

**M5. Irrespective of matter M4, did the Mayor engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis during the preparation of the Plan:**

**a) with all relevant local authorities and other prescribed bodies in London<sup>1</sup>; and**

**b) all relevant local authorities and prescribed bodies outside London on strategic and cross boundary matters in the wider South East?**

5.1 Please see the Mayor's response to the Preliminary Question 8 (Appendix).

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<sup>1</sup> Including the bodies prescribed under regulation 4 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

## Appendix

**PQ8. Irrespective of the answer to PQ7, did the Mayor engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis during the preparation of the London Plan (a) with all relevant local authorities and other prescribed bodies in London<sup>2</sup> and (b) all relevant local authorities and prescribed bodies outside London on strategic and cross boundary matters in the wider South East?**

1. As discussed in answer to PQ7, the Duty to Cooperate does not strictly apply to the preparation of the London Plan. However ongoing, active and constructive engagement has taken place during the preparation of the London Plan policies with London Boroughs and prescribed bodies and this is set out below.

### London Boroughs

- 2 The GLA has worked with London boroughs closely over the period of Plan development in a number of ways as follows:
  - The GLA organised specific topic-based workshops and steering groups throughout 2017 which borough officers contributed to which informed policy development within the Plan, including energy, zero-carbon, waste, Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, affordable housing and viability, town centre network and retail, approach to industrial land, and transport. See Annex A for further details of these workshops and steering groups.
  - The housing targets in the Plan are underpinned by the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. The assessment of capacity from large sites was an exercise carried out jointly with the London Boroughs (see answer to PQ9 and the SHLAA 2017 report for more details).
  - Between July and November 2017, the GLA had senior officer meetings with every London borough individually. These meetings discussed strategic planning issues, emerging London Plan policies, specific local borough planning issues, evidence base and research work as appropriate and future collaboration arrangements.
  - GLA officers attended the regular meetings of the ALBPO (Association of London Borough Planning Officers) Development Plans and Planning Officers groups. This is the main meeting and email circulation group for London borough (and the two Mayoral Development Corporation) planning policy officers. These meetings are also regularly attended by representatives of London Councils. The notes and presentation from these meetings are shared via email with an extensive list of borough planning officers. At these meetings GLA Planners presented and

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<sup>2</sup> Including the bodies prescribed under regulation 4 of *The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012*.

discussed and sought feedback on evidence base reports and their findings and recommendations for future policy. Later in the process of preparing the Plan, early policy options across the Plan were presented and discussed with these groups. The feedback received at these meetings informed future iterations of policy.

- All relevant boroughs were also invited to comment on the draft text for the relevant opportunity area in Chapter 2 prior to publication of the Plan.
3. As part of the Mayor's duty to co-operate with regard to the preparation of borough Local Plans, GLA officers engaged extensively with London boroughs through the development of their Local Plans and Opportunity Areas where local and emerging strategic policy approaches were discussed. This also provided the opportunity to identify key issues affecting the boroughs and explore if and how the London Plan could help address those issues. See Annex B for a list of the meetings with boroughs and key issues discussed.
  4. In addition to the above, London boroughs also attended and contributed to the wider stakeholder events which are discussed in more detail in PQ9 (New London Plan Event – March 2016 and the City for All Londoners series of events in October 2016). In terms of the formal consultation on the Draft Plan itself, as well as the 4 sub-regional events, the GLA organised 2 borough specific events to debate policies within the draft Plan with the London boroughs. See Annex C for the list of formal consultation events.

### **Prescribed bodies**

#### Environment Agency

5. The GLA has held regular meetings with the Environment Agency both at senior and officer levels. During 2017 GLA officers have met with EA officers bi-monthly to discuss emerging policy options on waste, green infrastructure, air quality, water, flooding which fed into the development of the London Plan and the London Environment Strategy. These meetings also covered issues such as the Thames Estuary 2100 and its implications for the London Plan. In addition, quarterly senior management meetings were held to discuss overarching strategic issues to ensure robust collaboration arrangements.
6. There were also 2 specific meetings with the EA in April 2016 and Jan 2017 to discuss potential issues to be included in the London Plan and emerging policy options as they came forward. In May 2017, a technical seminar on water infrastructure and waterways. The GLA has also met quarterly with the EA to discuss the Regional Flood Risk Appraisal.
7. The EA attended workshops in March 2017 and September 2017 which debated policies on green infrastructure, biodiversity and climate change policies. The EA are members of the Housing Market Partnership Group which is the key stakeholder group informing the development of the SHLAA and SHMA.

