



Sadiq Khan - Mayor of London,  
e-mailed to londonplan@london.gov.uk

27<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Mayor Khan,

The Draft New London Plan.

I would like to add my voice to the objections being made to the London Plan.

- 1) At 500 pages long and very poorly organized, the Plan appears to aim to put people off commenting. Was it no one's job to read all the contributions and amalgamate them into a comprehensible document?
- 2) Planning Lawyers and Consultants must be thinking all their Christmases have come at once. Which of the many versions of duplicate policies is the one to be followed?
- 2) Top down planning dicta like this does not work. It would have been far better to ask Boroughs how many new homes they could realistically add during the next decade, with the proviso that when identifying land suitable for housing, Councils must at the same time safeguard sites and funds that will be needed for the social and engineering infrastructure to meet the needs of new inhabitants. There will be no Utopia for London if new homes have inadequate supporting infrastructure.
- 3) There are no realistic policies to prevent new homes being bought off plan and left unoccupied as golden bricks. The Plan's aim is stated to be to extend Inner London development densities to Outer London, but if measures were in place (as they are in other countries like Germany) to stop golden brick investment, then London's housing shortage would not be so acute.
- 4) There are many excellent aspirations within the Plan, but then there are policies which mean they are not achievable. E.g. Over development results in new sources of pollution (waste and well as air).
- 5) I object to the housing targets for Merton. An increase of 223% could only be achieved by destroying the character of the Borough and with it, the reason why people choose to live in Outer rather than Inner London. Do you really want to transform all London Boroughs to the living standards of the most crowded with their social, health and welfare problems? Surely the aim should be the reverse.
- 5) The transport policies do not work for people with reduced mobility who find themselves unable to walk, cycle or use public transport to the degree advocated. This applies not just to wheel chair users. Parents with children, people suffering from temporary injuries and the elderly, should not feel London is to become an unsuitable place for them to live and work.
- 6) The Urban Greening policies are laughable. A few green roofs, window boxes and more street trees will not compensate for loss of open space, including gardens, nor for the loss of natural drainage caused by so much development. The flooding danger from predicted rises in sea levels from Global Warming has not been addressed.

The Plan needs a thorough re-think and then an overhaul.

Yours faithfully,

D. Child.

