I believe we are all agreed in supporting a Holocaust memorial in London.

The argument is about where the memorial should be.

I support strongly the proposed Imperial War Museum site. It provides, in particular, plenty of parking space for visitors and inside and outside space for displays/exhibitions. The Imperial War Museum also wants to house the Holocaust Memorial.

There are several powerful arguments against Victoria Tower Gardens as a site.

It is an important green space area for local residents and employees – to exercise; to eat a packed lunch; to walk their dog etc.

If the Holocaust memorial is sited in Victoria Tower gardens visitor coach traffic is likely to cause congestion and to disturb local residents and businesses.

The local community has evidenced that it is strongly against Victoria Tower Gardens as a site, Westminster Council turned down the planning application – subsequently there has been what I view as improper behaviour by Government in overruling Westminster Council’s decision.

UNECSO advisers opposes the location over visual impact, The Royal Parks, who own the Park, are strongly against the Holocaust memorial location in Victoria Tower gardens

The local Jewish Community is opposed to the site and has been the most active and effective in campaigning against.

If Government interference enables the Victoria Tower Garden site to be used, I believe the Conservatives are sure to lose Westminster at the next General Election. The democratic process has registered a clear “no” to using this site.

Lord Flight

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