

Andrew Boff AM

Via email

7th August 2024


ROYAL *borough of*
GREENWICH
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Dear Andrew,

I write in response to your letter dated 12 June 2023 regarding the London Assembly's motion in relation to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's (RBKC) Local Listed Building Consent Order, which facilitates the grant of permission for the installation of solar panels on Grade II* and II listed buildings.

Whilst a Local Listed Building Consent Order is one tool for facilitating the grant of permission for solar panels, it is not the only tool available to local authority planning departments to improve climate resilience.

We do not believe a Local Listed Building Consent Order is appropriate for Royal Greenwich. I note that the RBKC Order still requires some level of detailed consent to be attained from the local planning authority (approval of details of the position, fixing, size, colour and finish). This may be a useful tool in RBKC which has over 4,000 listed buildings; however, the heritage context in Royal Greenwich is significantly different.

In Royal Greenwich there are 513 Grade II* and II listed heritage assets (excluding Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, World Heritage Sites), although many of these include terraces or blocks of buildings under one listing. There are therefore likely to be far fewer listed building consent applications for Royal Greenwich to process than there were in RBKC prior to the introduction of the Order.

That said, we understand the need for clear guidance to residents and landowners on the acceptability of climate resilience measures in planning, not only on listed buildings, but across all heritage assets. My officers are working to produce our Climate Resilience: Future-proofing Royal Greenwich Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which we will be consulting on this year. This guidance will inform residents and landowners about measures to combat climate change, including energy efficiency measures such as the installation of solar panels. The guidance will set out clearly the requirements of the planning system in relation to these.



Struggling?



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Furthermore, the ongoing review of our Local Plan gives Royal Greenwich the opportunity to bring forward a more positive planning policy framework to aid the introduction of climate resilience measures across all developments. We believe these steps will provide the clarity needed to ensure climate change adaptations are facilitated by our planning system.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Okereke', written in a cursive style.

Anthony Okereke
Leader, Royal Borough of Greenwich