

DRAFT NEW-LONDON PLAN

COMMENTS

1. NPPF

When I first started to peruse the documents I had to discover what NPPF stood for, and loo and behold National Planning Policy Framework appeared the depths of the internet!

I then read the following:

"The NPPF is a key part of the government reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible". Please enlighten me on how this document is intended to make this happen?

The overall impression that seeps out of these proposals is that this is the Mayor's attempt to fulfil his extravagant-election promises by attempting to baffle with a large shower of impressive-sounding phrases and delegating the responsibilities to the London Boroughs.

2. One Plan Fits All.

I began to realise that this document was intended to be the "Bible" for the development of the GLA. The diversity of the GLA in so many ways will make this "Bible" impossible, very similar to the encompassing Constitution for the Euro Zone. Both will be the playground for lawyers driving their horse and carts through them!

One thought that I had when reading about the proposed high-rise buildings and areas of high density was that these would degrade into the future slums very similar to the high-density areas that the Victorians built. Shouldn't we profit from realising and learning from their errors?

3. PTAL, another four-letter abbreviation I had to look up!

Comments about Car Parking Standards PTAL 5-6 and few parking spaces. Has consideration been given to the majority of transport links from the suburbs to the centre of town are generally radial and usually poor circumferential links?

When we first moved to Eastcote, my Parents lived in Highgate; to get two young grandkids to Highgate would have involved taking the Metropolitan line to Kings Cross, changing on to the Northern line, changing at Camden Road on to the High Barnet link and then about a mile walk to my Parent's house from Highgate station. Without a car Mum's Sunday lunches would have few and far between!

I also wonder what 'right' the Mayor has to decree to his population that they should not be able to own their own car? What class of car does he drive around in to attend his many assignments with the press photographers?

4. Strategic Growth

Amongst all the "fine ideas" for the Strategic Growth for the GLA I could not find any thoughts being given to:

- All the extra school places that will be required?
- Provision of many more GPs?
- Provision of many more Dentists?
- Improving water supplies?
- Improving electrical supplies?
- Improving gas supplies?
- Providing greater capacity on the sewage systems?

I have spent a good chunk of my Sunday afternoon reading through some of these plans and they do concern me greatly as if they are brought in, they will represent an unacceptable amount of power being removed from those who know the requirements of their areas and given to those who do not know nor care about the vast majority of London's population and who think that One Size Fits All.

Please make sure that all London Boroughs are invited to fully discuss their thoughts/concerns on these plans and the Mayor takes due note of all concerns and takes the necessary action to reach agreed compromises with all.

Thank you.

T.M. Higgison

████████████████████
████████████████████
██