

Save New Barnet.



Press Release

07 October 2008

90% OF NEW BARNET RESIDENTS SAY NO TO GIANT SUPERSTORE PLANS

Independent survey reveals nine in 10 local residents are opposed to huge 24-hour superstores planned in New Barnet.

A market research study commissioned by the **Save New Barnet Group** has identified that New Barnet residents are overwhelmingly opposed to the planned ASDA and Tesco retail developments.

The comprehensive door-to-door survey, undertaken by market research specialists, **The Research Practice**, has identified that a staggering 90 per cent of local people do not want another supermarket larger than the local Sainsbury's.

The independent research also identified the following:

- **An alarmingly high level of misunderstanding** by the public as to the scale of the two schemes, particularly the Tesco proposal.
- **Serious** concerns about the impact of the additional traffic generated by the schemes.
- **Concern** that the new developments will destroy the character of the area and its village and community feel.
- **Fears** that the new developments will lead to a de-personalisation of the area, leading to alienation, anti-social behaviour and crime.
- **Anger** that Tesco's purchase and retention of derelict properties had caused retail blight and a general bad impression of the area.
- **Frustration** that Barnet Council has not been more pro-active in informing local people about the proposed developments and the Council's vision for the area.

A resident in York Road, explains, "**By having two large supermarkets in one area we are setting ourselves up to be a kind of supermarket city. It would completely destroy the character of the area and any sense of community. It's hard to think of a place with a less suitable road network.**"

David Howard, founder of the Save New Barnet Group and trustee of **New Barnet Community Association (NBCA)** said, "**This independent market research reinforces the clearly held view that New Barnet residents are overwhelmingly opposed to the ASDA and Tesco schemes**".

Press Liaison: **David Howard**

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Save New Barnet Group is a non political group of local residents fighting for a better New Barnet. The group opposes inappropriate retail development and has a clear vision for how New Barnet could be developed for the benefit of all the community.

c/o Community Centre, 48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet, EN4 9PF

www.newbarnet.org.uk

Save New Barnet.



Notes to Editors:

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