

## **Barnett, Jessica: PC-Plan**

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**From:** Orna NiChionna  
**Sent:** 26 March 2014 23:12  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** Basement consultation

We are very concerned by the rapidly increasing number of basement developments and the inadequacy of the Council's current planning policies to deal with the extreme pressure to excavate basements. These developments have severely affected our quality of life through continual noise, vibration and dust and through the impact of construction traffic and long-term parking suspensions. Their scale, duration and impacts on our neighbourhood during construction must be far beyond what was ever envisaged when the current laws were drafted, and the cumulative effect of successive schemes is intolerable.

We strongly support the Council's proposals to change their policy toward basements. We are very keen on the suggestion that you reduce the scale of basements by limiting them to one storey and no more than 50% of the garden. We also believe that the Council should demand better control over the conditions during construction - better control of traffic and parking problems during the excavation and construction process; better control over noise, vibration and dust.

And above all, there should be more rigour - somehow - in the design process to ensure structural stability throughout the excavation and construction process.

We would like to have our support recorded in favour of the proposed changes.

Yours sincerely

Adair and Orna Turner