



**Reference for Selimiye Community Centre,
Manchester, Planning app 137242/FO/2023**

Oct 19th, 2023

Dear Planning Officer,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the planning application 137242/FO/2023 for extension to Selimiye Community Centre and Student Accommodation. The proposed project represents a valuable initiative that aligns with both the needs of the local community and students arriving in Manchester.

As Manchester's student population continues to grow and thrive, the demand for decent and culturally sensitive student housing provision in the vicinity has increased significantly. This demand not only puts pressure on the existing housing options but also presents challenges for students seeking affordable and convenient accommodation. The proposal to expand the Community Centre by adding a floor for student accommodation addresses this pressing issue in a thoughtful and community-centred manner. There are several reasons why I believe this project should be approved:

Selimiye Community Centre has long been an integral part of the local community, fostering unity and understanding among residents of diverse backgrounds. This project not only enhances the services the Community Centre offers to its congregation but also extends its support to the local student population.

Providing safe and accessible housing for newly arriving students to the UK is crucial for their overall well-being and academic success. The proposed accommodation will not only meet the housing needs of students but also offer them a supportive and inclusive environment.

Selimiye Community Centre is located adjacent to a high frequency public transport route and aimed to serve local community. Given its sustainable location, the proposed development promotes Low Carbon Living located close to amenities. By providing adequate number of parking spaces, it does not negatively impact on local parking.

Designs have been done keeping in view Secure by Design principles and will improve natural and passive surveillance in the area. Expanding the Community Centre vertically, rather than horizontally, demonstrates a commitment to sustainable urban development by optimizing the use of existing infrastructure and minimizing the footprint on valuable green spaces. By accommodating students within a highly sustainable location, this project can potentially reduce traffic congestion and parking challenges in the area, contributing to a more efficient and sustainable transportation system.

Selimiye Community Centre has historically played a vital role in promoting cultural and religious diversity in the community. This project further reflects its commitment to inclusivity by welcoming students of diverse backgrounds. This project presents an excellent example of how communities can work together to address pressing housing needs of newly arriving students to Manchester.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse the planning application 137242/FO/2023. This endeavour not only aligns with the ethos of student welfare but also strengthens the bonds of unity and understanding within our community. Please consider this letter as a testament to the broad support this project enjoys and as a vote of confidence in its potential to enhance our community's well-being.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will make a decision that benefits our community and its future generations.

If you require any further information or have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact.
Yours sincerely,

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