

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA
Email: andrew@andrewdismore.org.uk
Telephone: 020 7983 5529
Web: www.andrewdismore.org.uk

LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR



Andrew Dismore AM

Date: 22 May 2018

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
By Email

Dear Sadiq

Re: Queen Mary's House, Hampstead

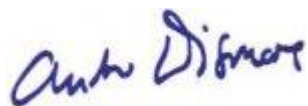
You may have heard or read about plans by the Royal Free NHS Trust to turn Queen Mary's House in Hampstead into luxury flats. I am writing to you to log my strongest protest at these proposals, and to request that you would look unfavourably upon any planning application that sought to do so.

The current building is home to 52 nurses paying an affordable rent. You and I have both made affordable housing, and especially for key workers an important part of our work, and it would not only be a matter of regret that affordable housing was lost, but also great anger. Hampstead is already an extremely high rent area. And it is difficult for nurses, most of whom will work extremely long shifts, to find local housing. The Royal Free are making their own hospital a less inviting employment opportunity, and I fear the consequences may be an inability to recruit or retain staff.

This building has also been a major social benefit to the community for almost 100 years. It was gifted by Lord Levenhulme to the Queen Mary Needlework Guild in 1921, as the fund was seeking to set up a maternity home for the wives of First World War servicemen. It was later a centre for the care of the elderly. It's loss to the community will be bitterly regretted.

In conclusion, I hope you will take my views into consideration if and when the planning application for this site comes before you.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Dismore AM

Labour London Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden