

First, two general comments:

1. Government (both central and local) and also the various agencies and other bodies deciding/planning our future as ordinary Londoners seem, increasingly, to regard as a "[proper] consultation" the mere posting of a mass of daunting, unreadable material on the internet. Sure, it saves on paper, and it is theoretically more accessible, but what of those people who may be severely affected by the proposals but have no means of knowing (or of doing anything), simply because they do not have internet?

2. How much that is being "consulted" on has already actually been decided, so that we, the public, are being "sold and told" after the decision, rather than being genuinely and disinterestedly asked before it?

I do not propose to/cannot deal with every single item, but here are some salient specific issues:

(a) Transport

I am not, myself, a car-driver, but I have to say that authority has, at best, surely rather limited rights to tell people how and when they can get from A to B. For many people, the private motor-car is simply not easily or immediately replaceable by the use of bicycles or public transport for their earning of a living or for best organising their family (and other) lives. Make private transport less polluting, by all means (with hybrids, electric cars, and so on), but please do not presume, plan for, or prescribe, the ascendancy of public transport.

(b) Building densities and urban sprawl

We will need more homes --- yes, no argument. That however is not, and it must not become, a presumed automatic licence for the sort of potentially massive, inappropriate urban/suburban intensifications and raising of tower-blocks, plus open-space/garden building of the sort implicitly given the nod in the newly-adopted London Borough of Croydon *Local Plan*. Looking at the spreading "built London" shown on some of the plans and illustrations, I am reminded, again, of Gordon Brown's horrible "vision" of massive building all over vast swathes of land on both sides, all the way down the Thames Estuary. What about the infrastructure to cope? For me, it's no use saying, either, in effect, "Look, we need to build, first, and then we can sort the rest of it out."