

Annex D Draft letter to SOS

London Plan – Spatial Development Strategy. Notice of Intention to Publish

In December 2017 I published my draft London Plan for consultation. The draft Plan has been through the statutory procedures of public consultation and Examination in Public (EiP). The EiP hearings ran from January 2019 to May 2019 and on 8 October I received the final report from the Panel of inspectors. This provided a clear and constructive summary of their deliberations on the Plan, drawing on the considerable volumes of evidence provided, the representations made through the consultation and EiP hearings and, of course, the draft Plan itself.

In accordance with section 337 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended) and regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (London Spatial Development Strategy) Regulations 2000 (hereafter 'regulation 9'), I am pleased to send you the text of the London Plan as I intend to publish it, together with a schedule showing the Inspectors' recommendations and my responses to them. I have accepted 28 of the recommendations in full and a further 12 in part/with amendment. I have not accepted 15 of the recommendations. As required by regulation 9(2)(a)(iii), the schedule at Annex A provides a statement of my reasons for not accepting those recommendations.

For ease, I enclose two versions of the Plan one 'clean' version that shows the text incorporating those changes as I intend to publish it (Annex B) and another ('tracked version' that shows the changes to the text as a result of the Panel recommendations (Annex C)

The Plan is underpinned by the concept of Good Growth – growth that is socially and economically inclusive and environmentally sustainable. This is fundamental to ensuring that London develops sustainably – particularly in the context of the climate emergency that we are facing – and accommodates future growth in a way that considers the needs of all Londoners. My draft Plan included housing targets for 650,000 homes over the ten years from 2019–2029. You will know that one of the inspectors' key recommendations was to reduce that figure based on their view of the deliverability and appropriateness of the Plan's small sites targets. I have accepted this recommendation as set out in Annex A. However, I want to make it clear that I am absolutely committed to delivering more of the homes that Londoners need and this will include making much greater use of small sites across the capital, as well as bringing new players into the market. The revised housing target remains ambitious and represents a step-change from that set out in the current London Plan, so it is in all of our interests to get the new Plan adopted as soon as possible. Ensuring this level of housing delivery is about more than just planning policy, and so Annex D sets out all my interventions to achieve this, from the policies in the Plan and my Housing Strategy, to investment decisions and land interventions. This demonstrates my commitment to delivering the homes Londoners need and I look forward to Government supporting that ambition with the investment into affordable housing and infrastructure that is needed to deliver Good Growth.

In accordance with regulation 9(2)(b) please could you confirm receipt of the enclosed 'Intend to Publish' version of the Plan. I understand that I must not publish the Plan before January 20 to give your officials six weeks to consider the proposed changes in terms of their compliance with national planning policy and any possible adverse impacts on the neighbouring regions, and any consequential direction arising from this.

Under section 42B of the GLA 1999 Act, I must also submit the Plan to the London Assembly before I can publish it. As I am committed to completing this process and publishing the Plan

early in 2020, my intention is to submit the Plan to the Assembly in the New Year. I would therefore be grateful for an early indication of your views.

To expedite the smooth passage of the Plan at this final stage, my officers are standing by to work closely with yours. I would be grateful if your officers could contact Head of London Plan and Growth Strategies, Jennifer Peters (Jennifer.Peters@london.gov.uk), to progress matters swiftly.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours

Mayor of London

Enclosures:

- Annex A schedule of the Mayor of London's responses to the Panel's recommendations
- Annex B 'intend to publish' London Plan (clean version)
- Annex C 'intend to publish' London Plan (version showing changes)
- Annex D a note of the Mayor's interventions to increase housing delivery in London

Commented [JP1]: Note these are different to the MD refs