

Draft New London Plan Examination in Public

Statement of LB Camden

Night Time Economy

M49. Would Policy HC6 provide an effective and justified approach to support the growth and diversification of London's night time economy (NTE)?

In particular...

b) Does it strike the right balance between supporting the NTE and protecting the living conditions of residents and nearby uses in terms of anti-social behaviour, noise pollution, health and wellbeing and other issues?

Camden Council supports the objectives of protecting and promoting the night time economy and recognises the very significant contributions made by night time uses to the economy, the identity and attractiveness of London and quality of life.

Our representations on the Draft London Plan requested that the Plan should more clearly recognise that new night time uses need to be well managed and consider of impact on local residents. Many Londoners live within, or on the edge of, areas of night time activity and councils have an obligation in discharging their planning functions to determine the impact of proposed night time activities on sensitive uses, such as residential.

Our response to the Draft London Plan set out our concern that the Plan's wording implied that that quieter streets or areas within/near centres with a residential character are considered by the Mayor to be suitable locations for 24 hour uses, or might be put under pressure to accommodate such uses. We note the Suggested Minor Changes to **paragraph 7.6.2** to clarify that balancing the needs of local residents needs to take place in all parts of London, made in response to our comments. This goes some way to addressing our concerns but we suggest that for the avoidance of doubt paragraph 7.6.2 should clearly state that this applies in the areas mentioned in Policy HC7 B 1) as locations where the night time economy should be promoted (i.e. the Central Activities Zone, strategic areas of night-time activity, town centres, and where public transport such as the Night Tube and Night Buses are available). We therefore suggest the following wording should added in the last sentence of Paragraph 7.6.2 to improve the effectiveness of the Plan:

"However, 24-hour activities are not suitable for every part of London ~~and its residents~~, and boroughs should balance the needs of local residents **in all parts of London, including the areas listed in HC7 B 1)**, with the economic benefits of

promoting a night-time economy".

We welcome:

- the suggested reference to “inclusion” in **HC7 B 2**).
- the Suggested Changes to **paragraph 7.6.6**, made in response to our representation, to include 'providing opportunities for social interaction' to the list of benefits of the night time economy.
- the Suggested Change in **paragraph 7.6.6**, made in response to representations from boroughs and residents' associations, to clarify that management strategies and mitigation measures should be considered particularly in areas with high concentrations of licensed premises.
- the additional text relating to diversity and particular groups in **paragraph 7.6.11**, which gives important recognition of the diverse nature of London’s population and patrons of evening and night time facilities.
- the inclusion of “local communities” as a stakeholder in **paragraph 7.6.11**.

Notwithstanding our support for the night time economy, Camden continues to consider the unqualified protection and support for a all evening and night time venues in **Policy HC7 B 6**) is unhelpful and unrealistic. It will not be possible or appropriate to protect every premise in such use, for example when they are no longer needed or unviable. Further text should be added to recognise this.