


LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN		6
WARDS:	All wards	
REPORT TITLE:	Local Application Requirements (LARs) Update	
REPORT OF:	Director of Economy, Regeneration and Investment	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Planning Committee		DATE: 03/11/2025
<p>SUMMAR OF REPORT:</p> <p>Local Application Requirements (LARs) set out what information applicants must provide when submitting a planning application in Camden.</p> <p>The LARs are reviewed continuously. This report provides the Changelog of recent changes, responses to feedback, and outcomes of the ongoing review process. Where necessary, it also provides further detail or background on any significant changes.</p> <p>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – ACCESS TO INFORMATION No documents that require listing were used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>CONTACT OFFICER: Richard Limbrick Planning Applications Team Manager 5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG Tel: 020 7974 4188 E-mail: richard.limbrick@camden.gov.uk</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDATION: The Planning Committee is asked to note the report and the planned republication of the LARs with a Changelog (Appendix A).</p>		
<p>SIGNED:</p>  <p>Dan Pope Director of Economy, Regeneration and Investment</p> <p>DATE: 14/10/2025</p>		

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Local Application Requirements (LARs) set out what information applicants must provide when submitting a planning application in Camden.
- 1.2 They help ensure applications can be assessed quickly and effectively. It is important they are kept up to date as legislation and policy requirements change rapidly. Updating the LARs ensures officers and the public have the information they need, while balancing this with a proportionate burden on applicants.
- 1.3 National rules require councils to review and publish their LARs at least every two years.

2. LARS REVIEW

General process

- 2.1 Officers review and update the LARs as part of an ongoing review process. They record changes (or decisions to not change the requirements) in a LARs Changelog. The **LARs** and the **LARs Changelog** will be published together as part of this recommendation. The **LARs Changelog** is appended to this report (Appendix A).
- 2.2 The LARs Changelog sets out feedback or changes to policy and law, and the council's response to them (for example, no update required, update scheduled, update made). The key steps are:
 - **Continuous consultation and review:** Invite feedback at any time on the website. Log any feedback (this can be by email, in meetings, or from e-forms), or any policy changes in the LARs Changelog. Review and update the LARs based on those policy changes, feedback, and representations.
 - **Approval and update:** Changes are approved by a Team Manager or Head of Service, then the LARs are updated accordingly. Approvals for changes should be recorded.
 - **Publication:** Publish a LARs Changelog alongside the LARs that notifies the public of updates and consultation comments.
 - **Regular reporting:** Report recent and upcoming changes to the Policy and Performance Planning Committee (normally every six months) for additional public notification and discussion. This report should focus on the LARs Changelog rather than all requirements.

Recent updates and review

- 2.3 The LARs Changelog (Appendix A) sets out the recent reviews and updates to the LARs.
- 2.4 The LARs has not been republished in the last two years and a detailed review, including how to present the requirements and their triggers, is currently ongoing.

2.5 The current requirements remain consistent with local and national policies. All requirements are still relevant and up to date since the last publication.

2.6 As a result, the LARs is being republished without modifications to enable ongoing enforcement of the current requirements pending any future additions or alterations.

2.7 The following entries in the Changelog are of note:

Reference 4 (highlighted grey)

2.8 The LARs were not formally republished within the last two years. The response is to republish the LARs without changes in interim to ensure enforceable requirements, scheduled for republishing in December.

2.9 There are further scheduled changes to be made (references 1, 2, and 3) but these need more time to implement as they require drafting new requirements, so have been scheduled for January 2026.

3. FINANCE COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Finance Officer has been consulted and has no comments.

3.1

4. LEGAL COMMENTS OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR

4.1 The LARs are established under a range of legislation including Article 11(3)(a) to (d) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) England Order 2015 (as amended), Section 6 of the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013, and paragraph 45 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

4.2 Paragraph 45 of the NPPF summarises the government's policy on local information requirements as follows:-

"Local planning authorities should publish a list of their information requirements for applications for planning permission. These requirements should be kept to the minimum needed to make decisions, and should be reviewed at least every two years. Local planning authorities should only request supporting information that is relevant, necessary and material to the application in question."

4.3 The Council in publishing the LARs changelog in Appendix A is acting in compliance with the legal requirements to review the LARs at least every two years, ensuring they remain up-to-date and continue to meet legislative and policy requirements.

5. APPENDIX A: LARS CHANGELOG

Reference	Review-date	Issue-trigger	Issue-feedback	Issue-response	Update-status	Scheduled-update	Updated-date	Approver
1	2025-08-18	Legislation change – Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) regulations	New statutory requirement for all major developments to include a biodiversity plan.	Add “Biodiversity Net Gain Statement” as a validation requirement for relevant applications.	Update scheduled	2026-01-05		Richard Limbrick
2	2025-08-18	Legislation and policy change – Fire Safety Act and London Plan policy	Fire Safety Act – new requirements for tall residential buildings.	Add new requirement for a “Fire Safety Statement” to align with national guidance and London Plan.	Update scheduled	2026-01-05		Richard Limbrick
3	2025-08-18	Internal officer review	Requests for easier navigation of LARs and compliance with data standards.	Use open data formatting and clearer online presentation.	Update scheduled	2026-01-05		Richard Limbrick
4	2025-10-01	Publication date (Internal officer review)	LARs not formally republished within the last two years.	Republish the LARs without changes in interim to ensure enforceable requirements.	Update scheduled	2025-12-01		Richard Limbrick