Please contact: Planning Policy Our ref: Your ref: Date: 02 March 2018



Physical & Cultural Regeneration Regeneration, Culture, Environment & Transformation Medway Council Civic Headquarters Gun Wharf Dock Road Chatham Kent ME4 4TR (DX56006 STROOD)

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London) New London Plan GLA City Hall London Plan Team Post Point 18 FREEPOST RTJC-XBZZ-GJKZ London SE1 2AA

Dear Mayor of London

Medway Council comments on the London Plan – draft for Consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the consultation draft of the London Plan. Medway Council supports the ambitions of the draft London Plan to deliver 'good growth' through sustainable development.

Medway Council is also a signatory to the response to the draft London Plan submitted by Kent Leaders representing all local authorities in Kent and Medway; and as a member of the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group.

The council welcomes the draft plan's recognition of the critical role of infrastructure in achieving sustainable development, and the need for strategic upgrades to transport and wider services, to realise the ambitions set out in the plan.

The draft plan notes the relationship between London and Medway, in commuting rates, and in relation to strategic infrastructure priorities across the wider South East. The council shares ambitions to realise the mutual benefits between the capital and surrounding areas, particularly where actions contribute to Medway's strategic objectives for economic success, quality of life, and upgrades to infrastructure to facilitate sustainable growth.

The stated intention to meet London's housing needs within the capital is welcomed, and the council supports actions to make the most effective use of land, particularly in accessible, well connected locations.

Medway has accounted for migration patterns from London in its assessment of local housing needs. The council is planning to consult on the next stage of its Local Plan preparation, setting out options for how growth could be accommodated in Medway. Strategic infrastructure investments are required to deliver the high rates of growth projected, and strengthen the local economy. There are a number of constraints to

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development within Medway, including land designated of international and national environmental importance, metropolitan Green Belt, and minerals safeguarding areas. Together with the need to address infrastructure deficiencies, these limit the ability of Medway to accommodate additional growth.

Medway Council welcomes further engagement with the Mayor of London on strategic planning matters, as the Medway Local Plan progresses.

Yours sincerely

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