

HEAR EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK

Covering note:

The views expressed in the below were gathered from members of the HEAR Equality and Human Rights Network and participants at HEAR and HEAR partnership events, either specifically around the London Plan, or related to Mayoral strategies, including the Diversity and Inclusion strategy and the Health Inequality strategy.

All the comments are submitted by the HEAR Equality and Human Rights Network as a composite summary of the comments and views of members of the network, and not the views of HEAR CIO itself, which exists to present the varying views of members and does not hold organisational positions on specific issues itself.

Matter 2-Equality of Opportunity

HEAR members consider that the opportunity for removing discriminatory practice and providing real equality of opportunity through the London Plan is weakened by the fact that equality is not embedded as a central thread running through all the sections and policies contained in the Plan. Addressing equality and inclusion throughout rather than at specific points would strengthen the likelihood of achieving real equality. There are equality implications to each policy and these should be more specifically referred to in the document itself.

In order to strengthen the ability of the Plan to address discrimination and advance equality, the Plan should be more directive, for example stating 'must' instead of 'should' in many places, to ensure that the policies are strengthened and are less advisory where possible.

Additionally there are many parts of the various Mayoral strategies, for example Housing, that directly to relate to equalities matters, and providing better clear links within the plan to relevant strategies would be important, because the Plan contains 'high level' information and the strategies important detail.

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