

Lambeth Local Plan Examination Hearing October 2020

Opening Statement

The Council welcomes this examination of the partial review of the Lambeth Local Plan and the opportunity for its soundness to be tested.

The submitted Plan is the culmination of over three years' work and has involved extensive stakeholder engagement, three rounds of public consultation and production of a comprehensive evidence base. Lambeth Council unanimously approved this Plan for submission in January 2020.

This revised Plan builds on the current Lambeth Local Plan 2015 and retains policies where these are considered still to be sound. Key elements have been reviewed to ensure:

- consistency with national planning policy and guidance; and
- general conformity with the Mayor's emerging new London Plan.

The revised Plan also reflects the Council's latest Borough Plan priorities, which are:

- a growing economy that everyone benefits from
- communities that are thriving and connected
- people have support to live as well and independently as they can
- Lambeth is a place people want to live, work and invest

The Council is preparing a separate Site Allocations Development Plan Document and several Supplementary Planning Documents, which will supplement the revised Local Plan once adopted.

The Council's vision for Lambeth is for sustainable and inclusive growth and a zero-carbon future. This involves:

- Planning for at least 13,350 net additional dwellings over ten years;
- Implementing the Mayor's policies to secure maximum levels of affordable housing; and
- Meeting the full range of specialist housing needs.

However, new housing must be balanced with other priority needs including economic growth and development, climate change

mitigation and adaptation, health and well-being, excellence in design and place-shaping, and quality of life.

Lambeth Council particularly encourages sustainable investment in the borough that supports the Mayor's spatial strategy for economic development in his emerging London Plan. This includes:

- An appropriate balance of strategic functions in the Central Activities Zone (CAZ), supporting growth in the London Plan Opportunity Areas at Waterloo and Vauxhall
- Protection and growth of offices in the CAZ
- A strong town centre first approach, enabling the consolidation and renewal of Lambeth's high streets and underpinning the Mayor's town centre hierarchy
- Securing affordable workspace to boost Lambeth's innovative and dynamic creative and digital industries, including in the Brixton Creative Enterprise Zone
- Supporting new visitor accommodation in town centres away from the existing cluster in Waterloo
- Protecting and intensifying industrial floor-space capacity to support the Central Services Area and providing workspace for makers and logistics firms
- Supporting green industries including sustainable waste management in Key Industrial and Business Areas
- Securing planning obligations for local employment and skills to spread the benefits of growth to all Lambeth's communities.

Above all Lambeth Council values its diverse communities, their heritage and their unlimited potential to contribute to the borough. This Plan seeks a sustainable and inclusive future for all its citizens.

We respectfully commend this Plan to the Inspector for his consideration.