



Planning Applications  
2 Adelaide Road  
London SW18 1DA  
f.a.o. Julia Kelly

176 Upper Richmond Road  
London SW15 2SH

11 May 2022

Dear Julia

**Planning Application 2022/1167  
145 Sutherland Grove**

The Putney Society OBJECTS to this application for two reasons.

The Society has long opposed the increasing demand for higher front walls and excessive parking which significantly harm the open feel of suburban streets like Sutherland Grove. The wall proposed is not as tall as some, but still out of character and includes a new setback (and therefore new foundations) right next to a substantial tree on the front boundary. The lack of any assessment of trees with this application is worrying. The site plan has no key, but seems to show the entire front garden being paved. Policy DMS 2 b iii. 'Managing the historic environment' requires consideration of *'the conservation and, where appropriate, the enhancement of the space in between and around buildings as well as front, side and rear gardens'* clearly lacking here.

The applicants may argue that the harm to the setting caused by this front wall is 'less than substantial', but even that is too much with no offsetting public benefit whatsoever.

Potentially more damaging to the setting and wider environment is the excavation at the rear. It is evident from the 'proposed long section' that the entire rear garden is to be lowered by around one metre, and by up to six metres where the pool is directly next to the SE boundary. This is just 2m from the base of a substantial Bhutan Pine tree and even closer to other smaller trees in the grounds of no.145, cutting right through their root zones. The plans and 'proposed elevations' imply that the lawn is at this same lowered level and as such will cut through all the roots to the big tree in the western corner of the site too. The CA Appraisal, para 5.1 notes that *'large trees are also evident in rear gardens from gaps between buildings and in the grounds of the college'*. Trees at the back count too. Trees in conservation areas are rightly protected as part of the heritage asset. The climate emergency makes protection of our trees all the more important. A full independent arboricultural report should be demanded before this application can proceed.

Yours Sincerely

*Andrew Catto*

Andrew Catto,  
Buildings Panel Convenor  
For and on behalf of the Putney Society.

**The Putney Society**

The amenity society for Putney and Roehampton. Registered Charity No. 263242

[www.putneysociety.org.uk](http://www.putneysociety.org.uk)