

Stennett, Jasmine

From: Marge Berer [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2026 19:40
To: Planning Policy Consultations
Subject: REFERENCE: Change MM55 to the City Plan 2040 -- NO to any further high rise or higher rise buildings

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TO: Planning Policy Consultations, City of London:
planningpolicyconsultations@cityoflondon.gov.uk

REFERENCE: Change MM55 to the City Plan 2040

Dear Planning Committee,

Over what feels like it has been dragging on for years now, I am writing to you for what must be the third or fourth time at least to express my deep and abiding disagreement with your insistence on building monstrously high buildings in the City, and making high rise buildings even higher, in spite of the overwhelming disagreement that those of us who have to live beneath those buildings and with the construction of them have expressed to you in very large numbers.

Indeed I've heard recently that there is only one Canadian resident of the Barbican who supports your plans. The rest of us want you to take your egregious plans somewhere else, far far away, and put your buildings in your own back yards, wherever they may be, instead of in ours.

We have more than enough too-tall buildings in the City. They cut off the little sunshine we get from Nature as it is, e.g. in the Speed House garden, the sunshine is completely blocked by Andrewes House after about 1pm in the afternoon during the winter. Not to mention the buildings behind and next to Andrewes House. Indeed, you can stand at the entrance to the tunnel at the corner across from the Barbican Tube station entrance and turn in a circle and see high rise buildings on all sides. You can walk up Silk Street to cross over the intersection to walk into Whitecross Street and you can experience a wind tunnel in more than one place, created by the far too many high rise buildings that are going up all around you. But of course why would you notice that?

Wind tunnels are illegal. Did you know that? They are also very unpleasant, blowing dust around everywhere for us to have to breathe. Not that you would waste any time getting rid of them, by taking down some of the new buildings you have allowed to spring up everywhere that are causing them.

And then there is the fallout from the endless series of building sites that you do love to create in our formerly residential streets. The noise and dust and pollution from endless digging, the huge trucks and their engines as they go back and forth all day having to clear away the years of mess that building sites create.

Silk Street used to be a residential street. Before that, it used to have a bus stop in the road next to Speed House. We managed to have the bus stop removed because the buses made noise and polluted the air. But that was as nothing compared to what has happened each time a high-rise building has been constructed in the neighbourhood around us. Take the years-long construction in and behind Moorgate itself, all those high-rise buildings that went up across from Willoughby House and made that street into a non-stop dirt, dust and noise trap, a mess created by endless lorries digging up the street and delivering construction materials, and the endless noise of building, building, building. And the dust turned to mud every time it rains. What is it in that scenario that you think we residents would ever, ever welcome? Wake up, gents, toffs, rich guys!

Lastly, when was the last time you surveyed the residents/workers in all the high rise buildings you have plonked down in our streets, to find out whether they are anywhere near fully occupied or not? Or happy to be living or working so high up in the air? I would bet a lot that they are not fully occupied. Ever since Covid, there are large numbers of workers who may hold jobs in those buildings but who actually work at home, because those buildings are not desirable places to spend one's days in, high up in the air like that. Removed completely from any semblance of life in the streets around you.

M Berer, 