

# ANGIE BRAY MP



## HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

18<sup>th</sup> December 2013

Rt Hon Eric Pickles Esq MP  
Secretary of State  
CLG  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London  
SW1E 5DU

*Dear Eric,*

I am writing to you on behalf of the Oaks Acton Group in my constituency, whose letter to you is enclosed, regarding the decision by Ealing Council Planning Committee to approve development plans for the Oaks development in Acton for 142 homes (nine storey building) a multi-storey car park and new retail space in the town centre.

As the enclosed letter explains in more detail, the plans for the Oaks are substandard, and local people are concerned that we will miss a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the site into a fantastic community hub which blends well with the surrounding area and provides integrated and affordable residential properties.

There is also a great deal of bitterness locally about the way in which the plans were 'whipped' through by the Labour council, with Council Leader Julian Bell making clear in public his support for the scheme. One labour local councillor did express concern, but he was not chosen to sit on the planning committee that week. Indeed, only one councillor from the whole of Acton was chosen, which hardly makes it a local decision.

In my role representing these local residents, I feel very strongly that their views have not received proper attention in the planning process. Acton will soon see the benefit of Crossrail which could be a game changer for the area. This development will do nothing to build on the opportunity Crossrail presents. Given that this site is unlikely to come up for grabs again in the next decade or more, we are all very disappointed that next-to-nothing has been made of the opportunity it presents.

The Mayor of London has been unable to halt the progress of the application, as the scheme did not contain enough contraventions of the London Plan. Please help if you can by considering their request to call the plans in.

*Best wishes and have a very happy  
Angie Christmas!*

Encl.

**Member of Parliament for Ealing Central and Acton**

angie.bray.mp@parliament.uk

020 7219 7055