

Re planning applications RU17/0092 and RU17/0093

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Egham Residents' Association objects to both of these applications for a change of use at Prestige House, Egham High Street.

In essence, they are identical to planning application RU16/1695, which we also objected to last year.

Our concern about these applications is not a matter of detail but of principle. They are part of a phenomenon - the turning of Egham into a glorified extension of Royal Holloway College - that appears to have gained further momentum in recent months and is fuelling a great deal of resentment and even anger in the town.

We expect to be informed that, as with RU16/1695, there is nothing Runnymede Council's planning committee can do to block the two new applications even though they would allow for a radical change of use. If so, we urge RBC to protest to the government about a planning policy or rule that prevents the local planning authority from having a proper say on change-of-use applications that can greatly change the character of an area for the worse.

I attach our letter of objection to RU/1695 (in which we also objected to the RU16/1676 application for Stoneylands Road, Egham). Everything we said about Prestige Hose in that letter we also wish to say about the new applications.

Yours faithfully,

Christopher Fisher

Planning co-ordinator, Egham Residents' Associaton

8 Limes Road, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9QT Phone: 07837782012 or 01784-435166 chrisfisher143@gmail.com