

## Jinder Ubhi

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 February 2018 00:32  
**To:** Londonplan  
**Subject:** LONDON PLAN CONSULTATION - Trees

Dear Mayor Khan and the London Plan team,

With reference to the London Plan consultation I wish to respond as follows.

The urban landscape of any city is hugely improved by trees. There are beautiful in themselves but a wonderful visual foil to the buildings and open spaces that make up their fabric; they move allowing dappled light to filter through their leaves; and the very sight and sound of them do much to refresh our flagging spirits. Practically, they provide shade and ground cover; absorb and release water vapour so cooling our streets; absorb carbon dioxide and replace it with oxygen; provide habitats for birds and wildlife; shelter from rain. It is a wonder that something requiring so little can do so much. One of the most characteristic things that the loveliest parts London has to offer is its trees - those without them feel like urban deserts in comparison - and I can think of no single feature of our city that is more important to providing a healthy environment for its people. Please may I urge you all to do all you can to plant as many as you can, to insist on new developments planting them as often as possible, and to guard against any further erosion in the green spaces of our wonderful city. I agree with every one of the sections that follow, and I hope and pray that you will do all you can to encourage the planting of trees wherever you can.

In the sections listed below (in the same order as they appear in the draft London Plan).

- Paragraph 1.3.3. Recommend an addition (in CAPS) to the following sentence: "Access to green and open spaces, including waterways AND TREES, can improve health, but access varies widely across the city."
- Paragraph 3.9.5. I support the inclusion of "Protection for trees" as an issue in the amplification of potential negative impacts of large-scale basement development beneath existing buildings.
- Policy H1. Increasing housing supply. I recommend that Sentence B2)d is clarified so that "public sector owned sites" will not include woodland, parks and open spaces.
- Paragraph 4.2.9. I support the principle of "no net loss of overall green cover" as a result of small housing developments, and support "off-site provision such as new street trees" in order to achieve this principle. I recommend an addition (in CAPS) to the following sentence: "Loss of existing biodiversity OR GREEN SPACE, as a result of small housing developments, should be mitigated through measures such as the installation of green roofs, the provision of landscaping that facilitates sustainable urban drainage, or off-site provision such as new street trees in order to achieve the principle of no net loss of overall green cover. Rainwater attenuation features should be incorporated to achieve greenfield run off rates. LOSS OF ANY PUBLIC GREEN SPACE WILL BE COMPENSATED FOR WITH ALTERNATIVE ACCESSIBLE SITES."
- Policy S4. Play and informal recreation. I support section B2)d, that residential development proposals for schemes that are likely to be used by children and young people should incorporate good-quality, accessible play provision for all ages, of at least 10 square metres per child that: "incorporates trees and/or other forms of greenery".

- Policy G1. Green infrastructure. I support this policy, and subsequent narrative that mentions the important role of trees.
- Policy G5. Urban greening. I support this policy, including the recommended Urban Green Space Factor, and subsequent narrative that mentions the important role of trees. I support the inclusion of the role and weighting for woodland and trees in Table 8.2 - Urban Greening Factors. I recommend including a reference to Residential Development and Trees (Woodland Trust, 2015, [woodlandtrust.org.uk/residentialdevelopments](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/residentialdevelopments)).
- Policy G6. Biodiversity and access to nature. I support this policy. I recommend that Sites of Metropolitan Importance and all ancient woodlands are added to the categories of planning applications that must be referred to the Mayor.
- Policy G7. Trees and woodlands. I support this policy. I recommend that Section B)1 is strengthened as follows (amendments in CAPS): “GIVE THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE protection TO ‘veteran’ trees and ancient woodland, ESPECIALLY where these are not already part of a protected site”. I support the subsequent narrative on the role of trees, particularly paragraphs 8.71 – 8.73. I recommend referring London boroughs to guidance on ancient woodland and veteran trees: Planners’ manual for ancient woodland and veteran trees(Woodland Trust, 2017, [woodlandtrust.org.uk/plannersmanual](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/plannersmanual)).

Please accept this my formal response to the consultation. I will look forward to hearing from you as the Plan progresses.

Yours,

Jason Cooper

---

This message has been scanned for viruses by the Greater London Authority.

Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

---