

# **Subject: The Further Alterations to the London Plan**

**Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 6 February 2015**

**This report will be considered in public**

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report presents the Mayor of London's Further Alterations to the London Plan for the Assembly's consideration.

## **2. Recommendations**

**The Assembly is recommended to:**

**Part A:**

- 2.1 **Put questions to the following on the Further Alterations to the London Plan:**

- **Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning; and**
- **Stewart Murray, Assistant Director – Planning, Greater London Authority (GLA).**

**Part B:**

- 2.2 **Receive and, in accordance with Section 42B of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended), consider its response to the Further Alterations to the London Plan as set out at Appendix 3;**

- 2.3 **Consider the motion submitted in the name of the Chairman:**

**"That the Assembly notes the answers to the questions asked."**

### 3. Background

- 3.1 Under Section 42B of the Greater London Authority Act (GLA) 1999 (as amended), the Mayor must lay before the London Assembly any strategies or draft revisions to the strategies set out Section 41 of that Act. The Mayor's spatial development strategy, known as The London Plan, is listed in Section 41 of the Act.
- 3.2 The current London Plan was formally published and adopted in July 2011. Since then, a number of alterations have been made to the Plan including early alterations formally published on 11 October 2013 (those revisions having been formally considered by the London Assembly at its Extraordinary Plenary meeting on 3 September 2013).
- 3.3 On 15 January 2014, the Mayor published Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP) for a twelve week period of public consultation
- 3.4 The London Assembly's Planning Committee published its response to the consultation in April 2014<sup>1</sup> and these comments were considered by the Mayor through the examination in public (EiP) process.
- 3.5 On 15 December 2014, the Mayor published the report of the Planning Inspector who undertook the EiP of the Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan<sup>2</sup> and, in compliance with statutory requirements, the Mayor wrote to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to give his response to the FALP EiP inspector's recommendations and to enclose the FALP as he intends to publish it.
- 3.6 Following the Mayor's receipt of a response from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, the FALP is now presented to the Assembly.
- 3.7 The alterations principally address the housing requirements arising from London's growth.
- 3.8 The most significant alterations relate to the following areas:
- The policy in relation to increasing housing supply has been subject to significant alterations to reflect the housing implications of potential population growth of up to 2 million by 2036. There is a revised housing requirement target of 49,000 dwellings a year and a subsequently increased borough housing supply target of at least 42,000 dwellings a year. This increased target is one third above the 2011 Plan target and includes 25,600 affordable homes;
  - New policies to meet the needs of the growing number of older Londoners and students and the requirement for intermediate housing. There is a target of 3,600-4,200 new specialist units for older Londoners per annum and 400-500 new care home bed spaces per annum. The need for an additional 20,000 student bed spaces (between 2015 and 2025) is identified;
  - The introduction of five new Opportunity Areas – Bromley, Canada Water, Old Kent Road, Old Oak Common and Harrow & Wealdstone alongside policies that promote Mayoral Development

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/003LondonAssemblyPlanningCommitteeResponse.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/london-plan/draft-further-alterations-to-the-london-plan>

Corporations, Enterprise Zones, Tax Increment Finance initiatives or Housing Zones where appropriate;

- Alterations have been made to town centre policy to encourage and support boroughs in redeveloping appropriate town centres in light of changing shopping behaviour. This encourages and supports boroughs in redeveloping town centres mainly through residential-led mixed use intensification at higher densities;
- Office policy has been amended to address the loss of smaller offices in central London and highlights concern over the impact of office to residential permitted development rights;
- A new policy on electricity and gas supply is introduced to promote the strategic provision of electricity and gas infrastructure to accommodate anticipated growth and to support the development of such infrastructure;
- Updated waste apportionment targets and policy aim for London to be self-sufficient in managing its waste by 2026 rather than 2031. Borough-level waste arisings and apportionments have been updated and are, on average, 25 per cent lower; and
- A variety of social, environmental and infrastructure policies and requirements to support sustainable development.

## **4. Issues for Consideration**

4.1 The Mayor published and laid before the Assembly the FALP on 28 January 2015 for formal consultation.

4.2 The Mayor submitted to the Assembly the following documents as his final proposals to amend the London Plan, attached as appendices to this report:

- Letter from Sir Edward Lister on behalf of the Mayor in which he formally 'lays before' the London Assembly a copy of the Further Alterations to the London Plan, **Appendix 1**;
- The FALP EiP Inspector's Report, **Appendix 2**;
- The Mayor's response to the EiP Inspector's recommendations, **Appendix 3**;
- Letter from the Mayor to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government dated 15 December 2014, **Appendix 4**;
- Two letters from the Minister of State, Housing and Planning to the Mayor dated 27 January 2015, **Appendix 5**;
- The Further Alterations to the London Plan, as intended to be published ('clean' version) **Appendix 6** (circulated separately); and
- The Further Alterations to the London Plan, as intended to be published (with alterations marked), **Appendix 7** (circulated separately).

