

Dear Mr McKee,

Outer London Commission Questions

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Outer London Commission's discussion. Please find attached an officer response from Bromley Council. Unfortunately, due to the holiday period and timing of Committees, we have not had the opportunity to report to Committee. However, the response has been prepared in-line with the Council's previous responses to the GLA and OLC.

We have confined ourselves to responding to the two papers: 'Barriers to Housing Delivery', and 'Growth Options'.. We have commented only on the sections where we consider we can add to the discussion and have relevant experience .

It is important that local decision making is supported, with any revised/new London Plan providing the framework within which boroughs can make their decisions in line with local priorities and need, and able to protect local character and quality of life. It is important that outer London boroughs do not become dormitories to central London but that their town centres, and employment areas are able to prosper.

The scale of new development required cannot be addressed at a London level alone but requires a South East regional response. Regardless of where the new development takes place, it should be a pre-requisite that the necessary infrastructure, transport improvements and bus services, and schools and medical facilities including GP surgeries is provided. The protection of open space, including Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and local open space is essential and reflects Government Policy and local priorities. In considering the role of outer London within the new scenarios, there needs to be full recognition of the very different characteristics of individual boroughs, and in particular their accessibility and the step change which some boroughs may be able to accommodate with major transport projects such as Cross Rail and High Speed routes which will create unprecedented new opportunities and capacity for growth.

Should you require any further clarification of the points made please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Mary Manuel

London Borough of Bromley