

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE ERUV COMMITTEE



DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

X Refusal

The United Synagogue Eruv Committee is naturally disappointed that its appeal to the Secretary of State has been refused.

This was not an application for commercial gain and all the work and costs were volunteered from within the local community. As was demonstrated at the Public Inquiry, an eruv in NW London would bring significant benefit to many people and it is regrettable that existing planning law does not encompass the requirements of an eruv.

We are confident that the fine tradition for respect for legitimate minority needs will ensure that legislation is introduced, over time, that will enable an eruv to become a reality here as it is throughout the world.

We do wish to express our appreciation and respect for the manner in which Inspector David Bushby dealt with this Inquiry.

✓ Approval

The United Synagogue Eruv Committee and the community it represents are delighted and grateful that the Secretary of State, Mr. John Gummer, has granted planning consent for the implementation of the first community eruv in the UK.

We fully recognise the unusual nature of an eruv, in planning terms, and therefore understand the anxieties that the idea aroused. The Planning Inspector, Mr. David Bushby, dealt sensitively with a wide range of complex issues and views and differentiated carefully between planning and other considerations.

The matter has been now been considered and resolved at the highest professional and Ministerial levels. The United Kingdom can now join the many countries that are proud to enable the provision of an eruv for the observant Jewish community for the particular benefit of mothers, children, the elderly and the disabled.

We are confident that, over time, the NW London eruv will be understood as an amenity which is appreciated by those who need it, yet unnoticed by those who don't.

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Committee

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Rabbinic Panel

Rabbi Isaac Bernstein (Finchley), Dayan Ivan Binstock (Golders Green), Rabbi Edward Jackson (Hampstead Garden Suburb), Rabbi Alan Kimche (Ner Yisrael), Rabbi Sidney Silberg (Hendon)

Supervisory Authority

Chief Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Sacks, Dayan Chanoch Ehrentreu, Head of the London Beth Din

United Synagogue Liaison

Elkan Levy (Honorary Officer)

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