

# Diocese of Southwark comments

Page: [Draft New London Plan](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Anglican Diocese of Southwark is made up of churches, parishes, chaplaincies and schools in which individual Anglicans work and worship, all of whom are committed to serving all those living and working in South London and East Surrey. The Diocese has a vision for the future which includes a clear commitment to the common good through social action, seeing justice and peace built up and violence challenged. The Diocese of Southwark will work with partners to build a fully inclusive community in which all can flourish and society cohesion can grow

The Diocese of Southwark fully supports the Mayor of London's desire to promote Good Growth leading to community cohesion and social interaction.

The Diocese of Southwark similarly supports the aim, through this plan, to "build a city ... where everyone has the opportunity to reach their potential, lead fulfilling lives and build tight bonds with people from different backgrounds within their communities."

Page: [Chapter 1 Planning London's Future \(Good Growth Policies\)](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark supports the new approach which "plans for growth on the basis of its potential to improve the health and quality of life of all Londoners, to reduce inequalities and to make the city a better place to live, work and visit."

The Diocese of Southwark is encouraged by the Good Growth policies underpinning the Draft London Plan and the requirement for planners, planning applicants and decision-makers to consider proposed actions against all six objectives. Policies GG1 and GG4 are of particular note as Southwark Diocese has a presence through its churches in all communities across South London and East Surrey. The Diocese believes that strong, inclusive communities and a housing market that works better for all Londoners will lead to a healthy and diverse city.

Page: [Chapter 2 Spatial Development Patterns](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark supports the focus on key areas of development, and is targeting some of its own resources on the Opportunity Areas. However, the local experience of some churches has demonstrated that where too much resource is focused on a limited area, this can be to the detriment of healthy development nearby. The Mayor of London is urged to ensure the London Plan keeps a strong focus on sustainable and inclusive regeneration for all.

Page: [Policy SD5 Offices, other strategic functions and residential development in the CAZ](#)

Section: [2.5.5](#)

While encouraged by the equal weight given to new residential development in the Opportunity Areas of VNEB and Elephant & Castle, the Diocese of Southwark would encourage the Mayor to continue to give significant weight to residential development elsewhere, in particular, to affordable housing and social housing.

Page: [Policy D3 Inclusive design](#)

Section: [D3](#)

The Diocese of Southwark fully supports the concept of "inclusive design" to ensure that buildings are accessible to all, so building inclusive communities.

Page: [Policy H5 Delivering affordable housing](#)

Section: [H5](#)

The Diocese of Southwark supports the strategic target for 50% of all new homes delivered across London to be affordable and that affordable housing should be provided on site in order to deliver communities that are inclusive and mixed.

The Diocese of Southwark asks the Mayor to specifically consider the provision of affordable housing for religious leaders, including clergy, together with youth leaders and other faith workers.

Page: [Chapter 5 Social Infrastructure](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark asks the Mayor to include places of worship in new developments as a planning requirement.

Page: [Chapter 5 Social Infrastructure](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark requests that the Mayor's final plan identifies places of worship, including Christian churches, so recognising that faith is a key component of London's social infrastructure and healthy wellbeing for residents, visitors and those who work in London.

Page: [Policy S1 Developing London's social infrastructure](#)

Section: [5.1.1](#)

As noted in 5.1.1, the Diocese of Southwark agrees that faith is a key part of social infrastructure and that social infrastructure plays an important role in developing strong and inclusive communities. However, it is disappointing that this component of social infrastructure is not addressed any further in the plan.

Page: [Policy S3 Education and childcare facilities](#)

Section: [S3](#)

Access to high quality education and training is an essential part of improving people's life chances and the Diocese of Southwark is committed to being part of London's provision of education through its church schools and its chaplains in FE colleges and universities.

Page: [Policy S7 Burial space](#)

Section: [S7](#)

The protection of cemeteries is fully supported by the Diocese of Southwark.

Page: [Policy HC3 Strategic and Local Views](#)

Section: [HC3](#)

The Diocese of Southwark asks that the Mayor considers Southwark Cathedral as part of the London View Management Framework requiring a Protected Vista.

Page: [Chapter 8 Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark supports the protection of London's green and open spaces and asks the Mayor to include the protection of cemeteries and churchyards in the policies for green infrastructure and natural environment.

Page: [Chapter 8 Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment](#)

Section: [N/A](#)

The Diocese of Southwark asks the Mayor to have a clear policy on "garden" development.

Page: [Chapter 12 Monitoring](#)

Section: [S1](#)

The Diocese of Southwark asks the Mayor to include a KPI or measure which covers social infrastructure and its components.