

Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London
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Date: 09 December 2016
My ref: CityforAllLondoners

Dear Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London

Maidstone Borough Council response to consultation on the 'A City for all Londoners'

Maidstone Borough Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on 'A City for all Londoners' consultation document, which has been published ahead of a major revision to the London Plan.

Duty to Co-operate

Going forward, cooperation between the Mayor and planning authorities across the south east England will be vital to ensure that important strategic issues, such as delivery of housing, economic growth, and infrastructure are planned effectively.

We note that the document sets out that the need to build 50,000 homes per year between now and 2041 to meet the demands of its growing population. However, page 35 sets out that approximately only 25,000 dwellings were actually delivered last year. Continued under-provision of housing within London effectively means areas such as Maidstone will come under further pressure to accommodate development on top of substantial, local growth needs. Such sustained levels of growth place pressure on:

- Land, including on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belt, as well as employment land/ commercial premises, for homes
- Transport infrastructure
- Utilities infrastructure, including water, power and waste
- Council services and social infrastructure e.g. education, care etc.

Maidstone Borough Council is supportive of the approach set out in page 19 of the document that to accommodate this growth requires the Mayor to take bold measures to meet as much of the City's growth demands within London as possible. We agree that London's housing need should in the first instance be met through maximising brownfield and appropriate high density opportunities.

... an excellent authority

We look forward to providing more specific comments when further details of the London Plan proposals become known.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Egerton'.

Mark Egerton
Planning Policy Manager