

**Morgan, Jackson**

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**From:** Daniel Vincent [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 June 2024 15:39  
**To:** Planning Policy Consultations  
**Subject:** Objection to City Plan 2040: Tall Buildings  
**Categories:** CONFIRMED

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THIS IS AN EXTERNAL EMAIL

To whom it may concern,

I wish to register an objection to the proposed further construction of tall buildings in the City of London as outlined in the City Plan 2040.

You state in Section 9 of your plan **Strategic Policy S8: Design: Form and design** (p123) that the plan "Delivers buildings and spaces that have the right scale, massing, built form and layout, with due regard to the existing and emerging urban structure, building types, form and proportions identified in the Character Areas Study."

The skyscrapers that have recently been erected in the City Cluster are already of an unwieldy and un-human scale, whose domination of the streets along which they've been erected makes those streets unpleasant places to be. Furthermore, whatever their merits as individual buildings, as a cluster there has been zero attempt at coherence, not aided by the fact that the medieval street pattern means they all face at different, random angles. From below they are intimidating and unwelcoming and from further afield, especially across the river, they have wrecked the historic skyline already, which completely undermines the section quoted above about "due regard to existing... urban structure". I take groups of international students on tours of the city and am frequently asked why London has chosen to destroy its skyline. Now I shall have to tell them that the damage is set to get worse.

In **Section 11 Heritage and Tall Buildings** (p180), you state "The City of London is the historic centre of London and has a rich and varied historic environment that reflects this. The City's heritage assets contribute to its unique identity, adding to its character, attractiveness and competitiveness."

The historic buildings and other assets which are indeed its heritage derive their attractiveness in large part precisely because of their historic setting, but that very setting is being blandified by many of the new buildings going up. The tall buildings overwhelm everything else. The City in the area of the cluster is no longer a city of interesting streets but a city of canyons. There is nothing - nothing whatsoever - in any of the new skyscrapers in the cluster, or likely will be in any others in the planning pipeline - that could be considered unique to London. The City is increasingly looking like any other CBD, in any other city on the planet.

Nobody thinks the City should be preserved without change. It is not a museum, and must evolve. However, it is heartbreaking to see it lose its character so rapidly and so willingly. For these reasons, I wish to object to the further construction of tall buildings in the City.

With kind regards,

Daniel Vincent