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From: n [REDACTED] mcgarrigle [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2019 17:33
To: Future Merton
Subject: Masterplan

I am writing to express my deep concern and objections over the current proposed 'Master Plan' for Wimbledon Town Centre.

The Council states that it would like to see Wimbledon recognised as a "Metropolitan Centre". This would allow much larger scale development similar to those found in centres like Croydon or Kingston. This is an undesirable future for Wimbledon. As a long-term resident of Wimbledon, I have actively chosen NOT to live in an over developed area and do not wish Wimbledon to be transformed into one. The council claims that there is a need to develop additional office space for a projected extra 8000 jobs but there appears to be very little data to support this vision.

The Plan refers to a need for more "mid-rise" buildings in Wimbledon town centre, to growth, proposals suggesting up to 18 storeys, but any new buildings exceeding 7-8 storeys will tower over the existing townscape and radically alter the skyline for residents. The building heights proposed, particularly around St George's Road and the area around the current YMCA – are significantly higher than existing buildings and represent much more than "a moderate increase in heights". The proposed scale and intensity of development are wholly inappropriate for Wimbledon town centre. They will change the character of Wimbledon, whilst exacerbating current traffic congestion and pollution issues in the town centre. The council have no proposed solution to any increase in traffic levels which will inevitably occur with an increase in working population.

I fail to understand how the current proposals will be of any benefit to the residents and appears to only propose a very negative change to the nature of Wimbledon itself. I strongly believe that the plans need significant revision and that resident's views should be listened to and taken into account.

your sincerely
N [REDACTED] McGarrigle
Wimbledon Resident