

From: [Tricia Book](#)
To: [Forward Planning](#)
Cc: [Mike Freer](#); [Adrian Reuben](#)
Subject: Proposed redevelopment at Finchley Central station
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My husband and I wish to object most strongly to the extent of the proposed redevelopment at Finchley Central station, although obviously we understand the Government's desire for additional new housing. The political implications have caused residents to be fobbed off with blame laid on the Mayor of London and Transport for London, but we simply wish to focus on the plans themselves.

1. The proposal for four tower blocks of 20 storeys each ignores the fact that there are no buildings even close to that height in the surrounding area so these blocks would be totally out of keeping with the existing environment. The maximum height of pre-existing buildings nearby is about 9 storeys! We are also concerned at the prospective loss of light in the immediate neighbourhood.
2. The area around the station is already crowded with residents creating volumes of litter in the adjacent streets. Finchley Central has become noticeably run-down by comparison with neighbouring areas such as Temple Fortune, North Finchley and Whetstone. It is not pleasant walking the streets at night. The addition of vast numbers of new properties at Finchley Central can only exacerbate these problems.
3. Pre-pandemic, the car park at Finchley Station was always full with commuters' cars. Whilst it is likely that a change in working habits will lead to lower daily usage by commuters, nevertheless there needs to be parking available for those who need to commute to their places of work; the surrounding streets are all restricted parking zones.
4. The plans seem to assume that the new residents will mainly use public transport and will not, therefore, require parking spaces. This is nonsensical as children have to be taken to school and residents need to get to their places of work; both activities could require use of a car so adequate parking facilities are vital. We are aware of the steps that Barnet Council and the Government are taking to encourage cycling, but bicycles are no answer for the elderly or for children.

We urge Barnet Council to reassess the proposals very carefully and recognise the need for a significant reduction in the height of any tower blocks plus the provision of car parking facilities for the new residents and commuters.

Please keep us informed of any decisions.

Ms Tricia Book & Dr Adrian Reuben

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