

Barnett, Jessica: PC-Plan

From: Michael Howard
Sent: 23 March 2014 19:55
To: Planning Policy
Subject: New Basement Policy

Attn: Mr. Anthony Walker

Dear Mr. Walker,

For some reason, we were unable to enter our response directly on the form we were sent via email, and hope that our comments below can be registered.

We consider the new basements policy one of the most important under consideration by the Council. We strongly support this much more restricted approach being proposed.

The sharp increase in both the numbers and size of basement conversions, we believe, increases the probability of future problems related to water tables and adjacent buildings. We have personal knowledge of a friend who was assaulted by just such a conversion (2 levels down) which damaged their home and caused excessive stress in trying to get compensation from the owner who caused the damage.

We also know of circumstances where the conversion mechanics resulted in an unacceptably long period of severe vehicle restriction plus seemingly endless dirt.

we urge you to ignore the lobbying by basement conversion companies and implement the new policy which takes into consideration the unique amenities of this Royal Borough.

Yours sincerely,

Michael & Ngila Howard