

The proposals to allow new homes to be built within the curtilage of an existing house (garden grabbing) is strongly opposed. Most of the suburban village of Ickenham is located within 800 of a station and as such, would fall foul of policy H2(D). The intense densification that this policy provides for would fundamentally change the established character of the historic village of Ickenham and would also no doubt make our local flooding issues worse. We are a garden friendly village and the prospect of essentially issuing a licence to build on all the back gardens in Ickenham east of the river Pinn is strongly opposed. Policy H2(D) is also clearly in conflict with national policy on garden grabbing and in conflict with the Mayor's aims of a greener city. It should be deleted.

We also agree with the London Borough of Hillingdon's statement stressing that suburban development is a fundamental and long-standing component of London's urban character. Increasing suburban housing targets so significantly (as set out in table 4.1) puts that character at considerable risk. To a greater extent than any other Borough, Hillingdon residents do not work in central London, and aiming to house central London workers in the outskirts is clearly less sustainable than focusing on regenerating more central areas.

June Reyner

*On behalf of Ickenham Residents' Association*