


**From:**   
**To:** [Joanna.Vincent](mailto:Joanna.Vincent)  
**Cc:** [Rachel.Newman@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.Newman@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021  
**Date:** 10 March 2023 15:22:33

---

Dear Ms. Vincent,

RE: London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

As a local resident of nearly 50 years, during almost all of which time the Twickenham Riverside has been in a generally shabby and underutilised condition, I am writing to you in support of the Compulsory Purchase Order ("CPO") being upheld.

I am sure you will receive plenty of submissions rehearsing the arguments for the long overdue development of this site, particularly in the context of upgrading local amenities and the architectural/environmental benefits that would accrue; I too am so minded. However, I'd like to briefly draw your attention to two probably lesser well known benefits of redevelopment.

1. I am a trustee of a local charity called Skerries for Schools ("S4S"), which owns 4 fixed seat rowing boats, currently moored in Richmond. In essence this charity enables children, particularly those of lesser means, to be introduced to the discipline, exercise, teamwork and fun of rowing on the Thames - in fact, local schools regard this highly for 'difficult' children. At present we have no undercover, over-wintering facility in Richmond and there are tentative plans to develop the boathouse on the Twickenham Riverside to provide 'cover' and to direct more activity to Twickenham away from the already crowded riverside in Richmond. In my opinion, the Twickenham Riverside re-development should be considered as highly desirable not only for the specific ground it covers but also for the benefit of all river users in the vicinity.

2. My wife, Penny Dolan, is a trustee of the long-established local charity called HANDS (*Help A Neighbour in Distress*). This is one of those many unsung volunteer groups who provide life-supporting assistance to, mainly older and frail, clients who are under-served by the state social welfare system. HANDS operated from a dilapidated 'wash house' on the site for many years - the conditions falling far short of normal legal requirements. When the building became totally unfit for human use, the local council kindly found a small temporary desk area in the local library; this was gratefully received but is not ideal. To potentially enable HANDS to occupy modest but modern space back on the Twickenham Riverside would help sustain the charity and provide a desirable counterpoint to commercial activities.

You will have much to digest but I hope these two considerations will be given full weight in your deliberations and I urge you to uphold the CPO.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Peter Dolan  
FRGS, FGS, FEI