- 4.3 At this meeting, the Assembly will put questions to the following in relation to the FALP:
- Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning; and
  - Stewart Murray, Assistant Director – Planning, Greater London Authority (GLA).
- 4.4 They will be accompanied by John Lett (Strategic Planning Manager), Jennifer Peters (Senior Strategic Planner) and Richard Linton (Principal Strategic Planner).
- 4.5 Following the question and answer session the Assembly will consider and debate the proposals.
- 4.6 In accordance with Section 42B of the GLA Act, the London Assembly has the power to reject draft strategies within 21 days of their submission to the Assembly. The 21 day period includes the date on which the draft strategy is laid before the Assembly. Although a formal motion to reject the Proposal is not included in the Recommendations to this report, such a motion may be moved by way of an amendment to the motion set out at Recommendation 2.3 or by way of a separate, standalone motion, without notice, by any single Assembly Member during the meeting.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Under the provisions of Section 42 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly has the power to consider and potentially reject draft strategies within 21 days of their publication, including the date the draft strategy is laid before the Assembly. The 21 day period from 28 January 2015 ends on 17 February 2015.
- 5.2 A motion for the Assembly to reject a draft strategy must be considered at a meeting of the Assembly throughout which members of the public are entitled to be present and is not carried unless it is agreed to by at least two thirds of the Assembly Members voting.
- 5.3 Standing Order 3.19 (Assembly Consultation on the Mayor's Strategies and the Assembly's Power to Reject) is as follows:
- A. In accordance with section 42(1) of the GLA Act, the Mayor is required to consult the Assembly when preparing or revising all those strategies listed at section 41 of the Act. Before publishing a strategy (or, in the case of the housing strategy, before submitting the draft to the Secretary of State) the Mayor must lay a copy of the draft strategy before the Assembly by submitting a paper copy of the draft strategy to the Chair of the London Assembly (copied to the Executive Director of Secretariat) [1].
- B. The Mayor should submit a draft strategy to the Assembly in accordance with Standing Order 3.19 by not less than midday on the day that is six clear working days in advance of the relevant Assembly or committee meeting.
- C. Noting that only the London Assembly itself may properly exercise the power to reject a strategy (as provided for at (F) below), the Assembly, or any relevant ordinary Committee of the Assembly to which the necessary authority has been granted by the Assembly (either through its terms of reference or otherwise through a formal decision), may provide a response to a consultation referred to in Paragraph A above.

D. The Mayor must not publish any final strategy that is relevant to this Standing Order (or, in the case of the housing strategy, submit the draft to the Secretary of State) if, within the period of twenty-one days beginning with the day on which the copy is provided to the Assembly in accordance with Standing Order 3.19B above, the Assembly resolves formally to reject the draft.

E. Any motion for the Assembly to reject a draft strategy must be considered at a meeting of the Assembly throughout which members of the public are entitled to be present.

F. If the Assembly votes by at least two-thirds of the Members present and voting, for the following motion:

*The Assembly hereby resolves to reject Mayor's draft xxxxx strategy*

the Mayor must not publish that strategy (or, in the case of the housing strategy, submit the draft to the Secretary of State), other than by way of providing a further revised version of that document to the Assembly.

G. The motion set out at (F) above may be moved by the Chair of the Assembly as part of the formal agenda for the relevant meeting of the London Assembly or, without notice, by any Member at a meeting of the London Assembly at which a draft strategy is considered. Standing Orders 3.3(A) and 3.12 shall be suspended in relation to such motions. However, the remaining rules set out at Standing Orders 3.3 to 3.15 in relation to the consideration of motions shall apply in the usual way. The motion, if moved, must be seconded prior to its consideration.

H. The Assembly may, during the debate, agree to amend the text of the original motion (as set out in paragraph F above) to include its reasons for passing the motion and any other relevant commentary that it wishes the Mayor to consider.

### **Notes and definitions**

[1] This Standing Order applies where the Mayor has prepared, and is ready to publish, a draft of any of the strategies to which section 41 of the GLA Act applies (including a revised version of the strategy), but not to a revised version of a strategy containing only revisions which(a) are specified in a direction as to the contents of the strategy which is given to the Mayor under this Act (or which the Mayor considers are necessary in consequence of any revisions so specified); or are not so specified but the Mayor considers to be necessary to comply with such a direction (section 42B(1) and (2)).

[2] As required by section 42B(5). Abstentions do not count as a vote against, and so are excluded from the calculation of the two-thirds majority.

## **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

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**List of appendices to this report:**

**Appendix 1** - Letter from Sir Edward Lister on behalf of the Mayor in which he formally 'lays before' the London Assembly a copy of the Further Alterations to the London Plan

**Appendix 2** - The FALP EiP Inspector's Report

**Appendix 3** - The Mayor's response to the EiP Inspector's recommendations

**Appendix 4** - Letter from the Mayor to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government dated 15 December 2014

**Appendix 5** - Two letters from the Minister of State, Housing and Planning to the Mayor dated 27 January 2015

**Appendix 6** - The Further Alterations to the London Plan, as intended to be published ('clean' version) (circulated separately)

**Appendix 7** - The Further Alterations to the London Plan, as intended to be published (with alterations marked) (circulated separately).

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
List of Background Papers: None.
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