Opposition to site of new school

at 1 Westmoreland Road

Bromley Lib Dems are opposing the proposed siting of a new secondary school for 1260 children at 1 Westmoreland Road (the old DHSS building). We recognise the desperate shortage of secondary school places in the Borough and therefore support the concept of this school with a focus on health and wellbeing subjects. However, the site chosen is deeply flawed due to:

1. The school's tiny footprint - necessitating a **10-storey building with no playing fields** and very limited outside space.
2. The school will be in an area suffering from high levels of **air pollution**.
3. Local **transport links** are already at capacity at peak times and are likely to be exacerbated in the absence of a comprehensive and realistic travel plan particularly in respect of bus services. According to TfL, the developer's current travel plan is inadequate, vastly overestimating the number of pupils likely to cycle or take the train to school.
4. **Pedestrian access** in and around the site is already far too narrow in several places and pedestrian crossing islands narrow and badly designed; no development of this site should be permitted without a commitment from the council, the developer and other interested parties to redevelop this junction to improve pedestrian safety.

**Sign the Petition overleaf TODAY!**

There is still no date for the Council Development Control Meeting to consider the application (earliest possible date 16 November but likely to be delayed again) but Bromley Lib Dems will be at the meeting to ensure residents views are heard; the more petition signatures, the more weight our representations will have so sign today!
Bromley Deserves Better Transport Planning

Irrespective of any development of this site the junction it sits on has for years been neglected by the Council and is in desperate need of improvements to ease congestion and improve pedestrian safety. No development of this site, let alone for a school, should be considered without:

- redevelopment of the neighbouring junctions to ease traffic;
- the inclusion of segregated cycleways and early release traffic signals for cyclists to encourage cycling;
- the widening of pavements for pedestrian access around the school and the St Mark’s Square development to allow for the increased footfall and much larger number of people waiting at bus stops at peak times;
- a review of current bus capacity; and
- improvements to Bromley South station to ease platform congestion such as widening of platforms and additional entrances and exits to the station (e.g. from Kentish Way or Elmfield Road).

Bromley Deserves Better School Provision

LGA warn of 2,631 shortage in secondary school places by 2022

Bromley Council identified a shortfall in secondary school places as early as 2008 but failed to act quickly enough. Now the shortage has reached critical levels. This has justified the Education and Skills Funding Agency acquiring the 1 Westmoreland Road site and attempting to push through the unsuitable high rise proposal. Whilst Eden Park and Bullers Wood School for Boys have now both received planning permission the council did little to assist the applicants causing undue delay and uncertainty for local parents.

Two additional new schools will still need to be opened before 2022. The Liberal Democrats call on the Council to urgently identify additional school sites (e.g. the Civic Centre site) and take a more proactive role in assisting school developers in producing sensible and achievable schemes.

PETITION OPPOSING SITE OF NEW SCHOOL

I/we the undersigned ask Bromley Council’s Development Control Committee to refuse the current planning application for the proposed high rise secondary school for 1260 pupils on the site at 1 Westmoreland Road.

Name(s)...........................................................................….…….….…
Email.................................................................................……….…….
Address.............................................................................…………..….
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Phone Number........................................................................................................

Sign online at: www.bromleylibdems.org.uk or return this slip to: FREEPOST RTXZ-ECTZ-CUJU,
Bromley Liberal Democrats, 7 Station Road, Orpington BR6 0RZ

If you return this form the Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you’ve given to contact you. Some contacts may be automated. By providing your data to us, you are consenting to the data holders making contact with you in the future by telephone, text or other means, even though you may be registered with the Telephone Preference Service. You can always opt out of communications at any time by contacting us. Printed by Phillips Duplicators, 149B Masons Hill, Bromley BR2 9HW. Published by Julie Ireland on behalf of Bromley Liberal Democrats at 7 Station Road, Orpington, BR6 0RZ.