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LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR



Andrew Dismore AM

CLLr Richard Cornelius
Leader
Barnet Council
North London Business Park
Oakleigh Road South
New Southgate
London N11 1NP

Our Ref: AD13/645
Date: 23 May 2013

Dear Richard,

RE Avanti School: Urgent

As you will be aware, Avanti House Free School, are looking for a site. So far they are considering the site at Broadfields, Edgware for their permanent site, which has unsurprisingly generated considerable local opposition, with which I concur.

They have a more immediate problem, though, which is the need for a temporary site from this September. The EFA are funding 10 temporary classrooms, and so far they have come up with a site on the Fairway, Mill Hill. This also has generated much opposition locally. In both cases, I think the prospects of planning consent are remote as the local objections are all on strong and valid planning grounds. I understand the planning application is about to be submitted.

Putting aside any differences we may mutually have on the principle of free schools, I know that Avanti do good job in educating children of Hindu faith and I would like to see what can be done to help them, both in the short and long term.

Perhaps you could give this urgent thought and let me know what discussions can be held between Avanti and the Council to consider further what more suitable sites might be available.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Dismore". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Andrew Dismore
Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden