

The Civic Centre **Lampton Road** Hounslow

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Mr Peter Launer, Chief Executive **Education Funding Agency**

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Date:

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Dear Mr Launer

Former Conquest and White Lodge Clubs, 152 Syon Lane, Isleworth

I am writing to advise you of my and many residents' concerns of the actions of your organisation and your contractors since the Education Funding Agency's purchase of this site.

Earlier this month and with no warning or consultation EFA contractors commenced erecting a tall and more than 200 metre long hoarding outside the boundary of the site.

This structure was placed on a wide strip of Hounslow Council owned land right against the narrow footway of Syon Lane not only trespass but with the potential of endangering pedestrians on this busy road as well as removing residents living opposite's amenity.

EFA staff and its contractors, in communication with Hounslow Council staff, are making presumptive statements about the building of a school within "programme deadline" without a bona fide planning application submitted.

Site protection measures introduced appear more than necessary when there are already extensive measures to prevent unwelcome access; to my knowledge there has been no recent occupation of the site save that where permission was previously given. Employing dog led security is not only costly but anti social particularly when left unattended as witnessed by me and resident on the evening of Wednesday 22 April 2015.

It is ironic that whilst taking measures to prevent trespass on its land, the EFA has mass trespassed on the community's.

I and other residents are also concerned that the EFA is wasting taxpayer money through its errors, particularly as I am advised by council officers that the EFA has now told its contractors to remove the fence. Please let me know how much the EFA has spent (including the cost of shameful erroneous advice from DTZ) on building the fence, having to remove it and rebuilding it legally should planning permission be achieved.

The EFA and Nishkam Trust's transparency on the intentions for this and other sites in this ward and elsewhere in Hounslow has been scant and leaves very much to be desired for an executive branch of government and a private organisation reliant on its activities with money funding from public funds.

The residents of Osterley & Spring Grove Ward and local groups supporting them have always taken a keen participative interest in local developments particularly where the status of Metropolitan Open Land is being challenged. The EFA, its client and its contractors may currently be labouring under the assumption that because there appears to be a partnership with council officers, planning permission will be a simple formality. Your collective actions and treatment of local folk to date has raised suspicion, likely to create distrust and has from now opened the moves of all involved to probably greater scrutiny.

I and many others would like to learn if and how you and those the EFA supports in Hounslow will start to remedy these shortcomings and I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Tony Louki Labour Party Councillor Osterley & Spring Grove Ward