8. The EA was also involved in the preparation of the Integrated Impacted Assessment through an external workshop in June 2016 which informed the IIA framework, including the guide questions. The EA responded to the consultation on both scoping report in February 2107 and the IIA report in Dec 2017.

#### Historic England

9. The GLA held regular meetings with Historic England (HE) throughout the preparation of the London Plan in 2016 and 2017 – see Annex B. These meeting covered all aspects of the London Plan policy. Early policy options were shared with HE, and the GLA responded constructively to HE feedback. HE and GLA have worked closely on the detailed content of the draft policies particularly regarding the design and heritage related policies.
10. HE is a member of the Housing Market Partnership Group.
11. HE was also involved in the preparation of the Integrated Impacted Assessment through an external workshop in June 2016 which informed the IIA framework, including the guide questions. HE responded to the consultation on both scoping report in February 2107 and the IIA report in Dec 2017.

#### Natural England

12. Workshops were held with Natural England in March and November 2017 on policy options around green infrastructure policies, urban greening and biodiversity – see Annex B. These discussions fed directly into the development of policies within Chapter 8.
13. NE was involved in the preparation of the Integrated Impacted Assessment through an external workshop in June 2016 which informed the IIA framework, including the guide questions. NE responded to the consultation on both scoping report in February 2107 and the IIA report in Dec 2017 as well as being consulted on the HRA report prior to its publication for wider consultation.

#### Homes and Community Agency

14. In London, the land acquisition and social housing powers of the Homes and Communities Agency for London, including receiving grant from central government for housing purposes have been carried out by the Mayor since April 2012.

#### Primary Care Trusts

15. The GLA held a series of meetings with the Director of the London Healthy Urban Development Unit and the Director of the Office of London CCGs which supports the 32 Clinical Commissioning Groups in London. The meetings discussed the provision of health and social care facilities in London, changes to NHS policy, Sustainability and

Transformation Plans, and planning for population growth. These discussions informed the development of policies S1 and S2.

#### Transport for London

16. TLF is part of the GLA family and the GLA and TfL have worked closely in the preparation of the London Plan. During 2016 / 17, there were bi-monthly meetings where the preparation of the evidence base and development of policy options were discussed to ensure the alignment of the MTS and the London Plan. TfL were closely involved in the draft of Chapter 10 and inputted into the development of other areas of the Plan, including public realm, design, density etc.

#### Highways England

17. The GLA met with Highways England in June 2016 and again in January 2017 to discuss potential implications of the emerging London Plan policy option for the strategic highways network, particularly the M25 but also for the major motorways. Highways England's Strategic Economic Growth Plan and the evidence base underpinning it and well as emerging evidence supporting the London Plan were also discussed. These discussions helped inform the policy options around the modal shift targets, air quality policies, health streets, and car parking, etc.

#### Marine Management Organisation

18. GLA officers met with the MMO in July 2017 to discuss the London Plan and the Marine South East Plan processes and emerging policy issues including water quality, infrastructure, aggregates, climate change and biodiversity. The MMO also participated at the Waterways Forum's Freight and Development Group's first meeting in Dec 2017, where the draft London Plan was presented and debated.

#### **Engagement with authorities outside London**

19. As discussed in response to PQ7 although the formal DtC does not apply to the process of London Plan preparation, under the GLA Act the Mayor has duties to:
  - consult on the London Plan with counties/districts adjoining London (GLA Act section 335).
  - inform local planning authorities in the vicinity of London of his views concerning any matters of common interest relating to the planning or development of London or those areas (GLA Act sections 339 and 348).
20. The Mayor has fulfilled these duties and has engaged constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with the local authorities across the Wider South East (WSE) (i.e. the former East and South East of England) during the preparation of the draft London Plan.

