

91 Edward Road
Walthamstow
London
E17 6PB

Blackhorse Lane Regeneration
Regeneration Programmes
Town Hall
Forest Road
Walthamstow
London E17 4JF

24 July 2006

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to you to express my grave concerns in regard to the proposed plans of the new site for Willowfield Secondary School on the Douglas Eyre Playing Field in Blackhorse Road.

The Douglas Eyre Playing Field is green belt land, and thus should be protected. Green belt land should not be used for new building, and certainly not when such obvious impracticalities and dire effects to a local community will be created as a consequence. The proposals seem to disregard the equilibrium and quality of life of a thriving local community. Local residents have not been informed why the Douglas Eyre Playing Field has been chosen for this development rather than the available brownfield site just the other side of Forest Road.

As one of the residents of Edward Road, I have chosen to live in this peaceful community. The Douglas Eyre Playing Field not only encourages sporting activities for the community, open ground with splendid views, it also is the haven of wildlife, in particular birds, many of which would be disturbed should these plans go ahead.

It is understood that the proposals of the new school will be much bigger than the current location, and that there are also plans to build a new pavilion for the playing fields, with access to both the school and the pavilion via the Edward Road/Hawarden Road corner. This obviously creates several worrying questions of congestion, noise and of safety. The proposed entrance is within a confined area, access to which would be down Victorian-built narrow roads which have residential parking space on either side. Currently, it is difficult for drivers to make their way down Hawarden Road or Edward Road due to parking, or oncoming traffic, and it is of great concern that these proposed plans will inevitably increase traffic levels to an inordinate and unmanageable level. This would lead to congestion, disruption and noise levels which would ruin Edward Road and Hawarden Road for their residents.

Finally, in addition to the negative effect upon the peaceful residential area that these proposals would create, it is also of concern how the proposals will affect existing local businesses and clubs. In particular, I would like to point out the proposed plan of closing 'The Royal Standard', which is a local gem. This would be a huge loss to the area.

I would be very grateful if you could register my opposition to these plans, and I look forward to hearing from you in response to the points raised above.

Yours sincerely

cc Neil Gerrard MP
cc Cllr Liaquat Ali, Cllr Johar Khan, Cllr James O'Rourke