From:

To: <u>Future Merton</u>

**Subject:** Objection to buildings taller than 19 storeys in Colliers Wood

**Date:** 22 March 2024 14:43:37

## **Dear Future Merton**

I am writing as a local and resident of Colliers Wood to strongly object to the Planning Inspector's recommendation to remove the clause that Britannia Point should remain the pinnacle in Colliers Wood.

I have lived in Colliers Wood for over 40 years and in that time have seen the intense house building that has gone on in Colliers Wood and this also includes the recladding and increased flats in Britannia. But what hasn't kept pace with this increased development is the infrastructure needed to support the additional families coming in to occupy these homes. While this may not be a planning consideration it is one that should be considered and is something I am very concerned about.

Colliers Wood is a unique and special place with a beautiful mix of housing and low rise blocks and a place with a rich heritage – something enjoyed by the residents of Colliers Wood who value and love the vibrant community that it has.

The 19-storey block that is Britannia Point is out of keeping with housing style and mix of low-rise buildings around it. The wind tunnel it creates between the building and tube station can be dangerous and there have been instances when people have fallen because of the strong winds. Therefore, to have more tall blocks around it will only add to this problem. Further tall blocks will only block out the sunlight of residents' gardens creating shadows stretching far and wide affecting Singlegate Primary School at the back and over the Wandle Park.

The site is on a flood risk plane and with climate change an emergency it is important that the Local Plan needs to demonstrate that guidance in the document ensures responsible development and protections not only for those who will live in the blocks but also for those residents living in close proximity to it.

In my opinion the Planning Inspector' duty is not about building more houses in the area but has a responsibility to ensure that the right sort of development takes place encouraging responsible developers to build in Colliers Wood. I therefore I please urge you to reconsider leaving the clause in the Local Plan that Britannia Point should be the pinnacle in Colliers Wood.

Yours faithfully