

# Planning Committee Report Part 3:

## Planning Policy Appendix - Frequently Cited Policies



# Frequently Cited Planning Policies

## Abbreviations

LP – London Plan (2021)

LP1 – Hillingdon Local Plan Part 1: Strategic Policies (2012)

LP2 – Hillingdon Local Plan Part 2: Development Management Policies (2020)

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## **LP2 DMHD 1: Alterations and Extensions to Residential Dwellings**

A) Planning applications relating to alterations and extensions of dwellings will be required to ensure that:

- i) there is no adverse cumulative impact of the proposal on the character, appearance or quality of the existing street or wider area;
- ii) a satisfactory relationship with adjacent dwellings is achieved;
- iii) new extensions appear subordinate to the main dwelling in their floor area, width, depth and height;
- iv) new extensions respect the design of the original house and be of matching materials;
- v) there is no unacceptable loss of outlook to neighbouring occupiers;
- vi) adequate garden space is retained;
- vii) adequate off-street parking is retained, as set out in Table 1: Parking Standards in Appendix C;
- viii) trees, hedges and other landscaping features are retained; and
- ix) all extensions in Conservation Areas and Areas of Special Local Character, and to Listed and Locally Listed Buildings, are designed in keeping with the original house, in terms of layout, scale, proportions, roof form, window pattern, detailed design and materials.

### **B) Rear Extensions**

- i) single storey rear extensions on terraced or semi-detached houses with a plot width of 5 metres or less should not exceed 3.3 metres in depth or 3.6 metres where the plot width is 5 metres or more;
- ii) single storey rear extensions to detached houses with a plot width of 5 metres or more should not exceed 4.0 metres in depth;
- iii) flat roofed single storey extensions should not exceed 3.0 metres in height and any pitched or sloping roofs should not exceed 3.4 metres in height, measured from ground level;
- iv) in Conservation Areas and Areas of Special Local Character, flat roofed single storey extensions will be expected to be finished with a parapet;
- v) balconies or access to flat roofs which result in loss of privacy to nearby dwellings or gardens will not be permitted;
- vi) two storey extensions should not extend into an area provided by a 45-degree line of sight drawn from the centre of the nearest ground or first floor habitable room window of an adjacent property and should not contain windows or other openings that overlook other houses at a distance of less than 21 metres;
- vii) flat roofed two storey extensions will not be acceptable unless the design is in keeping with the particular character of the existing house;
- viii) pitched roofs on extensions should be of a similar pitch and materials to that of the original roof and subordinate to it in design. Large crown roofs on detached houses will not be supported; and
- ix) full width two storey rear extensions are not considered acceptable in designated areas or as extensions to Listed Buildings or Locally Listed Buildings.

### **C) Side Extensions**

- i) side extensions should not exceed half the width of the original property;
- ii) extensions to corner plots should ensure that the openness of the area is maintained and the return building line is not exceeded;

- iii) garages should reflect the size guidelines set out in Appendix C Parking standards;
- iv) two storey side extensions should be set in a minimum of 1 metre from the side boundary or in the case of properties in the Copse Wood and Gatehill Estates, at least 1.5 metres, but more if on a wider than average plot, in order to maintain adequate visual separation and views between houses;
- v) two storey side extensions to detached and semi-detached properties should be set back a minimum of 1 metre behind the main front elevation;
- vi) where hip to gable roof extensions exist, a two storey side extension will not be supported; and
- vii) in Conservation Areas, single storey side extensions may be required to be set back.

#### D) Front Extensions

- i) alterations and extensions to the front of a house must be minor and not alter the overall appearance of the house or dominate the character of the street. Front extensions extending across the entire frontage will be refused;
- ii) porches should be subordinate in scale and individually designed to respect the character and features of the original building; pastiche features will not be supported; and
- iii) notwithstanding the above, at least 25% of the front garden must be retained.

#### E) Roof Extensions

- i) roof extensions should be located on the rear elevation only, be subservient to the scale of the existing roof and should not exceed more than two thirds the average width of the original roof. They should be located below the ridge tiles of the existing roof and retain a substantial element of the original roof slope above the eaves line;
- ii) the Council will not support poorly designed or over-large roof extensions including proposals to convert an existing hipped roof to a gable;
- iii) raising of a main roof above the existing ridgeline of a house will generally not be supported;
- iv) all roof extensions should employ appropriate external materials and architectural details to match the existing dwelling; and
- v) in Conservation Areas, Areas of Special Local Character and on Listed and Locally Listed Buildings, roof extensions should take the form of traditional 'dormer' windows, on the rear elevation, to harmonise with the existing building. The highest point of the dormer should be kept well within the back roof slope, away from the ridge, eaves or valleys, whilst each window should match the proportions, size and glazing pattern of the first floor windows.

#### F) Front Gardens and Parking

- i) new or replacement driveways should use permeable (porous) surfacing. Surfaces of more than five square metres will need planning permission for laying traditional, impermeable driveways; and
- ii) the design, materials and height of any front boundary must be in keeping with the character of the area to ensure harmonisation with the existing street scene.

## **LP2 DMHD 2: Outbuildings**

The Council will require residential outbuildings to meet the following criteria:

- i) the building must be constructed to a high standard of design without compromising the amenity of neighbouring occupiers;
- ii) the developed footprint of the proposed building must be proportionate to the footprint of the dwelling house and to the residential curtilage in which it stands and have regard to existing trees;
- iii) the use shall be for a purpose incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house and not capable for use as independent residential accommodation; and
- iv) primary living accommodation such as a bedroom, bathroom, or kitchen will not be permitted.

## **LP2 DMHD 3: Basement Development**

A) When determining proposals for basement and other underground development, the Council require an assessment of the scheme's impact on drainage, flooding, groundwater conditions and structural stability. The Council will only permit basement and other underground development that does not cause harm to the built and natural environment and local amenity and does not result in flooding or ground instability. Developers will be required to demonstrate by methodologies appropriate to the site that their proposals:

- i) avoid adversely affecting drainage and run-off or causing other damage to the water environment;
- ii) avoid cumulative impacts upon structural stability or the water environment in the local area;

B) Schemes should ensure that they:

- i) do not harm the amenity of neighbours;
- ii) do not lead to the loss of trees of townscape or amenity value;
- iii) do provide satisfactory landscaping, including adequate soil depth;
- iv) do not harm the appearance or setting of the property or the established character of the surrounding area, for example through the introduction of front lightwells; and
- v) do protect important archaeological remains.

C) The Council will not permit basement schemes which include habitable rooms and other sensitive uses in areas prone to flooding.

D) The Council will not permit basement schemes in Listed Buildings and will not permit them in Conservation Area locations where their introduction would harm the special architectural or historic character of the area.

## LP D6: Housing Quality and Standards

A) Housing development should be of high quality design and provide adequately-sized rooms (see Table 3.1) with comfortable and functional layouts which are fit for purpose and meet the needs of Londoners without differentiating between tenures.

B) Qualitative aspects of a development are key to ensuring successful sustainable housing. Table 3.2 sets out key qualitative aspects which should be addressed in the design of housing developments.

C) Housing development should maximise the provision of dual aspect dwellings and normally avoid the provision of single aspect dwellings. A single aspect dwelling should only be provided where it is considered a more appropriate design solution to meet the requirements of Part D in Policy D3 Optimising site capacity through the design-led approach than a dual aspect dwelling, and it can be demonstrated that it will have adequate passive ventilation, daylight and privacy, and avoid overheating.

D) The design of development should provide sufficient daylight and sunlight to new and surrounding housing that is appropriate for its context, whilst avoiding overheating, minimising overshadowing and maximising the usability of outside amenity space.

E) Housing should be designed with adequate and easily accessible storage space that supports the separate collection of dry recyclables (for at least card, paper, mixed plastics, metals, glass) and food waste as well as residual waste

F) Housing developments are required to meet the minimum standards below which apply to all tenures and all residential accommodation that is self-contained.

### Private internal space

1. Dwellings must provide at least the gross internal floor area and built-in storage area set out in Table 3.1.

2. A dwelling with two or more bedspaces must have at least one double (or twin) bedroom that is at least 2.75m wide. Every other additional double (or twin) bedroom must be at least 2.55m wide.

3. A one bedspace single bedroom must have a floor area of at least 7.5 sq.m. and be at least 2.15m wide.

4. A two bedspace double (or twin) bedroom must have a floor area of at least 11.5 sq.m.

5. Any area with a headroom of less than 1.5m is not counted within the Gross Internal Area unless used solely for storage (If the area under the stairs is to be used for storage, assume a general floor area of 1 sq.m. within the Gross Internal Area).

6. Any other area that is used solely for storage and has a headroom of 0.9-1.5m (such as under eaves) can only be counted up to 50 per cent of its floor area, and any area lower than 0.9m is not counted at all.

7. A built-in wardrobe counts towards the Gross Internal Area and bedroom floor area requirements, but should not reduce the effective width of the room below the minimum widths set out above. Any built-in area in excess of 0.72 sq.m. in a double

bedroom and 0.36 sq.m. in a single bedroom counts towards the built-in storage requirement.

8. The minimum floor to ceiling height must be 2.5m for at least 75 per cent of the Gross Internal Area of each dwelling.

#### Private outside space

9. Where there are no higher local standards in the borough Development Plan Documents, a minimum of 5 sq.m. of private outdoor space should be provided for 1-2 person dwellings and an extra 1 sq.m. should be provided for each additional occupant, and it must achieve a minimum depth and width of 1.5m. This does not count towards the minimum Gross Internal Area space standards required in Table 3.1

G) The Mayor will produce guidance on the implementation of this policy for all housing tenures.

### **LP2 DMHB 16: Housing Standards**

All housing development should have an adequate provision of internal space in order to provide an appropriate living environment. To achieve this all residential development or conversions should:

- i) meet or exceed the most up to date internal space standards, as set out in Table 5.1; and
- ii) in the case of major developments, provide at least 10% of new housing to be accessible or easily adaptable for wheelchair users.

### **LP2 DMHB 18: Private Outdoor Amenity Space**

A) All new residential development and conversions will be required to provide good quality and useable private outdoor amenity space. Amenity space should be provided in accordance with the standards set out in Table 5.3.

B) Balconies should have a depth of not less than 1.5 metres and a width of not less than 2 metres.

C) Any ground floor and/or basement floor unit that is non-street facing should have a defensible space of not less than 3 metres in depth in front of any window to a bedroom or habitable room. However, for new developments in Conservation Areas, Areas of Special Local Character or for developments, which include Listed Buildings, the provision of private open space will be required to enhance the streetscene and the character of the buildings on the site.

D) The design, materials and height of any front boundary must be in keeping with the character of the area to ensure harmonisation with the existing street scene.



## **LP H2: Small sites**

A) Boroughs should pro-actively support well-designed new homes on small sites (below 0.25 hectares in size) through both planning decisions and plan-making in order to:

1. significantly increase the contribution of small sites to meeting London's housing needs
2. diversify the sources, locations, type and mix of housing supply
3. support small and medium-sized housebuilders
4. support those wishing to bring forward custom, self-build and community-led housing
5. achieve the minimum targets for small sites set out in Table 4.2 as a component of the overall housing targets set out in Table 4.1.

B Boroughs should:

1. recognise in their Development Plans that local character evolves over time and will need to change in appropriate locations to accommodate additional housing on small sites
2. where appropriate, prepare site-specific briefs, masterplans and housing design codes for small sites
3. identify and allocate appropriate small sites for residential development
4. list these small sites on their brownfield registers
5. grant permission in principle on specific sites or prepare local development orders.

## **LP H4: Delivering Affordable Housing**

A) The strategic target is for 50 per cent of all new homes delivered across London to be genuinely affordable. Specific measures to achieve this aim include:

1. requiring major developments which trigger affordable housing requirements to provide affordable housing through the threshold approach (Policy H5 Threshold approach to applications)
2. using grant to increase affordable housing delivery beyond the level that would otherwise be provided
3. all affordable housing providers with agreements with the Mayor delivering at least 50 per cent affordable housing across their development programme, and 60 per cent in the case of strategic partners
4. public sector land delivering at least 50 per cent affordable housing on each site and public sector landowners with agreements with the Mayor delivering at least 50 per cent affordable housing across their portfolio
5. industrial land appropriate for residential use in accordance with Policy E7 Industrial intensification, co-location and substitution, delivering at least 50 per cent affordable housing where the scheme would result in a net loss of industrial capacity.

B) Affordable housing should be provided on site. Affordable housing must only be provided off-site or as a cash in lieu contribution in exceptional circumstances.

## **LP H10: Housing size mix**

A) Schemes should generally consist of a range of unit sizes. To determine the appropriate mix of unit sizes in relation to the number of bedrooms for a scheme, applicants and decision-makers should have regard to:

1. robust local evidence of need where available or, where this is not available, the range of housing need and demand identified by the 2017 London Strategic Housing Market Assessment
2. the requirement to deliver mixed and inclusive neighbourhoods
3. the need to deliver a range of unit types at different price points across London
4. the mix of uses in the scheme
5. the range of tenures in the scheme
6. the nature and location of the site, with a higher proportion of one and two bed units generally more appropriate in locations which are closer to a town centre or station or with higher public transport access and connectivity
7. the aim to optimise housing potential on sites
8. the ability of new development to reduce pressure on conversion, sub-division and amalgamation of existing stock
9. the need for additional family housing and the role of one and two bed units in freeing up existing family housing.

B For low-cost rent, boroughs should provide guidance on the size of units required (by number of bedrooms) to ensure affordable housing meets identified needs. This guidance should take account of:

1. evidence of local housing needs, including the local housing register and the numbers and types of overcrowded and under-occupying households
2. other criteria set out in Part A, including the strategic and local requirement for affordable family accommodation
3. the impact of welfare reform
4. the cost of delivering larger units and the availability of grant.

## **LP1 H1: Housing Growth**

The Council will meet and exceed its minimum strategic dwelling requirement, where this can be achieved, in accordance with other Local Plan policies.

The borough's current target is to provide an additional 4,250 dwellings, annualised as 425 dwellings per year, for the ten year period between 2011 and 2021.

Rolled forward to 2026, this target equates to a minimum provision of 6,375 dwellings over the period of the Hillingdon Local Plan: Part 1- Strategic Policies. Sites that will contribute to the achievement of this target will be identified in the Hillingdon Local Plan: Part 2- Site Specific Allocations Local Development Document (LDD).

## **LP2 DMH 1: Safeguarding Existing Housing**

A) The net loss of existing self-contained<sup>3</sup> housing, including affordable housing, will be resisted unless the housing is replaced with at least equivalent residential floorspace.

B) The Council will grant planning permission for the subdivision of dwellings only if:

- i) car parking standards can be met within the curtilage of the site without being detrimental to the street scene;
- ii) all units are self contained with exclusive use of sanitary and kitchen facilities and provided with individual entrances and internal staircases to serve units above ground floor level;
- iii) adequate amenity space is provided for the benefit of residents; and
- iv) adequate living space standards are met.

## **LP2 DMH 2: Housing Mix**

The Council will require the provision of a mix of housing units of different sizes in schemes of residential development to reflect the Council's latest information on housing need.

## **LP2 DMH 4: Residential Conversions and Redevelopment**

Residential conversions and the redevelopment of dwellings into new blocks of flats will only be permitted where:

- i) it is on a residential street where the proposal will not result in more than 10% of properties being redeveloped into flats;
- ii) On residential streets longer than 1km the proposed redevelopment site should be taken as the midpoint of a 1km length of road for assessment purposes;
- iii) the internal floor area of the original building to be converted is at least 120 sqm; and
- iv) units are limited to one unit per floor for residential conversions.

## **LP2 DMH 5: Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and Student Accommodation**

A) In all parts of the Borough

Proposals for the provision of large HMOs, residential hostels, student accommodation and secure accommodation will be required to demonstrate that:

- i) there is good accessibility to local amenities and public transport;
- ii) they accord with the Accessible Homes standards and provide satisfactory living conditions for the intended occupiers; and
- iii) there will be no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties or the character of the area.

B) In wards covered by an Article 4 Direction for HMOs

Planning applications for the change of use from dwelling house (Use Class C3) to HMO (Use Class C4 and Sui Generis) will only be permitted:

- i) where it is in a neighbourhood area where less than 20% of properties are or would be exempt from paying council tax (or in the case of Conservation Areas 10%) because they are entirely occupied by full time students, recorded on the Council's database as a licensed HMO, benefit from C4/Sui Generis HMO planning consent and are known to the Council to be HMOs;
- ii) in Conservation Areas where less than 10% of properties are exempt from paying council tax because they are entirely occupied by full time students, recorded on the Council's database as a licensed HMO, benefit from C4/Sui Generis HMO planning consent and are known to the Council to be HMOs and the change of use does not form a consecutive HMO use in a street frontage;
- iii) where less than 15% of properties within 100 metres of a street length either side of an application property are exempt from paying council tax because they are entirely occupied by full time students, recorded on the Council's database as a licensed HMO, benefit from C4/Sui Generis HMO planning consent and are known to the Council to be HMOs; and iv) where the accommodation complies with all other planning standards relating to car parking, waste storage, retention of amenity space and garages and will not have a detrimental impact upon the residential amenity of adjoining properties.

