Ealing council. We are writing separately to Greg Clark urging him to take a similar approach in this case, as you will see in the letter attached.

We would add that there is a growing concern within the borough about the lack of transparency in the way planning is being done here and the conflicted priorities that seem to be emerging. As Londoners shortly to elect a new London Assembly we very much hope you will pay due regard to the consequences of the council apparently steam-rolling decisions like this which lack general public support. This is actually reflected in LBE's organisational structure – where the planning department is subordinate to regeneration, notwithstanding the fact that these functions can have conflicting responsibilities.

Please give this matter your urgent consideration.

Julian Smith

For the Committee
Save Ealing's Centre