

# LABOUR GROUP LOCAL PLAN REVIEW AMENDMENT

## 1. Introduction

This Council notes that Croydon is an amazing place to live, work and visit, with well-regarded green open spaces, diverse character and excellent transport links.

The Croydon Local Plan needs to protect and enhance these qualities whilst also allowing us to address the national challenges we face, including acute housing shortages and a rapidly changing environment due to climate change.

This Council supports sustainable development in all parts of our borough as the means by which we will improve the supply of new homes, including genuinely affordable housing, whilst continuing to protect our valuable green, cultural and heritage assets.

## 2. Amendment to Recommendation 2.1

In light of the above this Council accepts the recommendation to agree to the submission of the draft Croydon Local Plan Review and its associated Sustainability Appraisal to the Secretary of State **but only subject to the following amendments:**

- i. **Reinforce this Council's commitment to maximising the delivery of affordable homes.**

In Paragraph 4.4 (page 49) of the Homes Chapter, after the word "undeliverable", add the following text: *"This Council will make representations to the Government to make changes to National Planning Policies that will enable this level of annual need for affordable homes to be met, and will work with partners including the Greater London Authority and the Government to maximise the delivery of affordable housing in our Borough each and every year."*

- ii. **Reduce the environmental impact and effect on neighbours of any new HMOs, by making it a requirement that they must have adequate space for recycling.**

On page 72 in the new policy for HMOs DM2B.1(d) add the words "and recycling" to point d as below:

"They provide high quality accommodation that satisfies the relevant policies of the Local Plan, including **minimum** internal space standards, provision of a satisfactory level of amenity space for occupants and adequate and convenient refuse, *and recycling* storage and collection"

- iii. **Remove unnecessarily robust criteria about the locational of cemeteries and burial grounds, to facilitate the delivery of additional spaces that will meet the future needs of all communities in our Borough.**

In 7.46 of Policy DM22: Providing for cemeteries and burial grounds (page 216), delete criterion (a) ~~Have good means of access from roads and are near bus routes or other transport nodes;~~

Amend supporting text para. 7.46 amended by inserting the word “*ideally*” as set out below:

“A new cemetery or burial ground *ideally* needs to be well accessed from roads and bus routes or other transport nodes in order to be accessible for residents of the borough to visit and attend to gravestones.”

- iv. **Make it clear that meeting places in our Borough for voluntary and community sector groups are desired and therefore to be protected and their availability improved.**

On page 506 in the glossary, add “*meeting places*” to the definition of Community Facilities.

- v. **Promote the delivery of air quality positive developments.**

On page 230 in the ‘Development and construction’ chapter, amend paragraph 8.17 by adding the words “*air quality positive*”, as below:

“As Croydon is an AQMA, new developments should be *air quality positive or at least ‘air quality neutral’*.”

- vi. **Encourage modern, energy efficient building techniques for the construction of new homes.**

Incorporate additional wording from GLA guidance, adding the following sentences at the end of Paragraph 6.131 (page 177): “*In addition, we will support a diverse range of modern construction techniques which are energy efficient to manufacture homes. These modern construction techniques include manufacturing methods which utilise the production of components made offsite with the assembly of the building occurring onsite.*”

- vii. **Support the expansion of further and higher education in Croydon town centre.**

Amend SP5.12 (page 203) as follows: “The Council will support the growth and improvement of further and higher education in the borough and in particular seek to bring a university or ‘multiversity’ to Croydon. Subject to progress, the Croydon Local Plan will define a campus location at a suitable

site with high public transport accessibility **within or near the Croydon Metropolitan Centre.**”

### **3. Amendment to Recommendation 2.2**

Furthermore, Full Council accepts recommendation 2.2 subject to the following amendment:

Delegate to the Corporate Director for Sustainable Communities, Regeneration and Economic Recovery, in consultation with the Executive Mayor, ~~and~~ Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration, **Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration** the making of minor modifications and factual corrections to the draft Croydon Local Plan Review and its associated Sustainability Appraisal arising from any representations received and prior to submission to the Secretary of State.

### **4. Summary**

These amendments aim to promote sustainable development that will meet the needs of the people of our borough: seeking to maximise the delivery of affordable homes, making sure that our communities have access to the facilities they need including burial grounds and meeting places, improving air quality, expanding the conditions required of new HMOs, and supporting the expansion of further and higher education for the young people of our borough and beyond.