

Appendix: Socio-Economics

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KEY LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE CONSIDERATIONS

National Planning Guidance

*The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2023)*¹

- A1.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in 2021. It sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.
- A1.2** At the heart of the NPPF is a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'. It articulates the Government's vision for how the planning system should operate, and identifies three interdependent roles for the planning system, to be pursued in mutually supportive ways:
- An economic role – ensuring that the right amount of land is available at the right time and place in order to support growth, innovation and improved productivity;
 - A social role – providing a sufficient number and range of homes, accessible services, and open space in a well-designed and safe built environment, to meet the needs of present and future generations and to support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and,
 - An environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment.
- A1.3** The policy framework set out within Chapter 6 'Building a strong, competitive economy' and Chapter 8 'Promoting healthy and safe communities' is of greatest relevance to this socio-economic assessment.

*Planning Practice Guidance (2022)*²

- A1.4** The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) sets out technical guidance, which provides further detail on the policies, set out within the NPPF. The PPG highlights the need for local authorities to identify economic and housing needs in their areas in order to plan effectively.
- A1.5** It also recognises that good quality design is an integral part of ensuring that development responds in a practical and creative way to both the function and amenity of a place, as it can affect a range of economic, social and environmental objectives. Good design is considered to have the potential to deliver a number of planning objectives including, but not limited to, safe, connected and efficient streets; crime prevention; security measures; access and inclusion; and cohesive and vibrant neighbourhoods.

Regional Planning Guidance

*The London Plan 2021 (2021)*³

- A1.6** The latest London Plan was adopted in March 2021 and replaces the 2016 London Plan.
- A1.7** The London Plan is underpinned by the aim of achieving 'good growth' which is socially and economically inclusive and environmentally sustainable, and helps to build strong and inclusive communities.
- A1.8** Policy GG1 'Building strong and inclusive communities' sets out requirements that planning:
- Ensures London generates a wide range of economic and other opportunities;
 - Provides access to good quality community spaces, services and amenities;
 - Ensure streets and public spaces are designed to allow communities to thrive; and,
 - Promotes town centres that provide opportunities for building relationships.

A1.9 Policy GG2 'Making the best use of land' sets out a range of measures supporting development of successful, mixed-use places, particularly in areas close to transport, and existing town centres.

A1.10 Policy GG3 'Creating a healthy city' encourages development that promotes healthy lives, uses the Healthy Streets Approach, and improves access to green spaces.

A1.11 Policy D8 'Public realm' requires development proposals to deliver safe, accessible, inclusive, attractive, well-connected, easy to understand, service and maintain public realm.

A1.12 Policy H1 'Increasing housing supply' sets out ten-year housing targets for each London borough (2019/20-2028/29), with LBH's target set as 17,820 new homes.

A1.13 Policies S1-S7 set out policies with respect to social infrastructure including healthcare, education facilities, open space and play space, and requires boroughs to plan to ensure social infrastructure meets the needs of London's diverse communities.

A1.14 Policy E11 'Skills and opportunities for all' encourages development proposals that support employment, skills development, apprenticeships and other education and training opportunities in both the construction and end-use phases.

Local Planning Guidance

*Our Camden Plan (2017)*⁴

A1.15 The Camden Plan is Camden Borough Council's response to the Camden 2025 vision. It sets out how the Council will achieve this vision throughout 2018 to 2022, and it includes key priorities across five themes including homes and housing; strong growth and access to jobs; safe, strong and open communities; clean, vibrant and sustainable places; and healthy, independent lives. In doing so, it provides a framework for how the Council will operate and interact with partner organisations to build a happier, healthier, more resilient and more sustainable Borough.

*Camden Local Plan (2017)*⁵

A1.16 Camden Borough Council's Local Plan, like The London Plan, sets out the spatial vision and development requirements of the London Borough of Camden from 2016 to 2031. It replaced the Borough's Core Strategy and Development Policies, adopted in 2010, and provides actionable objectives for the Council and partner organisations to deliver economic growth and its benefits, reduce inequalities, and secure sustainable neighbourhoods.

A1.17 Particular policies contained within the Local Plan which are of relevance to this assessment include:

- Policy E1 – Economic development;
- Policy E2 – Employment premises and sites;
- Policy A1 – Managing the impact of development; and
- Policy A2 – Open space.

*Camden Planning Guidance: Public Open Space (2021)*⁶

A1.18 This supplementary planning guidance (SPG) provides a framework for the assessment and delivery of public open and play space within the Borough. It outlines the requirements developments must fulfil regarding their obligations to provide open and play space, depending on the size and nature of the scheme, including how much space should be provided, where it should be provided, and what form it should take, and how it should be managed.

A1.19 The Guidance also includes a justification for the use of additional payments in lieu of direct provisions for such spaces, as a means of bridging the funding gap between obtained and required funds for such infrastructure,

¹ MHCLG (2023). *National Planning Policy Framework*.

² MHCLG (Live Document). *Planning Practice Guidance* [online]. Available at: <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/>.

³ Greater London Authority (GLA) (2021). *The London Plan 2021*.

⁴ London Borough of Camden (LBC) (2017). *Our Camden Plan*.

⁵ LBC (2017). *Camden Local Plan*.

⁶ LBC (2021). *Camden Planning Guidance: Public open space*.

facilities and services. These payments may include Community Infrastructure Levies (CIL) or Section 106 agreements.

Camden Planning Guidance: Employment Sites & Business Premises (2021)⁷

A1.20 This SPG provides a framework for the assessment and delivery of commercial space within the Borough, including protecting existing suitable space, providing additional quality and affordable space, and ensuring that future commercial space is of varied sizes and types to support a flexible market. The SPG also outlines the ways in which Section 106 agreements will be used to secure local training and employment opportunities, to support the local workforce.

Other Relevant Standards and Guidance

A1.21 Standards and guidance which have informed this chapter include:

- The Homes and Community Agency (HCA) Employment Density Guide, 3rd edition (2015); and
- The HCA Additionality Guide, 4th Edition (2014).

⁷ LBC (2021). *Camden Planning Guidance: Public open space*.