## **LP2 DMH 6: Garden and Backland Development**

There is a presumption against the loss of gardens due to the need to maintain local character, amenity space and biodiversity. In exceptional cases a limited scale of backland development may be acceptable, subject to the following criteria:

- i) neighbouring residential amenity and privacy of existing homes and gardens must be maintained and unacceptable light spillage avoided;
- ii) vehicular access or car parking should not have an adverse impact on neighbours in terms of noise or light. Access roads between dwellings and unnecessarily long access roads will not normally be acceptable;
- iii) development on backland sites must be more intimate in mass and scale and lower than frontage properties; and iv) features such as trees, shrubs and wildlife habitat must be retained or re-provided.

## **LP2 DMH 7: Provision of Affordable Housing**

A) In accordance with national policy:

- i) developments with a capacity to provide 10 or more units will be required to maximise the delivery of on-site affordable housing;
- ii) subject to viability and if appropriate in all circumstances, a minimum of 35% of all new homes on sites of 10 or more units should be delivered as affordable housing, with the tenure split 70% Social/Affordable Rent and 30% Intermediate as set out in Policy H2: Affordable Housing of the Local Plan Part 1.

B) Affordable housing should be built to the same standards and should share the same level of amenity as private housing.

C) Proposals that do not provide sufficient affordable housing will be resisted.

D) To ensure that Policy H2: Affordable Housing of the Local Plan Part 1 is applied consistently and fairly on all proposed housing developments, the requirement for affordable housing will apply to:

i) sites that are artificially sub-divided or partially developed;

ii) phased developments where a housing development is part of a much larger development of 10 or more units (gross), affordable housing will be required as part of the overall scheme; and iii) additional units created through or subsequently amended planning applications, whereby the amount of affordable housing required will be calculated based on the new total number of units on the site. Affordable housing will be required where a development under the 10 unit threshold is amended to have 10 or more housing units in total (gross).

E) In exceptional circumstances, where on-site provision of affordable housing cannot be delivered and as a last resort, a financial contribution will be required to provide off-site affordable housing on other sites which may be more appropriate or beneficial in meeting the Borough's identified affordable housing needs.

### **LP D3: Optimising site capacity through the design-led approach**

The design-led approach

A) All development must make the best use of land by following a design-led approach that optimises the capacity of sites, including site allocations. Optimising site capacity means ensuring that development is of the most appropriate form and land use for the site. The design-led approach requires consideration of design options to determine the most appropriate form of development that responds to a site's context and capacity for growth, and existing and planned supporting infrastructure capacity (as set out in Policy D2 Infrastructure requirements for sustainable densities), and that best delivers the requirements set out in Part D.

B) Higher density developments should generally be promoted in locations that are well connected to jobs, services, infrastructure and amenities by public transport, walking and cycling, in accordance with Policy D2 Infrastructure requirements for sustainable densities. Where these locations have existing areas of high density buildings, expansion of the areas should be positively considered by Boroughs where appropriate. This could also include expanding Opportunity Area boundaries where appropriate.

C) In other areas, incremental densification should be actively encouraged by Boroughs to achieve a change in densities in the most appropriate way. This should be interpreted in the context of Policy H2 Small sites.

#### D) Development proposals should:

##### Form and layout

1. enhance local context by delivering buildings and spaces that positively respond to local distinctiveness through their layout, orientation, scale, appearance and shape, with due regard to existing and emerging street hierarchy, building types, forms and proportions
2. encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes, crossing points, cycle parking, and legible entrances to buildings, that are aligned with peoples' movement patterns and desire lines in the area
3. be street-based with clearly defined public and private environments
4. facilitate efficient servicing and maintenance of buildings and the public realm, as well as deliveries, that minimise negative impacts on the environment, public realm and vulnerable road users

##### Experience

1. achieve safe, secure and inclusive environments
2. provide active frontages and positive reciprocal relationships between what happens inside the buildings and outside in the public realm to generate liveliness and interest
3. deliver appropriate outlook, privacy and amenity
4. provide conveniently located green and open spaces for social interaction, play, relaxation and physical activity
5. help prevent or mitigate the impacts of noise and poor air quality
6. achieve indoor and outdoor environments that are comfortable and inviting for people to use

##### Quality and character

1. respond to the existing character of a place by identifying the special and valued features and characteristics that are unique to the locality and respect, enhance and utilise the heritage assets and architectural features that contribute towards the local character
2. be of high quality, with architecture that pays attention to detail, and gives thorough consideration to the practicality of use, flexibility, safety and building lifespan through appropriate construction methods and the use of attractive, robust materials which weather and mature well
3. aim for high sustainability standards (with reference to the policies within London Plan Chapters 8 and 9) and take into account the principles of the circular economy
4. provide spaces and buildings that maximise opportunities for urban greening to create attractive resilient places that can also help the management of surface water.

E) Where development parameters for allocated sites have been set out in a Development Plan, development proposals that do not accord with the site capacity in a site allocation can be refused for this reason.

## **LP D5: Inclusive Design**

A) Boroughs, in preparing their Development Plans, should support the creation of inclusive neighbourhoods by embedding inclusive design, and collaborating with local communities in the development of planning policies that affect them.

B) Development proposal should achieve the highest standards of accessible and inclusive design. They should:

1. be designed taking into account London's diverse population
2. provide high quality people focused spaces that are designed to facilitate social interaction and inclusion
3. be convenient and welcoming with no disabling barriers, providing independent access without additional undue effort, separation or special treatment
4. be able to be entered, used and exited safely, easily and with dignity for all
5. be designed to incorporate safe and dignified emergency evacuation for all building users. In all developments where lifts are installed, as a minimum at least one lift per core (or more subject to capacity assessments) should be a suitably sized fire evacuation lift suitable to be used to evacuate people who require level access from the building.

C) Design and Access Statements, submitted as part of development proposals, should include an inclusive design statement.

## **LP D7: Accessible Housing**

A) To provide suitable housing and genuine choice for London's diverse population, including disabled people, older people and families with young children, residential development must ensure that:

1. at least 10 per cent of dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'
2. all other dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings'.

## **LP D8: Public Realm**

Development Plans and development proposals should:

A) encourage and explore opportunities to create new public realm where appropriate

B) ensure the public realm is well-designed, safe, accessible, inclusive, attractive, well-connected, related to the local and historic context, and easy to understand, service and maintain. Landscape treatment, planting, street furniture and surface materials should be of good quality, fit-for-purpose, durable and sustainable. Lighting, including for advertisements, should be carefully considered and well-

designed in order to minimise intrusive lighting infrastructure and reduce light pollution

C) maximise the contribution that the public realm makes to encourage active travel and ensure its design discourages travel by car and excessive on-street parking, which can obstruct people's safe enjoyment of the space. This includes design that reduces the impact of traffic noise and encourages appropriate vehicle speeds

D) be based on an understanding of how the public realm in an area functions and creates a sense of place during different times of the day and night, days of the week and times of the year. In particular, they should demonstrate an understanding of how people use the public realm, and the types, location and relationship between public spaces in an area, identifying where there are deficits for certain activities, or barriers to movement that create severance for pedestrians and cyclists

E) ensure both the movement function of the public realm and its function as a place are provided for and that the balance of space and time given to each reflects the individual characteristics of the area. The priority modes of travel for the area should be identified and catered for, as appropriate. Desire lines for people walking and cycling should be a particular focus, including the placement of street crossings, which should be regular, convenient and accessible

F) ensure there is a mutually supportive relationship between the space, surrounding buildings and their uses, so that the public realm enhances the amenity and function of buildings and the design of buildings contributes to a vibrant public realm

G) ensure buildings are of a design that activates and defines the public realm, and provides natural surveillance. Consideration should also be given to the local microclimate created by buildings, and the impact of service entrances and facades on the public realm

