

I am writing to respond to the draft London Plan consultation. I am pleased that the draft recognises the importance of green spaces but policies need to be stronger to give them adequate protection, in particular:

- Protecting the Green Belt requires stronger enforcement.
- It should not be possible to 'swap' designated Metropolitan Open Land.
- Private and public gardens should be protected alongside other local green and open spaces.
- Policies and funding are needed to improve the quality of green space by reducing noise, light and air pollution, increasing biodiversity, and by giving stronger protection to mature trees and hedgerows.
- Informal and formal outdoor sports facilities, including for ball sports, should be protected and enhanced.
- A more strict approach is needed to reduce reliance on the private car, including reduced parking provision in new developments and promotion of more sustainable transport modes.
- Excessive housing densities in new development should be resisted to protect the local character of London's neighbourhoods."