

MAYOR OF LONDON

Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb, AM

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA

Our ref: MGLA080914-6423

Date: 06 OCT 2014

Dear Jenny

Consultation on the LEP Economic Development Plan

Thank you for your letter of 28 August about the status and consultation process of the London Enterprise Panel's (LEP's) Economic Development Plan (EDP). I know that you have also had correspondence with Harvey McGrath, Deputy Chair of the LEP and Chair of the LEP's EDP Working Group, regarding the Plan.

I can confirm that my statutory Economic Development Strategy (EDS) published in 2010 will remain in place until the end of my mayoralty. Its five objectives are enduring and provide a vital framework for all my economic development activity. The EDP is a non-statutory document produced by the LEP which operates within the EDS framework. So it cannot 'contradict' the EDS – although it may emphasise a particular set of issues, reflecting the LEP's priorities as a business-led body. As such, it will provide a business perspective, refresh some of the evidence base and update some of the priority areas for action, and will therefore be a helpful document.

It follows that the EDP does not need to be subject to the same decision-making process as mayoral statutory strategies. The EDS was subject to substantial consultation in 2010-11 when it was revised. Further, it would be foolish to revise the EDS in isolation from the London Plan and Transport Strategy and only months before the general election.

Regarding consultation on the EDP, London First provides the secretariat function for the work and McKinsey & Company have carried out, with London First, a number of interviews and further analysis. In particular, they have engaged with approximately 200 businesses and other organisations such as trade associations, government (central and local), think tanks, the education sector, trade unions and other local enterprise partnerships to ensure that their proposals are robust and command support.

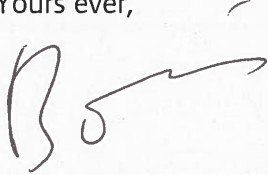
I understand that you have provided your comments on the emerging themes and actions directly to Harvey and it is worth confirming that any other interested parties, including members of the public, were given the opportunity to comment on the emerging themes and actions between June and mid-September 2014.

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All comments received are now being considered and will inform the final EDP which we hope to publish in January 2015.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Boris Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London

Cc: Harvey McGrath, Deputy Chair – London Enterprise Panel
Kit Malthouse AM, Deputy Mayor for Business and Enterprise and Deputy Chair – London Enterprise Panel