H) ensure appropriate management and maintenance arrangements are in place for the public realm, which maximise public access and minimise rules governing the space to those required for its safe management in accordance with the Public London Charter

I) incorporate green infrastructure such as street trees and other vegetation into the public realm to support rainwater management through sustainable drainage, reduce exposure to air pollution, moderate surface and air temperature and increase biodiversity

J) ensure that appropriate shade, shelter, seating and, where possible, areas of direct sunlight are provided, with other microclimatic considerations, including temperature and wind, taken into account in order to encourage people to spend time in a place



K) ensure that street clutter, including street furniture that is poorly located, unsightly, in poor condition or without a clear function is removed, to ensure that pedestrian amenity is improved. Consideration should be given to the use, design and location of street furniture so that it complements the use and function of the space. Applications which seek to introduce unnecessary street furniture should be refused

L) explore opportunities for innovative approaches to improving the public realm such as open street events and Play Streets

M) create an engaging public realm for people of all ages, with opportunities for social activities, formal and informal play and social interaction during the daytime, evening and at night. This should include identifying opportunities for the meanwhile use of sites in early phases of development to create temporary public realm

N) ensure that any on-street parking is designed so that it is not dominant or continuous, and that there is space for green infrastructure as well as cycle parking in the carriageway. Parking should not obstruct pedestrian lines

O) ensure the provision and future management of free drinking water at appropriate locations in the new or redeveloped public realm.

#### **LP D12: Fire Safety**

A) In the interests of fire safety and to ensure the safety of all building users, all development proposals must achieve the highest standards of fire safety and ensure that they:

1. identify suitably positioned unobstructed outside space:
  - a - for fire appliances to be positioned on
  - b - appropriate for use as an evacuation assembly point
2. are designed to incorporate appropriate features which reduce the risk to life and the risk of serious injury in the event of a fire; including appropriate fire alarm systems and passive and active fire safety measures
3. are constructed in an appropriate way to minimise the risk of fire spread
4. provide suitable and convenient means of escape, and associated evacuation strategy for all building users
5. develop a robust strategy for evacuation which can be periodically updated and published, and which all building users can have confidence in
6. provide suitable access and equipment for firefighting which is appropriate for the size and use of the development.

B) All major development proposals should be submitted with a Fire Statement, which is an independent fire strategy, produced by a third party, suitably qualified assessor.

The statement should detail how the development proposal will function in terms of:

1. the building's construction: methods, products and materials used, including manufacturers' details

2. the means of escape for all building users: suitably designed stair cores, escape for building users who are disabled or require level access, and associated evacuation strategy approach
3. features which reduce the risk to life: fire alarm systems, passive and active fire safety measures and associated management and maintenance plans
4. access for fire service personnel and equipment: how this will be achieved in an evacuation situation, water supplies, provision and positioning of equipment, firefighting lifts, stairs and lobbies, any fire suppression and smoke ventilation systems proposed, and the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of these
5. how provision will be made within the curtilage of the site to enable fire appliances to gain access to the building
6. ensuring that any potential future modifications to the building will take into account and not compromise the base build fire safety/protection measures.

### **LP HC1: Heritage Conservation and Growth**

A) Boroughs should, in consultation with Historic England, local communities and other statutory and relevant organisations, develop evidence that demonstrates a clear understanding of London's historic environment. This evidence should be used for identifying, understanding, conserving, and enhancing the historic environment and heritage assets, and improving access to, and interpretation of, the heritage assets, landscapes and archaeology within their area.

B) Development Plans and strategies should demonstrate a clear understanding of the historic environment and the heritage values of sites or areas and their relationship with their surroundings. This knowledge should be used to inform the effective integration of London's heritage in regenerative change by:

1. setting out a clear vision that recognises and embeds the role of heritage in place-making
2. utilising the heritage significance of a site or area in the planning and design process
3. integrating the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their settings with innovative and creative contextual architectural responses that contribute to their significance and sense of place
4. delivering positive benefits that conserve and enhance the historic environment, as well as contributing to the economic viability, accessibility and environmental quality of a place, and to social wellbeing.

C) Development proposals affecting heritage assets, and their settings, should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to the assets' significance and appreciation within their surroundings. The cumulative impacts of incremental change from development on heritage assets and their settings should also be actively managed. Development proposals should avoid harm and identify enhancement opportunities by integrating heritage considerations early on in the design process.

D) Development proposals should identify assets of archaeological significance and use this information to avoid harm or minimise it through design and appropriate mitigation. Where applicable, development should make provision for the protection of significant archaeological assets and landscapes. The protection of undesignated heritage assets of archaeological interest equivalent to a scheduled monument should be given equivalent weight to designated heritage assets.

E) Where heritage assets have been identified as being At Risk, boroughs should identify specific opportunities for them to contribute to regeneration and place-making, and they should set out strategies for their repair and re-use.

## **LP G7: Trees and Woodlands**

A) London's urban forest and woodlands should be protected and maintained, and new trees and woodlands should be planted in appropriate locations in order to increase the extent of London's urban forest – the area of London under the canopy of trees.

B) In their Development Plans, boroughs should:

1. protect 'veteran' trees and ancient woodland where these are not already part of a protected site<sup>139</sup>
2. identify opportunities for tree planting in strategic locations.

C) Development proposals should ensure that, wherever possible, existing trees of value are retained.<sup>140</sup> If planning permission is granted that necessitates the removal of trees there should be adequate replacement based on the existing value of the benefits of the trees removed, determined by, for example, i-tree or CAVAT or another appropriate valuation system. The planting of additional trees should generally be included in new developments – particularly large-canopied species which provide a wider range of benefits because of the larger surface area of their canopy.

## **LP 1 BE1: Built Environment**

The Council will require all new development to improve and maintain the quality of the built environment in order to create successful and sustainable neighbourhoods, where people enjoy living and working and that serve the long-term needs of all residents. All new developments should:

1. Achieve a high quality of design in all new buildings, alterations, extensions and the public realm which enhances the local distinctiveness of the area, contributes to community cohesion and a sense of place;
2. Be designed to be appropriate to the identity and context of Hillingdon's buildings, townscapes, landscapes and views, and make a positive contribution to the local

area in terms of layout, form, scale and materials and seek to protect the amenity of surrounding land and buildings, particularly residential properties;

3. Be designed to include “Lifetime Homes” principles so that they can be readily adapted to meet the needs of those with disabilities and the elderly, 10% of these should be wheelchair accessible or easily adaptable to wheelchair accessibility encouraging places of work and leisure, streets, neighbourhoods, parks and open spaces to be designed to meet the needs of the community at all stages of people’s lives;

4. In the case of 10 dwellings or over, achieve a satisfactory assessment rating in terms of the latest Building for Life standards (as amended or replaced from time to time);

5. Improve areas of poorer environmental quality, including within the areas of relative disadvantage of Hayes, Yiewsley and West Drayton. All regeneration schemes should ensure that they are appropriate to their historic context, make use of heritage assets and reinforce their significance;

6. Incorporate a clear network of routes that are easy to understand, inclusive, safe, secure and connect positively with interchanges, public transport, community facilities and services;

7. Improve the quality of the public realm and provide for public and private spaces that are attractive, safe, functional, diverse, sustainable, accessible to all, respect the local character and landscape, integrate with the development, enhance and protect biodiversity through the inclusion of living walls, roofs and areas for wildlife, encourage physical activity and where appropriate introduce public art;

8. Create safe and secure environments that reduce crime and fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and risks from fire and arson having regard to Secure by Design standards and address resilience to terrorism in major development proposals;

9. Not result in the inappropriate development of gardens and green spaces that erode the character and biodiversity of suburban areas and increase the risk of flooding through the loss of permeable areas;

10. Maximise the opportunities for all new homes to contribute to tackling and adapting to climate change and reducing emissions of local air quality pollutants. The Council will require all new development to achieve reductions in carbon dioxide emission in line with the London Plan targets through energy efficient design and effective use of low and zero carbon technologies. Where the required reduction from on-site renewable energy is not feasible within major developments, contributions off-site will be sought. The Council will seek to merge a suite of sustainable design goals, such as the use of SUDS, water efficiency, lifetime homes, and energy efficiency into a requirement measured against the Code for Sustainable

Homes and BREEAM. These will be set out within the Hillingdon Local Plan: Part 2- Development Management Policies Local Development Document (LDD). All developments should be designed to make the most efficient use of natural resources whilst safeguarding historic assets, their settings and local amenity and include sustainable design and construction techniques to increase the re-use and recycling of construction, demolition and excavation waste and reduce the amount disposed to landfill;

11. In the case of tall buildings, not adversely affect their surroundings including the local character, cause harm to the significance of heritage assets or impact on important views. Appropriate locations for tall buildings will be defined on a Character Study and may include parts of Uxbridge and Hayes subject to considering the Obstacle Limitation Surfaces for Heathrow Airport. Outside of Uxbridge and Hayes town centres, tall buildings will not be supported. The height of all buildings should be based upon an understanding of the local character and be appropriate to the positive qualities of the surrounding townscape. Support will be given for proposals that are consistent with local strategies, guidelines, supplementary planning documents and Hillingdon Local Plan: Part 2- Development Management Policies.

