

The Draft London Plan December 2017

1. “Joint Strategies”

Policy SI14 Waterways – strategic role

B *To reflect the distinctiveness of areas that specifically relate to the River Thames, relevant Development Plans should designate and ensure the maintenance of, Thames Policy Areas. Boroughs are encouraged to work together on policies and update joint Thames Strategies that should support individual Development Plans.*

This is strongly supported but it needs a stronger word than **are encouraged**. At least **should**, **must**, or **are required**?

Some boroughs are not giving the river sufficient attention, and are not including the Mayor’s priorities in their plans.

2. Policy SI14 Waterways - strategic role

Pages 365- 367 Again we support.

It sets out what the joint Strategies need to do. Much the same as before but with some additions and a proviso:

9.14.8 The River Thames should not be designated as Metropolitan Open Land, as this may restrict the use for river transport infrastructure related uses.

This is opposed.

The London Plan’s definition of Metropolitan Open Land is

Extensive areas of land bounded by urban development around London that fulfils a similar function to Green Belt and is protected from inappropriate development by land-use planning policies.

If there are river policies that permit use for river transport infrastructure related uses, then what’s the problem? Loss of MOL status could have disastrous consequences.

3. Funding

How are the joint strategies, like TS-KtoC, to be updated in accordance with the Mayor’s aspirations? To do it properly costs money. Where is that to come from? If third party money is to be permitted can the Mayor help source it?

Chapter 11 Funding the London Plan doesn’t tell us.

4. Residential Boats

Policy SI17 Protecting London’s Waterway’s
Again supported but it does not go far enough.

Add to 9.17.2 *The river should not be used as an extension of the developable land in London, nor should parts of the river be a continuous line of moored craft.*

It is to be noted that Hammersmith & Fulham Council 28 February 2018 adopted a Supplementary Planning Document which included a section, page 251, on Residential Moorings. The Mayor should require boroughs to produce similar plans appropriate to their locations.

5. Tall buildings in riverside locations

Policy D8 para C f)

Buildings near the River Thames, particularly in the Thames Policy Area, should not contribute to a canyon effect along the river which encloses the open aspect of the river and the riverside public realm, or adversely affect strategic or local views along the river.

This is supported but say the wording needs to be strengthened.

6. Figure 9.6 page 364 should include Chelsea Creek/Counters Creek

The creek has significant urban drainage issues, and potential for enhancement.

7. Recreational Use of the River

As one of the Mayor's priorities was citizens' health. It is therefore surprising to find recreational use of the river buried in Waterways and Transport, and it's the responsibility of the Deputy Mayor for Transport! This priority is not significantly set out in this London Plan.

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2 March 2018