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From: R [Redacted] Richardson [Redacted]
Sent: 18 December 2018 16:39
To: Future Merton
Subject: Wimbledon Town Centre

Dear "Future",

I understand that Merton Council is consulting on its vision for Wimbledon town centre.

I am heartened to know that you are using the word "vision" in the title of this process because I would like to suggest that the centrepiece of the town centre should be the concert hall plans for which are at the concept stage and which is truly visionary.

As you are no doubt aware the architect for the project is no less than the iconic visionary, Frank Gehry, the architect of, amongst other renowned buildings, the Guggenheim gallery in Bilbao, Spain. As I'm sure you also know, the arrival of that building has transformed Bilbao from a humdrum port into a major tourist destination with an amazing parallel transformation of the town's finances.

It needs to be emphasised, in case the title "concert hall" is thought to be too highbrow, that it would be a venue for every type of music and much else besides. It would be, in reality, the Wimbledon Centre. Or the Merton Centre. An iconic attraction and a wonderful facility.

Please, Councillors of Merton, embrace the vision, and the future. Go for it!

R [Redacted] Richardson

PS I'm not a Wimbledon resident but I have been watching the concert hall project and, as a fan of the annual Wimbledon Music Festival and therefore very much a potential customer, and as a fan and a traveller to outstanding modern architecture, I am an enthusiastic supporter.

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