## **LP2 DMHB 1: Heritage Assets**

A) The Council will expect development proposals to avoid harm to the historic environment. Development that has an effect on heritage assets will only be supported where:

- i) it sustains and enhances the significance of the heritage asset and puts them into viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- ii) it will not lead to a loss of significance or harm to an asset, unless it can be demonstrated that it will provide public benefit that would outweigh the harm or loss, in accordance with the NPPF;
- iii) it makes a positive contribution to the local character and distinctiveness of the area;
- iv) any extensions or alterations are designed in sympathy, without detracting from or competing with the heritage asset;
- v) the proposal would relate appropriately in terms of siting, style, scale, massing, height, design and materials;
- vi) buildings and structures within the curtilage of a heritage asset, or in close proximity to it, do not compromise its setting; and
- vii) opportunities are taken to conserve or enhance the setting, so that the significance of the asset can be appreciated more readily.

B) Development proposals affecting designated heritage assets need to take account of the effects of climate change and renewable energy without impacting negatively on the heritage asset. The Council may require an alternative solution which will protect the asset yet meet the sustainability objectives of the Local Plan.

C) The Council will seek to secure the repair and reuse of Listed Buildings and monuments and improvements to Conservation Areas on the Heritage at Risk Register, through negotiations with owners, the provision of advice and guidance, the use of appropriate legal action, and through bids for external funding for improvement works.

## **LP2 DMHB 2: Listed Buildings**

A) Applications for Listed Building Consent and planning permission to alter, extend, or change the use of a statutorily Listed Building will only be permitted if they are considered to retain its significance and value and are appropriate in terms of the fabric, historic integrity, spatial quality and layout of the building. Any additions or alterations to a Listed Building should be sympathetic in terms of scale, proportion, detailed design, materials and workmanship.

B) Applications should include a Heritage Statement that demonstrates a clear understanding of the importance of the building and the impact of the proposals on its significance.

C) The substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a statutory Listed Building will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances when the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable use of the building, no viable use can be found through marketing, grant-funding or charitable or public ownership and the loss is outweighed by bringing the site back into use. In such circumstances, full archaeological recording of the building will be required.

D) Planning permission will not be granted for proposals which are considered detrimental to the setting of a Listed Building.

## **LP2 DMHB 3: Locally Listed Buildings**

A) There is a general presumption in favour of the retention of buildings, structures and features included in the Local List. The Council will take into account the effect of a proposal on the building's significance and the scale of any harm of loss when considering planning applications, including those for major alterations and extensions. Proposals will be permitted where they retain the significance, appearance, character or setting of a Locally Listed Building.

B) Applications should include a Heritage Statement that demonstrates a clear understanding of the importance of the structure and the impact of the proposals on the significance of the Locally Listed Building.

C) Replacement will only be considered if it can be demonstrated that the community benefits of such a proposal significantly outweigh those of retaining the Locally Listed Building.

## **LP2 DMHB 4: Conservation Areas**

New development, including alterations and extensions to existing buildings, within a Conservation Area or on its fringes, will be expected to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area. It should sustain and enhance its significance and make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. In order to achieve this, the Council will:

A) Require proposals for new development, including any signage or advertisement, to be of a high quality contextual design. Proposals should exploit opportunities to restore any lost features and/or introduce new ones that would enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

B) Resist the loss of buildings, historic street patterns, important views, landscape and open spaces or other features that make a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the Conservation Area; any such loss will need to be supported with a robust justification.

C) Proposals will be required to support the implementation of improvement actions set out in relevant Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans.

## **LP2 DMHB 5: Areas of Special Local Character**

A) Within Areas of Special Local Character, new development should reflect the character of the area and its original layout. Alterations should respect the established scale, building lines, height, design and materials of the area.

B) Extensions to dwellings should be subservient to, and respect the architectural style of the original buildings and allow sufficient space for appropriate landscaping, particularly between, and in front of, buildings.

C) The replacement of buildings which positively contribute to the character and local importance of Areas of Special Local Character will normally be resisted.

## **LP2 DMHB 11: Design of New Development**

A) All development, including extensions, alterations and new buildings will be required to be designed to the highest standards and, incorporate principles of good design including:

- i) harmonising with the local context by taking into account the surrounding:
  - scale of development, considering the height, mass and bulk of adjacent structures;
  - building plot sizes and widths, plot coverage and established street patterns;
  - building lines and setbacks, rooflines, streetscape rhythm, for example, gaps between structures and other streetscape elements, such as degree of enclosure;
  - architectural composition and quality of detailing;
  - local topography, views both from and to the site; and

- impact on neighbouring open spaces and their environment.
- ii) ensuring the use of high quality building materials and finishes;
- iii) ensuring that the internal design and layout of development maximises sustainability and is adaptable to different activities;
- iv) protecting features of positive value within and adjacent to the site, including the safeguarding of heritage assets, designated and un-designated, and their settings; and
- v) landscaping and tree planting to protect and enhance amenity, biodiversity and green infrastructure.

B) Development proposals should not adversely impact on the amenity, daylight and sunlight of adjacent properties and open space.

C) Development will be required to ensure that the design safeguards the satisfactory re-development of any adjoining sites which have development potential. In the case of proposals for major development<sup>5</sup> sites, the Council will expect developers to prepare master plans and design codes and to agree these with the Council before developing detailed designs.

D) Development proposals should make sufficient provision for well designed internal and external storage space for general, recycling and organic waste, with suitable access for collection. External bins should be located and screened to avoid nuisance and adverse visual impacts to occupiers and neighbours.

## **LP2 DMHB 12: Streets and Public Realm**

A) Development should be well integrated with the surrounding area and accessible. It should:

- i) improve legibility and promote routes and wayfinding between the development and local amenities;
- ii) ensure public realm design takes account of the established townscape character and quality of the surrounding area;
- iii) include landscaping treatment that is suitable for the location, serves a purpose, contributes to local green infrastructure, the appearance of the area and ease of movement through the space;
- iv) provide safe and direct pedestrian and cycle movement through the space;
- v) incorporate appropriate and robust hard landscaping, using good quality materials, undertaken to a high standard;
- vi) where appropriate, include the installation of public art; and
- vii) deliver proposals which incorporate the principles of inclusive design. Proposals for gated developments will be resisted.

B) Public realm improvements will be sought from developments located close to transport interchanges and community facilities to ensure easy access between different transport modes and into local community facilities.



## **LP2 DMHB 14: Trees and Landscaping**

A) All developments will be expected to retain or enhance existing landscaping, trees, biodiversity or other natural features of merit.

B) Development proposals will be required to provide a landscape scheme that includes hard and soft landscaping appropriate to the character of the area, which supports and enhances biodiversity and amenity particularly in areas deficient in green infrastructure.

C) Where space for ground level planting is limited, such as high rise buildings, the inclusion of living walls and roofs will be expected where feasible.

D) Planning applications for proposals that would affect existing trees will be required to provide an accurate tree survey showing the location, height, spread and species of trees. Where the tree survey identifies trees of merit, tree root protection areas and an arboricultural method statement will be required to show how the trees will be protected. Where trees are to be removed, proposals for replanting of new trees on-site must be provided or include contributions to offsite provision.

## **LP2 DMHB 15: Planning for Safer Places**

The Council will require all new development to ensure safe and attractive public and private spaces by referring to the Council's latest guidance on Secured by Design principles. Where relevant, these should be included in the Design and Access Statement. Development will be required to comprise good design and create inclusive environments whilst improving safety and security by incorporating the following specific measures:

- i) providing entrances in visible, safe and accessible locations;
- ii) maximising natural surveillance;
- iii) ensuring adequate defensible space is provided;
- iv) providing clear delineations between public and private spaces; and
- v) providing appropriate lighting and CCTV.

