

Janine Below

Public Remarks

Thank you for listening to my testimony this afternoon, My name is Janine Below, I have lived in Peckham since 1978, with only a few years living outside the area, Firstly with my parents and then with my husband and 2 children. I worked at Peckham Library for 15 years from 2000 until 2015. I was an active parent at my children's primary school, being the Chair of the PTA for many years, before we moved out of the area. I still come to Peckham regularly to visit my 87 and 89 year old parents regularly as they live in Peckham and I have many friends that still live here. This development should be an opportunity for local people to buy and for people like me and my family to move back to Peckham. We would love to be able to buy in the area, but these developments would be unaffordable despite us having had good jobs and a deposit. This pattern of pushing local people out is not unique to me and I know many friends and neighbours who have also moved out of Peckham. This development, should be an opportunity, to help lift us up, but instead it won't help me or others like

me I am not against building homes for people, but this development will rip out the beating heart of a very tight, energetic, unique and culturally diverse people. We stand to lose too much if Peckham is destroyed and what would we gain? We would gain another soulless boring concrete jungle. You wouldn't know if you were in Lewisham, or the Elephant and Castle, Surrey Quays, or the Truman Brewery, because it will all look the same... It will be an identikit London, the same Joe the Juice franchise chain of flats that no one can really afford. So I am here to appeal to you that this is a terrible idea. This proposal will not help people like me, I will still not be able to afford to live in Peckham.

Berkley Homes does not provide a sensible and viable balance for the Morrisons site, it will only culturally and economically bankrupt us and we will all ultimately have to pay the price.