



Dated: 22nd January 2018

Planning application reference RU.17/2040- Foundation House, Stoneylands Road, Egham, TW20 9QR

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Egham Residents' Association objects to this planning application.

The scheme is a continuation of the process in Egham - also featuring RU16/1676 - in which a substantial swathe of the town is being turned into an extra campus of Royal Holloway College. It has resulted in the conversion of many traditional family homes into HMOs, and another striking aspect of it is a loss of business premises as they are converted for student accommodation.

We have expressed our disgruntlement with this to Runnymede Council many times in recent years, but our words have almost consistently fallen on stony ground. With rare exception, it seems not to be interested in trying to stem the tide.

This is all the more the pity because planning appeal decisions in Leeds and Nottingham over the past year or so have shown that inspectors are prepared to back councils in acting to stop family residential areas becoming dominated by student accommodation. Further to this, the recent appeal decision on a planning application for 8 Manorcrofts Road, Egham should encourage Runnymede Council to show some backbone more often in blocking the turning of non-student premises into student use.

If granted, RU17/2040 will have a detrimental affect on the character of Stoneylands Road, Queens Road and Grange Road, and we urge Runnymede Council to refuse permission. We attach the objection we made to RU16/1676.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Fisher

Planning co-ordinator, Egham Residents' Association