## **LP D13: Agent of Change**

A) The Agent of Change principle places the responsibility for mitigating impacts from existing noise and other nuisance-generating activities or uses on the proposed new noise-sensitive development. Boroughs should ensure that Development Plans and planning decisions reflect the Agent of Change principle and take account of existing noise and other nuisance-generating uses in a sensitive manner when new development is proposed nearby.

B) Development should be designed to ensure that established noise and other nuisance-generating uses remain viable and can continue or grow without unreasonable restrictions being placed on them.

C) New noise and other nuisance-generating development proposed close to residential and other noise-sensitive uses should put in place measures to mitigate and manage any noise impacts for neighbouring residents and businesses.

D) Development proposals should manage noise and other potential nuisances by:

1. ensuring good design mitigates and minimises existing and potential nuisances generated by existing uses and activities located in the area
2. exploring mitigation measures early in the design stage, with necessary and appropriate provisions including ongoing and future management of mitigation measures secured through planning obligations
3. separating new noise-sensitive development where possible from existing noise-generating businesses and uses through distance, screening, internal layout, sound-proofing, insulation and other acoustic design measures.

E) Boroughs should not normally permit development proposals that have not clearly demonstrated how noise and other nuisances will be mitigated and managed.

#### **LP D14: Noise**

A) In order to reduce, manage and mitigate noise to improve health and quality of life, residential and other non-aviation development proposals should manage noise by:

1. avoiding significant adverse noise impacts on health and quality of life
2. reflecting the Agent of Change principle as set out in Policy D13 Agent of Change
3. mitigating and minimising the existing and potential adverse impacts of noise on, from, within, as a result of, or in the vicinity of new development without placing unreasonable restrictions on existing noise-generating uses
4. improving and enhancing the acoustic environment and promoting appropriate
5. separating new noise-sensitive development from major noise sources (such as road, rail, air transport and some types of industrial use) through the use of distance, screening, layout, orientation, uses and materials – in preference to sole reliance on sound insulation
6. where it is not possible to achieve separation of noise-sensitive development and noise sources without undue impact on other sustainable development objectives, then any potential adverse effects should be controlled and mitigated through applying good acoustic design principles
7. promoting new technologies and improved practices to reduce noise at source, and on the transmission path from source to receiver.

B) Boroughs, and others with relevant responsibilities, should identify and nominate new Quiet Areas and protect existing Quiet Areas in line with the procedure in Defra's Noise Action Plan for Agglomerations.

## **LP SI 2: Minimising Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

A) Major development should be net zero-carbon.<sup>151</sup> This means reducing greenhouse gas emissions in operation and minimising both annual and peak energy demand in accordance with the following energy hierarchy:

1. be lean: use less energy and manage demand during operation
2. be clean: exploit local energy resources (such as secondary heat) and supply energy efficiently and cleanly
3. be green: maximise opportunities for renewable energy by producing, storing and using renewable energy on-site
4. be seen: monitor, verify and report on energy performance.

B) Major development proposals should include a detailed energy strategy to demonstrate how the zero-carbon target will be met within the framework of the energy hierarchy.

C) A minimum on-site reduction of at least 35 per cent beyond Building Regulations<sup>152</sup> is required for major development. Residential development should achieve 10 per cent, and non-residential development should achieve 15 per cent through energy efficiency measures. Where it is clearly demonstrated that the zero-carbon target cannot be fully achieved on-site, any shortfall should be provided, in agreement with the borough, either:

1. through a cash in lieu contribution to the borough's carbon offset fund, or
2. off-site provided that an alternative proposal is identified and delivery is certain.

D) Boroughs must establish and administer a carbon offset fund. Offset fund payments must be ring-fenced to implement projects that deliver carbon reductions. The operation of offset funds should be monitored and reported on annually.

E) Major development proposals should calculate and minimise carbon emissions from any other part of the development, including plant or equipment, that are not covered by Building Regulations, i.e. unregulated emissions.

F) Development proposals referable to the Mayor should calculate whole life-cycle carbon emissions through a nationally recognised Whole Life-Cycle Carbon Assessment and demonstrate actions taken to reduce life-cycle carbon emissions.

## **LP SI 12: Flood Risk Management**

A) Current and expected flood risk from all sources (as defined in paragraph 9.2.12) across London should be managed in a sustainable and cost-effective way in collaboration with the Environment Agency, the Lead Local Flood Authorities, developers and infrastructure providers.

B) Development Plans should use the Mayor's Regional Flood Risk Appraisal and their Strategic Flood Risk Assessment as well as Local Flood Risk Management

Strategies, where necessary, to identify areas where particular and cumulative flood risk issues exist and develop actions and policy approaches aimed at reducing these risks. Boroughs should cooperate and jointly address cross-boundary flood risk issues including with authorities outside London.

C) Development proposals should ensure that flood risk is minimised and mitigated, and that residual risk is addressed. This should include, where possible, making space for water and aiming for development to be set back from the banks of watercourses.

D) Developments Plans and development proposals should contribute to the delivery of the measures set out in Thames Estuary 2100 Plan. The Mayor will work with the Environment Agency and relevant local planning authorities, including authorities outside London, to safeguard an appropriate location for a new Thames Barrier.

E) Development proposals for utility services should be designed to remain operational under flood conditions and buildings should be designed for quick recovery following a flood.

F) Development proposals adjacent to flood defences will be required to protect the integrity of flood defences and allow access for future maintenance and upgrading. Unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated for not doing so, development proposals should be set back from flood defences to allow for any foreseeable future maintenance and upgrades in a sustainable and cost-effective way.

G) Natural flood management methods should be employed in development proposals due to their multiple benefits including increasing flood storage and creating recreational areas and habitat.

### **LP SI 13: Sustainable Drainage**

A) Lead Local Flood Authorities should identify – through their Local Flood Risk Management Strategies and Surface Water Management Plans – areas where there are particular surface water management issues and aim to reduce these risks. Increases in surface water run-off outside these areas also need to be identified and addressed.

B) Development proposals should aim to achieve greenfield run-off rates and ensure that surface water run-off is managed as close to its source as possible. There should also be a preference for green over grey features, in line with the following drainage hierarchy:

1. rainwater use as a resource (for example rainwater harvesting, blue roofs for irrigation)
2. rainwater infiltration to ground at or close to source
3. rainwater attenuation in green infrastructure features for gradual release (for example green roofs, rain gardens)

4. rainwater discharge direct to a watercourse (unless not appropriate)
5. controlled rainwater discharge to a surface water sewer or drain
6. controlled rainwater discharge to a combined sewer.

C) Development proposals for impermeable surfacing should normally be resisted unless they can be shown to be unavoidable, including on small surfaces such as front gardens and driveways.

D) Drainage should be designed and implemented in ways that promote multiple benefits including increased water use efficiency, improved water quality, and enhanced biodiversity, urban greening, amenity and recreation.

### **LP1 EM6: Flood Risk Management**

The Council will require new development to be directed away from Flood Zones 2 and 3 in accordance with the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The subsequent Hillingdon Local Plan: Part 2 -Site Specific Allocations LDD will be subjected to the Sequential Test in accordance with the NPPF. Sites will only be allocated within Flood Zones 2 or 3 where there are overriding issues that outweigh flood risk. In these instances, policy criteria will be set requiring future applicants of these sites to demonstrate that flood risk can be suitably mitigated.

The Council will require all development across the borough to use sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) unless demonstrated that it is not viable. The Council will encourage SUDS to be linked to water efficiency methods. The Council may require developer contributions to guarantee the long term maintenance and performance of SUDS is to an appropriate standard.

### **LP1 EM8: Land, Water, Air and Noise**

#### **Water Quality**

The Council will seek to safeguard and improve all water quality, both ground and surface. Principal Aquifers, and Source Protection Zones will be given priority along with the:

- River Colne
- Grand Union Canal
- River Pinn
- Yeading Brook
- Porter Land Brook
- River Crane
- Ruislip Lido

## Air Quality

All development should not cause deterioration in the local air quality levels and should ensure the protection of both existing and new sensitive receptors.

All major development within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) should demonstrate air quality neutrality (no worsening of impacts) where appropriate; actively contribute to the promotion of sustainable transport measures such as vehicle charging points and the increased provision for vehicles with cleaner transport fuels; deliver increased planting through soft landscaping and living walls and roofs; and provide a management plan for ensuring air quality impacts can be kept to a minimum.

