

Chiswick Curve – Landscaping

Planning Number: 00505/EY/P18

Pollution in towns and cities is seldom from a single pollutant. Usually there are many pollutants and their total effect is often much greater than you would expect than knowing their individual effects. These include air pollutants, particulates and heavy salting in the soil during icy road weather. Injury from pollutants may make plants more susceptible to injury from some diseases and insects, shortens lifespan and will stunt growth.

Pollution soil salt levels and particulate levels are not mentioned in this report and are not mentioned in this report as an issue when it is known the levels are high. This lack of knowledge in the pollution effects are reflected in the planting scheme.

The planting scheme around the base of the building shows a few (e.g. grasses) but not a range of strong robust plants against continued pollution which should be the priority at this site. It is in my view that the planting is not satisfactory for a highly polluted urban area. The continual degrading of the health of these plants will not benefit the look or feel of the site. Also the tree selection used does not contain any trees with fine hairs on leaves or branches that would help cut down particulates. This shows a lack of understanding of the planting environment.

In general, the improvements on the roundabout and walkways are just suggestions and should not be put in the report as a benefit of this application.

The report also shows a lack of knowledge of the area. For example, the artistic impression of the greening of the flyover wall in pages 10 and 12 would not be possible without decreasing the width of the road or moving the flyover to produce a planting area and therefore is misleading (see Photos below).



Photos: R.Hare Jan 2016



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Robert Hare

BTEC HORT – Distinction