21. During 2015, jointly with partners from the East of England Local Government Association, South East England Councils and London Councils, we established new collaboration arrangements. These arrangements complement the statutory Duty to Cooperate, which is less suitable for wider (beyond cross-boundary) strategic collaboration. The arrangement consist of:
- a Political Steering Group – including nominated representative political leaders from authorities across the WSE meeting bi-annually to oversee the collaboration arrangements;
  - an Annual Summit for council members and officers from local authorities across the WSE as well as planning partnerships and Local Enterprise Partnerships;
  - an Officer Working Group – including nominated representative senior officers from authorities across the WSE meeting quarterly to support the collaboration arrangements.
22. Further details about the WSE collaboration arrangements as well as all meeting papers, notes and more are available on the WSE website hosted by the GLA:  
<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/organisations-we-work/policy-and-infrastructure-collaboration-across-wider-south-east>
23. Current collaboration priorities include:
- the London Plan preparation
  - the common understanding of technical evidence to support plan making
  - tackling barriers to housing delivery
  - strategic infrastructure investment.
24. GLA officers have presented emerging London Plan policy options through to detailed WSE policy wording to many WSE meetings. The discussion and feedback from each of these meetings was carefully considered and fed into the iterative development of these policies. Overall, the emerging draft London Plan was discussed at six Officer Working Group meetings, three Political Steering Group meetings and three Summits (discussion topics and notes are available on the above-mentioned website). The December 2016 Summit centred around interactive and facilitated break-out sessions with close to 100 council members and officers aimed at helping to shape key London Plan issues. Further discussions took place during the consultation which also informed minor suggested changes to the Plan.
25. In terms of technical evidence, in July 2017, the GLA 2016-based population and household projections were released, which included data for all local authorities in England and national data for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The GLA engaged WSE partners throughout the preparation of this model. This demonstrates the GLA's ambition to facilitate better understanding/transparency and to work towards better consistency of the technical evidence base for plan-making.

26. A list Duty-to-Cooperate meetings with individual authorities and groups of authorities between the beginning of 2017 and the end of the draft London Plan consultation is set out in Annex D.
27. In line with emerging Policy SD3, the Mayor has made offers for strategic collaboration at WSE meetings throughout 2017. Collaboration arrangements between different willing partners have reached various stages; these are set out below.

### **East of England**

- The GLA has had several officer-level meetings with South Essex Councils in recent months. These councils have established a shared long-term vision and are now making preparations for a Joint Strategic Plan, and the GLA is contributing to its evidence base. Due to its strategic nature there is scope for collaboration in particular on infrastructure. There are further opportunities for collaboration within the Thames Estuary – currently through the Thames Gateway Strategic Group - with authorities in London, South Essex and North Kent involved. The recently published Vision Report from the Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission highlights the importance of a Joint Strategic Plan as well as opportunities for example related to regeneration and economic development. The Thames Estuary Production Corridor delivering large-scale cultural infrastructure is a good example of collaboration that can be built on.
- GLA officers and the Deputy Mayor have had meetings with Essex County Council over recent months. There is a shared interest in establishing collaboration on strategic issues such as housing and infrastructure delivery.
- London is part of the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor, and the GLA is involved in the London Stansted Cambridge Consortium. They are keen to continue the collaboration for example on the four-tracking of the West Anglia Line and opportunities arising from Crossrail 2.
- GLA officers contacted the Combined Cambridgeshire Authorities to discuss their approach to growth and explore collaboration opportunities related to their Strategic Plan for Growth Officers are awaiting their response.

### **South East**

- Kent County Council indicated in their response to the draft London Plan interest in setting up London-Kent working group. A meeting with senior officers has been scheduled to take place in Sept 2018. Discussions are likely to include for example opportunities related to the Thames Estuary 2050 Commission (see above), the extension of Crossrail to Ebbsfleet and considering other potential growth locations.
- Oxfordshire County Council indicated in their response to the draft London Plan interest in collaboration on strategic infrastructure.

- Buckinghamshire County Council indicated in their response to the draft London Plan interest to explore possible future collaboration opportunities.

28. In addition to the above various authorities in the wider south east have also attended and contributed to the wider stakeholder events discussed in PQ9.