

# The Future of Planning in London Report

At the East London High Street

## Key information

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## 1. The Future of Planning in London

An investigation into the Bill and other proposed planning reforms was carried out by the **London Assembly Planning and Regeneration Committee**, focussing on the national reforms and how they would work for London.

Ahead of a debate on the Bill in the Lords, the Committee has **today** published a report highlighting that some of the reforms could prevent the London Plan and local plans from meeting local needs.

The Committee has set out 11 recommendations in the report, including:

- The Committee has serious concerns regarding the Government's proposal for National Development Management Policies (NDMPs). The Committee does not support the measure in the Bill stating that any conflict arising between a local plan and a NDMP must be resolved in favour of the NDMP. The Committee believes that this measure should be either removed from the Bill, or amended to exclude London and other areas which have a joint spatial development strategy.
- The Government should confirm that the NDMPs will set minimum standards rather than absolute standards. The Government's approach stating that local plans are not allowed to contain policies on the same areas as the NDMPs should also be changed, to ensure that local plans can meet local needs whilst avoiding unnecessary duplication.
- The Committee welcomes the ambition of Neighbourhood Priority Statements to simplify and widen access to neighbourhood planning; including the protection of small business and localities to aid resilience and recovery. More details are needed from the Government on how it will address the most significant challenges facing neighbourhood planning. Therefore, the Government should set out how it will improve accessibility of funding and contribute to capacity building and technical support for neighbourhood planning groups.
- The Government should provide further detail on how the street votes proposal would work. This should have a detailed projection of how the street votes approach would deliver more homes, including the need for affordable homes as set out in local plans, and what the role for local authorities would be. It should also include details on how the street votes approach would work on estates and on streets with mixed building typologies.
- The GLA should develop detailed analysis on how the Infrastructure Levy could be delivered in a way that responds to the specific conditions in London of high variation in land value and need for affordable

housing. This analysis should be incorporated into the Government's future consultation on the details of the Infrastructure Levy.

[Read the Report](#)