The Council seeks to reduce the levels of pollutants referred to in the Government's National Air Quality Strategy and will have regard to the Mayor's Air Quality Strategy. London Boroughs should also take account of the findings of the Air Quality Review and Assessments and Actions plans, in particular where Air Quality Management Areas have been designated.

The Council has a network of Air Quality Monitoring stations but recognises that this can be widened to improve understanding of air quality impacts. The Council may therefore require new major development in an AQMA to fund additional air quality monitoring stations to assist in managing air quality improvements.

## Noise

The Council will investigate Hillingdon's target areas identified in the Defra Noise Action Plans, promote the maximum possible reduction in noise levels and will minimise the number of people potentially affected.

The Council will seek to identify and protect Quiet Areas in accordance with Government Policy on sustainable development and other Local Plan policies.

The Council will seek to ensure that noise sensitive development and noise generating development are only permitted if noise impacts can be adequately controlled and mitigated.

## Land Contamination

The Council will expect proposals for development on contaminated land to provide mitigation strategies that reduce the impacts on surrounding land uses. Major development proposals will be expected to demonstrate a sustainable approach to remediation that includes techniques to reduce the need to landfill.

## Water Resources

The Council will require that all new development demonstrates the incorporation of water efficiency measures within new development to reduce the rising demand on potable water. All new development must incorporate water recycling and collection facilities unless it can be demonstrated it is not appropriate. For residential

developments, the Council will require applicants to demonstrate that water consumption will not surpass 105 litres per person per day.

## **LP2 DMEI 2: Reducing Carbon Emissions**

- A) All developments are required to make the fullest contribution to minimising carbon dioxide emissions in accordance with London Plan targets.
- B) All major development proposals must be accompanied by an energy assessment showing how these reductions will be achieved.
- C) Proposals that fail to take reasonable steps to achieve the required savings will be resisted. However, where it is clearly demonstrated that the targets for carbon emissions cannot be met onsite, the Council may approve the application and seek an off-site contribution to make up for the shortfall.

## **LP2 DMEI 9: Management of Flood Risk**

- A) Development proposals in Flood Zones 2 and 3a will be required to demonstrate that there are no suitable sites available in areas of lower flood risk. Where no appropriate sites are available, development should be located on the areas of lowest flood risk within the site. Flood defences should provide protection for the lifetime of the development. Finished floor levels should reflect the Environment Agency's latest guidance on climate change.
- B) Development proposals in these areas will be required to submit an appropriate level Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) to demonstrate that the development is resilient to all sources of flooding.
- C) Development in Flood Zone 3b will be refused in principle unless identified as an appropriate development in Flood Risk Planning Policy Guidance. Development for appropriate uses in Flood Zone 3b will only be approved if accompanied by an appropriate FRA that demonstrates the development will be resistant and resilient to flooding and suitable warning and evacuation methods are in place.
- D) Developments may be required to make contributions (through legal agreements) to previously identified flood improvement works that will benefit the development site.
- E) Proposals that fail to make appropriate provision for flood risk mitigation, or which would increase the risk or consequences of flooding, will be refused.

## **LP2 DMEI 10: Water Management, Efficiency, and Quality**

- A) Applications for all new build developments (not conversions, change of use, or refurbishment) are required to include a drainage assessment demonstrating that

appropriate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) have been incorporated in accordance with the London Plan Hierarchy (Policy 5.13: Sustainable drainage).

B) All major new build developments, as well as minor developments in Critical Drainage Areas or an area identified at risk from surface water flooding must be designed to reduce surface water run-off rates to no higher than the pre-development greenfield run-off rate in a 1:100 year storm scenario, plus an appropriate allowance for climate change for the worst storm duration. The assessment is required regardless of the changes in impermeable areas and the fact that a site has an existing high run-off rate will not constitute justification.

C) Rain Gardens and non householder development should be designed to reduce surface water run-off rates to Greenfield run-off rates.

D) Schemes for the use of SuDS must be accompanied by adequate arrangements for the management and maintenance of the measures used, with appropriate contributions made to the Council where necessary.

E) Proposals that would fail to make adequate provision for the control and reduction of surface water run-off rates will be refused.

F) Developments should be drained by a SuDS system and must include appropriate methods to avoid pollution of the water environment. Preference should be given to utilising the drainage options in the SuDS hierarchy which remove the key pollutants that hinder improving water quality in Hillingdon. Major development should adopt a 'treatment train' approach where water flows through different SuDS to ensure resilience in the system. Water Efficiency

G) All new development proposals (including refurbishments and conversions) will be required to include water efficiency measures, including the collection and reuse of rain water and grey water.

H) All new residential development should demonstrate water usage rates of no more than 105 litres/person/day.

I) It is expected that major development proposals will provide an integrated approach to surface water run-off attenuation, water collection, recycling and reuse. Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

J) All new development proposals will be required to demonstrate that there is sufficient capacity in the water and wastewater infrastructure network to support the proposed development. Where there is a capacity constraint the local planning authority will require the developer to provide a detailed water and/or drainage strategy to inform what infrastructure is required, where, when and how it will be delivered.



## **LP2 DMEI 12: Development of Land Affected by Contamination**

A) Proposals for development on potentially contaminated sites will be expected to be accompanied by at least an initial study of the likely contaminants. The Council will support planning permission for any development of land which is affected by contamination where it can be demonstrated that contamination issues have been adequately assessed and the site can be safely remediated so that the development can be made suitable for the proposed use.

B) Conditions will be imposed where planning permission is given for development on land affected by contamination to ensure all the necessary remedial works are implemented, prior to commencement of development.

C) Where initial studies reveal potentially harmful levels of contamination, either to human health or controlled waters and other environmental features, full intrusive ground investigations and remediation proposals will be expected prior to any approvals.

D) In some instances, where remedial works relate to an agreed set of measures such as the management of ongoing remedial systems, or remediation of adjoining or other affected land, a S106 planning obligation will be sought.

## **LP2 DMEI 14: Air Quality**

A) Development proposals should demonstrate appropriate reductions in emissions to sustain compliance with and contribute towards meeting EU limit values and national air quality objectives for pollutants.

B) Development proposals should, as a minimum:

- i) be at least “air quality neutral”;
- ii) include sufficient mitigation to ensure there is no unacceptable risk from air pollution to sensitive receptors, both existing and new; and
- iii) actively contribute towards the improvement of air quality, especially within the Air Quality Management Area.

## **TP T4: Assessing and Mitigating Transport Impacts**

A) Development Plans and development proposals should reflect and be integrated with current and planned transport access, capacity and connectivity.

B) When required in accordance with national or local guidance, transport assessments/statements should be submitted with development proposals to ensure that impacts on the capacity of the transport network (including impacts on pedestrians and the cycle network), at the local, network-wide and strategic level, are fully assessed. Transport assessments should focus on embedding the Healthy Streets Approach within, and in the vicinity of, new development. Travel Plans,

Parking Design and Management Plans, Construction Logistics Plans and Delivery and Servicing Plans will be required having regard to Transport for London guidance.

C) Where appropriate, mitigation, either through direct provision of public transport, walking and cycling facilities and highways improvements or through financial contributions, will be required to address adverse transport impacts that are identified.

D) Where the ability to absorb increased travel demand through active travel modes has been exhausted, existing public transport capacity is insufficient to allow for the travel generated by proposed developments, and no firm plans and funding exist for an increase in capacity to cater for the increased demand, planning permission will be contingent on the provision of necessary public transport and active travel infrastructure.

E) The cumulative impacts of development on public transport and the road network capacity including walking and cycling, as well as associated effects on public health, should be taken into account and mitigated.

F) Development proposals should not increase road danger.

## **LP T5: Cycling**

A) Development Plans and development proposals should help remove barriers to cycling and create a healthy environment in which people choose to cycle. This will be achieved through:

1. supporting the delivery of a London-wide network of cycle routes, with new routes and improved infrastructure
2. securing the provision of appropriate levels of cycle parking which should be fit for purpose, secure and well-located. Developments should provide cycle parking at least in accordance with the minimum standards set out in Table 10.2 and Figure 10.3, ensuring that a minimum of two short-stay and two long-stay cycle parking spaces are provided where the application of the minimum standards would result in a lower provision.

B) Cycle parking should be designed and laid out in accordance with the guidance contained in the London Cycling Design Standards. Development proposals should demonstrate how cycle parking facilities will cater for larger cycles, including adapted cycles for disabled people.

