

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

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**From:** Christopher Wright  
**Sent:** 26 March 2014 14:33  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** Re: Building Basement redevelopment

Gentlemen:

I am, and for some months now have been, concerned increasingly by the publicity being given to basement developments and to the damage they inflict on London's 18th- 19th- and early 20th-century buildings.

I am also aware that your Council's Planning Department is under pressure and that many residents consider the current policy is inadequate. My own view is that this growing problem needs to be tackled by primary legislation at Government level.

Until that happens, these applications, once approved, affect severely our quality of life through the impact of construction traffic and long-term parking suspensions (as we in De Vere Gardens very well know after nearly 3 years of the McAlpine development), as well as dust, vibration, and noise.

Accordingly, I support strongly the Council's present proposal to limit basement extensions by restricting them to one-storey and to no more than 50% of garden save for Listed Buildings, where I understand there is a restriction already in place about building underneath them.

I also support, strongly, any conditions the Council imposes on these applications which emphasise proper drainage, the retention of trees, the enhanced control of traffic, noise, vibration, and dust and, just as importantly, the stability and long-term preservation of some of these seriously-beautiful structures which we all know - once demolished - are lost forever.

I will be obliged if this e-mail can be read aloud to your Committee Members or, if that is not possible, that our support from De Vere Gardens be recorded in favour of the Council's proposed changes.

Yours faithfully -

**Christopher Wright**  
**Chairman**  
**Seventeen De Gardens Residents**