
From: christian.davies@parliament.uk
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Ill treatment of Lancaster West residents
Date: Fri, 20 Jul 2012 11:33:45 +0000

Dear Mr Daffarn,

Thank you for the update. I am sorry to hear that you are so dissatisfied with the Council's response.

I would like to draw your attention to an article Sir Malcolm wrote for the Kensington Chronicle last month about the North Kensington development, in which he emphasises the importance of the council demonstrating sensitivity to residents' concerns. This message has also been emphasised in private correspondence on the matter. Sir Malcolm's role is to make sure that his constituents' concerns are recognised by the relevant authorities, which in this case is the council.

I enclose the text of Sir Malcolm's article:

People do not commonly associate deprivation with Kensington. It is often regarded by those outside as a place unaffected by the problems of the world, blissfully unaware of laws emanating from Westminster unless threatened with the (extremely foolish) proposal of a tax on expensive homes.

But as residents will be aware, Kensington is a much more diverse part of the capital than many assume. Those from the outside world will be surprised to hear that it includes some of the most acute pockets of deprivation and disadvantage in the capital, areas which require a great deal of investment and attention. This is something that I am most gratified to say has not been lost on the Council, which has always recognised its obligations to the borough as a whole.

As the Mayor stated in the aftermath of the traumatic riots across London last summer, the problems of inner city deprivation cannot be addressed simply by throwing money around – they require detailed attention to how people can be given the opportunity to prosper in the long-term.

The most crucial element of this is investing in education, which is why I so warmly welcome the plans to open a new academy in North Kensington, filling a gap which has led to an unacceptable number of students having to commute to schools from outside the borough. The plans for the new academy also include the redevelopment of the area's leisure centre into a state-of-the-art facility.

I am aware that this new development, whilst a huge boost to the area in the long-term, will have a considerable impact in the immediate future on surrounding residents, particularly those around Lancaster Green. It is important that the Council demonstrates that they are sensitive to residents' concerns, and I hope that everyone in Kensington will

welcome, as I do, this most timely investment in the futures of those who need and deserve it most.

With kind regards,

Christian Davies

Christian Davies

Parliamentary Researcher

Office of Sir Malcolm Rifkind MP

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Tel: [REDACTED] begin_of_the_skype_highlighting [REDACTED] end_of_the_skype_highlighting |

Fax: [REDACTED]

Thu 19/07/2012, 08:17

Rifkind (christian.davies@parliament.uk);

Francis verity action group ([REDACTED]);

teresa miles emb ([REDACTED]);

Todd Foreman Councillor ([REDACTED]);

+1 more

Dear Christian,

Thank you for your letter dated 17th July that included a response from K and C Council to concerns raised by Sir Malcolm as to the need to supply double glazing to residents living on the frontline of the proposed KALC construction work.

While K and C Council claim to understand and take seriously the impact of a major building project they bluntly refuse to even try and find a way to secure funding to supply a relatively small amount of residencies with protection against, what will be, intolerable levels of noise and dust pollution.

As a result of the Council's refusal to help protect residents many members of our community are frightened and fearful of what lies in wait for them once their homes are turned into a giant building site. The destruction of our community is already underway as unwell and concerned residents try and escape the KALC tsunami and find alternative accommodation away from Lancaster West. This situation is intolerable. Please can you inform Sir Malcolm that members of the Grenfell Action Group would like to meet with him as a matter of urgency to discuss the above issue and how Sir Malcolm will help us to obtain justice for our community. We will be happy to see Sir Malcolm at either his Surgery at Horton St or at his offices in Westminster and we expect his robust support to fight this in-human treatment of many vulnerable residents on Lancaster West Estate.

Sir Malcolm can find more information with regards the issue of double glazing (and other pertinent matters) on the Grenfell Action Group's blog at:

<http://grenfellactiongroup.wordpress.com/2012/07/16/the-double-glazing-debacle/>

Kind regards,

Edward Daffarn

Grenfell Action Group