

Jinder Ubhi

From: val elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 February 2018 21:38
To: Londonplan
Subject: Draft New London Plan

Dear sirs

Below are my comments on parts of the Draft New London Plan. My name and address are:

Mrs V Elliott
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The London Borough of Hillingdon is comprised of ancient villages mentioned in the Domesday Book, and Metroland towns which together provide a rich diversity of character, history and heritage. There does not appear to be an appreciation of the differences between the needs of inner and outer London Boroughs.

Housing

The proposals relating to housing development would mean a loss of that character, history and heritage.

The suggestion of roof gardens would mean that all houses would have to have flat roofs which in turn would be completely out of character with existing housing styles.

High rise blocks of flats would overwhelm existing suburban dwellings taking light and feeling of space. It would also seem to be a backward step as many of the high rise developments of the 1950s and 60s have been demolished due to concerns regarding the quality of life for those living in such developments.

Infilling of every vacant space leads to overcrowding and therefore loss of quality of living standards.

The concept of building within the boundary of existing houses, i.e. on their gardens, is not allowed and therefore should not be in this draft plan.

The Environment

Hillingdon is on the edge of the Green Belt and has green corridors that enable wildlife to migrate between open spaces. These areas will come under increasing pressure from developers with the need to meet unrealistic housing targets.

More green spaces will be lost to the policy of infilling vacant spaces.

If people are also going to be allowed to build on existing gardens, where will people be able to relax and enjoy the outside with all the benefits to healthy living that that brings?

Open spaces also provide a wide variety of plants that pollinators feed on thus thriving and helping with the pollination of crops.

Roof gardens on flat roofs would not be safe places for young children as their parents would be unable to keep an eye on them as they would be out of sight of inside the house. Many disabled and/or elderly people would struggle to access a roof garden due to mobility issues and so would be denied access to the benefits of fresh air.

Parking

Transport links are very different in the inner and outer Boroughs. It is easy to use public transport into and out of inner London, but very difficult to travel around within Hillingdon. Many journeys for essential aspects of life – getting to work, visits to hospitals – are not possible by public transport – a car is necessary. To reduce the required number of parking spaces per development will result in more and more people concreting their front garden to enable them to park. This will result in more loss of green space and increased flooding risks.

Conclusion

This draft plan does not address the issues regarding future development for the outer London Boroughs, in particular Hillingdon, in an appropriate manner.

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