

By email to: londonplan@london.gov.uk

Date

28/02/2018

Department

Planning Policy Team

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Dear Sir or Madam,

Formal Response to: Draft New London Plan

I am writing on behalf of Basildon Borough Council in respect of the Draft New London Plan Consultation 2018. The matters set out in this letter represent Basildon Borough Council's consultation response as agreed at the meeting of its Consultation Response and Neighbourhood Planning Sub-Committee on 21 February 2018.

Planning London's Future

Basildon Borough Council endorses the principal of 'Good Growth' and supports the principals contained within the six core Good Growth policies.

Housing

Basildon Borough Council supports the Mayor of London's commitment to accommodate London's growth within its boundaries, as far as possible. However, would urge caution that delivering at increased densities, presents a further risk to housing provision particularly with ongoing challenges relating to housing delivery. Given the scale of London, it would be prudent to plan for the possibility of housing delivery failure and the plan should be clearer in terms of what would happen if delivery targets are not met

In respect of any unmet need for housing arising from London, Basildon Council would not be able to accommodate additional housing need.

In respect of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Basildon Council would advise that the Council does not consider that it is the role of the Draft New London Plan to apply an enhanced definition for Gypsies and Travellers living within Greater London and instead the Mayor should engaged in debate with Government about the merits of amending the definition when the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites is next reviewed. To do otherwise, risks leading to a disconnect between the rest of England and London in respects of how Gypsy and Traveller needs are calculated.

Spatial Development Patterns

Basildon Council wishes to support the principle that the Mayor of London commits to working with relevant Wider South East partners, Government and other agencies to realise the potential of the wider city-region, through investment in strategic infrastructure to support housing and business development in growth locations, to meet need and secure mutual benefits for London and relevant partners. The Council will continue to lend its support to being an active member of the WSE group which combined helps to shape the London Plan in its drafting and delivery following adoption. The Council would emphasise that it prioritises working to positively influence the Borough's economy, to enable more residents to live and work locally, and welcomes the opportunity to work with the Mayor to secure mutual benefits in respect of economic growth. Basildon Borough is able to accommodate 5 hectares of employment need from London should the need arise in the future. In accordance with Basildon Council's Economic Development Strategy this land is proposed to be designated for B2 Uses. Basildon Council recommends that the Draft New London Plan should be clearer on what industries may be possible to locate outside London's boundaries to enable surrounding areas to consider this as part of Local Plan preparation;

Transport

Basildon Council would advised that the Draft New London Plan should be clearer on the commuter patterns from the Basildon Borough to and from London and the impact that this has on London's and Basildon's infrastructure.

Ongoing Engagement

Basildon Borough considers that the Mayor of London has meet the obligation to inform local planning authorities in the vicinity of London of his views concerning any matters of common interest relating to the planning or development of London. If you wish to engage with Basildon Borough Council on these matters please contact Amanda Parrott (email: Amanda.parrott@basildon.gov.uk) or Matthew Winslow (matthew.winslow@basildon.gov.uk) to make arrangements.

Yours Sincerely,

Matthew Winslow
Interim Head of Regeneration & Economic Development
(Strategic Planning & Housing Strategy)

