

4 August 2023

**Shabana Mahmood MP**  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Shabana Mahmood MP

**Stop the Backdoor Mass Gentrification of Central Ladywood**

We need you to actively campaign for the residents of Central Ladywood. So far you have been very clear in your views in relation to Central Ladywood Regeneration on Facebook, online and a letter you wrote to the Leader of Birmingham City Council 7 July 2023. Action is now required. This letter represents in the region of 250 residents.

The residents of Central Ladywood need action and urgent intervention. Your skills as Labour's National Campaign Coordinator are desperately needed in Central Ladywood. This month, Central Ladywood will be handed over to newly branded St Joseph which is part of Berkeley Group. This needs to be stopped before we end up in an irreversible situation. We need you to stand up for us.

Despite the Council's insistence that the whole of Central Ladywood, within the red line, including all good quality homes are to be demolished in order to support a holistic approach to infrastructure planning and delivery this is simply not the case. Over this past week I spoke with another developer (nothing to do with Berkeley Group) who is about to build within the red line very expensive homes aimed at investors in relation to renting for transient occupancy. This property hasn't been built and already 25 out of 81 units have been reserved for this market. The message I received was that there was an incredible amount of money to be made for the private sector from the regeneration of Central Ladywood!

The residents of Central Ladywood feel really been let down by Birmingham City council. We feel that we have exhausted all routes of enquiry with Birmingham City Council. Their rhetoric keeps changing which is very disconcerting. I hope that you understand that as residents of Central Ladywood we no longer have trust in the intentions of Birmingham City Council. We have two outcomes that need your action and intervention:

- Residents wish for the *Report to Cabinet 27 June 2023* to be recalled and then put out to tender once a full and proper consultation with residents has been conducted. The outcomes from the current report provide little means of opportunity to ensure a resident-driven regeneration project. Residents want to retain their communities and to be actively involved in all decision-making procedures to regenerate the area.
- Residents wish that the 8 principles, and in particular principles 7 and 8 that do not feature in the *Report to Cabinet 27 June 2023*, are reinstated to become an integral part of the procurement process and therefore the Report.

As our MP we respectfully request your intervention as our MP to recall the Report to Cabinet June 2023 before it's too late. In addition, I would appreciate a meeting with you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

George Smith