

Policy and Partnerships

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA
Switchboard: 020 7983 4000
Minicom: 020 7983 4458
Web: www.london.gov.uk

Nicole Schragger

CityPoint
33rd Floor
One Ropemaker Street
London, EC2Y 9UE

Our ref: MGLA170506-3570

Your ref:

Date: 18 May 2006

Dear Ms. Schragger,

Lamb's Squash Club

Thank you for your letter to the Mayor of London. He has asked me to reply on his behalf.

Whilst I sympathise with your concerns about the proposed development, I am afraid that we are unable to assist you with this matter. The Mayor only has planning powers over applications of 'strategic' importance to London as defined by the Town and Country Planning (Mayor of London) Order 2000. The development to which you refer is not strategic. I am afraid the Mayor cannot get involved in it.

According to Islington's Planning website, the last application for this site was refused. The reasons for refusal include the fact that the building would create a 'canyon effect' and that the lack of sunlight would lead to inhabitable rooms. Most importantly, however, is that "the existing sports facilities on site contribute to the character and liveliness of the area and play an important role in the Borough and the wider area in the provision of indoor sports facilities. The proposal would therefore result in a loss of facilities contrary to Policies R18 and ST8 of Islington's Unitary Development Plan 2002. The proposal would also be contrary to policy 3D.5 of the London Plan 2002 and to PPG17." Islington Council appear to have taken into account local issues surrounding the loss of a sports venue. As long as Camden Council realise that the demolition of this site would be contrary to the London Plan, it is highly doubtful that an application will be granted.

I am sorry we are unable to assist you further but hope that this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



Leah O'Donovan
Planning Decisions Unit