C) Development Plans requiring more generous provision of cycle parking based on local evidence will be supported.

D) Where it is not possible to provide suitable short-stay cycle parking off the public highway, the borough should work with stakeholders to identify an appropriate on-street location for the required provision. This may mean the reallocation of space

from other uses such as on-street car parking. Alternatively, in town centres, adding the required provision to general town centre cycle parking is also acceptable. In such cases, a commuted sum should be paid to the local authority to secure provision.

E) Where it is not possible to provide adequate cycle parking within residential developments, boroughs must work with developers to propose alternative solutions which meet the objectives of the standards. These may include options such as providing spaces in secure, conveniently-located, on-street parking facilities such as bicycle hangers.

F) Where the use class of a development is not fixed at the point of application, the highest potential applicable cycle parking standard should be applied.

### **LP T6: Car Parking**

A) Car parking should be restricted in line with levels of existing and future public transport accessibility and connectivity.

B) Car-free development should be the starting point for all development proposals in places that are (or are planned to be) well-connected by public transport, with developments elsewhere designed to provide the minimum necessary parking ('car-lite'). Car-free development has no general parking but should still provide disabled persons parking in line with Part E of this policy.

C) An absence of local on-street parking controls should not be a barrier to new development, and boroughs should look to implement these controls wherever necessary to allow existing residents to maintain safe and efficient use of their streets.

D) The maximum car parking standards set out in Policy T6 .1 Residential parking to Policy T6 .5 Non-residential disabled persons parking should be applied to development proposals and used to set local standards within Development Plans.

E) Appropriate disabled persons parking for Blue Badge holders should be provided as set out in Policy T6 .1 Residential parking to Policy T6 .5 Non-residential disabled persons parking.

F) Where provided, each motorcycle parking space should count towards the maximum for car parking spaces at all use classes.

G) Where car parking is provided in new developments, provision should be made for infrastructure for electric or other Ultra-Low Emission vehicles in line with Policy T6 .1 Residential parking, Policy T6 .2 Office Parking, Policy T6 .3 Retail parking, and Policy T6 .4 Hotel and leisure uses parking.

All operational parking should make this provision, including offering rapid charging. New or re-provided petrol filling stations should provide rapid charging hubs and/or hydrogen refuelling facilities.

H) Where electric vehicle charging points are provided on-street, physical infrastructure should not negatively affect pedestrian amenity and should ideally be located off the footway. Where charging points are located on the footway, it must remain accessible to all those using it including disabled people.

I) Adequate provision should be made for efficient deliveries and servicing and emergency access.

J) A Parking Design and Management Plan should be submitted alongside all applications which include car parking provision, indicating how the car parking will be designed and managed, with reference to Transport for London guidance on parking management and parking design.

K) Boroughs that have adopted or wish to adopt more restrictive general or operational parking policies are supported, including borough-wide or other area-based car-free policies. Outer London boroughs wishing to adopt minimum residential parking standards through a Development Plan Document (within the maximum standards set out in Policy T6 .1 Residential parking) must only do so for parts of London that are PTAL 0-1. Inner London boroughs should not adopt minimum standards. Minimum standards are not appropriate for non-residential use classes in any part of London.

L) Where sites are redeveloped, parking provision should reflect the current approach and not be re-provided at previous levels where this exceeds the standards set out in this policy. Some flexibility may be applied where retail sites are redeveloped outside of town centres in areas which are not well served by public transport, particularly in outer London.

### **LP T6.1: Residential Parking**

A) New residential development should not exceed the maximum parking standards set out in Table 10.3. These standards are a hierarchy with the more restrictive standard applying when a site falls into more than one category.

B) Parking spaces within communal car parking facilities (including basements) should be leased rather than sold.

C) All residential car parking spaces must provide infrastructure for electric or Ultra-Low Emission vehicles. At least 20 per cent of spaces should have active charging facilities, with passive provision for all remaining spaces.

D) Outside of the CAZ, and to cater for infrequent trips, car club spaces may be considered appropriate in lieu of private parking. Any car club spaces should have active charging facilities.

E) Large-scale purpose-built shared living, student accommodation and other sui generis residential uses should be car-free.

F) The provision of car parking should not be a reason for reducing the level of affordable housing in a proposed development.

G) Disabled persons parking should be provided for new residential developments. Residential development proposals delivering ten or more units must, as a minimum:

1. ensure that for three per cent of dwellings, at least one designated disabled persons parking bay per dwelling is available from the outset
2. demonstrate as part of the Parking Design and Management Plan, how an additional seven per cent of dwellings could be provided with one designated disabled persons parking space per dwelling in future upon request as soon as existing provision is insufficient. This should be secured at the planning stage.

H) All disabled persons parking bays associated with residential development must:

1. be for residents' use only (whether M4(2) or M4(3) dwellings)
2. not be allocated to specific dwellings, unless provided within the curtilage of the dwelling
3. be funded by the payment of a commuted sum by the applicant, if provided on-street (this includes a requirement to fund provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure)
4. count towards the maximum parking provision for the development
5. be designed in accordance with the design guidance in BS8300vol.1
6. be located to minimise the distance between disabled persons parking bays and the dwelling or the relevant block entrance or lift core, and the route should be preferably level or where this is not possible, should be gently sloping (1:60-1:20) on a suitable firm ground surface.

## **LP2 DMT 1: Managing Transport Impacts**

A) Development proposals will be required to meet the transport needs of the development and address its transport impacts in a sustainable manner. In order for developments to be acceptable they are required to:

- i) be accessible by public transport, walking and cycling either from the catchment area that it is likely to draw its employees, customers or visitors from and/or the services and facilities necessary to support the development;
- ii) maximise safe, convenient and inclusive accessibility to, and from within developments for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users;
- iii) provide equal access for all people, including inclusive access for disabled people;
- iv) adequately address delivery, servicing and drop-off requirements; and

v) have no significant adverse transport or associated air quality and noise impacts on the local and wider environment, particularly on the strategic road network.

B) Development proposals will be required to undertake a satisfactory Transport Assessment and Travel Plan if they meet or exceed the appropriate thresholds. All major developments<sup>11</sup> that fall below these thresholds will be required to produce a satisfactory Transport Statement and Local Level Travel Plan. All these plans should demonstrate how any potential impacts will be mitigated and how such measures will be implemented.

## **LP2 DMT 2: Highways Impacts**

Development proposals must ensure that:

- i) safe and efficient vehicular access to the highway network is provided to the Council's standards;
- ii) they do not contribute to the deterioration of air quality, noise or local amenity or safety of all road users and residents;
- iii) safe, secure and convenient access and facilities for cyclists and pedestrian are satisfactorily accommodated in the design of highway and traffic management schemes;
- iv) impacts on local amenity and congestion are minimised by routing through traffic by the most direct means to the strategic road network, avoiding local distributor and access roads; and
- v) there are suitable mitigation measures to address any traffic impacts in terms of capacity and functions of existing and committed roads, including along roads or through junctions which are at capacity.

## **LP2 Policy DMT 5: Pedestrians and Cyclists**

A) Development proposals will be required to ensure that safe, direct and inclusive access for pedestrians and cyclists is provided on the site connecting it to the wider network, including:

- i) the retention and, where appropriate, enhancement of any existing pedestrian and cycle routes;
- ii) the provision of a high quality and safe public realm or interface with the public realm, which facilitates convenient and direct access to the site for pedestrian and cyclists;
- iii) the provision of well signposted, attractive pedestrian and cycle routes separated from vehicular traffic where possible; and
- iv) the provision of cycle parking and changing facilities in accordance with Appendix C, Table 1 or, in agreement with Council.

B) Development proposals located next to or along the Blue Ribbon Network will be required to enhance and facilitate inclusive, safe and secure pedestrian and cycle access to the network. Development proposals, by virtue of their design, will be

required to complement and enhance local amenity and include passive surveillance to the network.

## **LP2 DMT 6: Vehicle Parking**

A) Development proposals must comply with the parking standards outlined in Appendix C Table 1 in order to facilitate sustainable development and address issues relating to congestion and amenity. The Council may agree to vary these requirements when:

- i) the variance would not lead to a deleterious impact on street parking provision, congestion or local amenity; and/or
- ii) a transport appraisal and travel plan has been approved and parking provision is in accordance with its recommendations.

B) All car parks provided for new development will be required to contain conveniently located reserved spaces for wheelchair users and those with restricted mobility in accordance with the Council's Accessible Hillingdon SPD.