

Consultation statement on the draft Planning Obligations SPD

Background

In March 2024, Islington Council began preparing a new Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The SPD will expand on <u>Islington's Local Plan</u> (adopted on 28 September 2023), providing further detail about the council's policies on planning obligations and the procedure for agreeing them. The new SPD will supersede the <u>existing Planning Obligations SPD</u>, adopted in 2016. The updated SPD will not form part of Islington's Local Plan but will be a material consideration dependent on the circumstances of individual applications.

Purpose of this consultation statement

This consultation statement has been prepared in accordance with regulations 12(a) of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

It sets out the following for the final consultation on the draft Planning Obligations SPD:

- the persons consulted when preparing the supplementary planning document;
- a summary of the main issues raised by those persons; and
- how those issues have been addressed in the supplementary planning document.

Prior consultation

In March 2024, Islington Council consulted on a discussion paper, which set out the proposed changes the council were considering for an updated planning obligations SPD. The consultation was open for seven weeks between Monday 25 March and Monday 13 May 2024.

The consultation was promoted via Let's Talk, the council's public engagement website, as well as via email through the Planning Policy Consultation Database–a subscription list for those wanting to take part in planning policy consultations at Islington Council. At the time of writing, the subscriber count is 1,243.

Comments and responses could be submitted via post, via email, or by submitting in an online survey on Let's Talk Islington. Responses to the consultation on the discussion paper were used in preparation of the draft Planning Obligations SPD.

Results of the prior consultation

In total, the council received 12 responses: five responses via the online survey and a further seven were sent via email. Respondents included individual residents and institutions or organisations. No postal responses were received.

A table summarising comments received and the council's response has been included in at the end of this statement and has been previously publicised as part of a report on the first consultation.

Consultation on the draft SPD

Consultation on the draft Planning Obligations SPD was open for seven weeks and five days between 17 October 2024 and 10 December. As with the consultation on the discussion paper, the consultation on the draft SPD was promoted via Let's Talk as well as via email through the Planning Policy Consultation Database. Comments and responses could be submitted via post, via email, or by submitting in an online survey on Let's Talk Islington.

The council received 18 responses to the consultation; 12 responses were submitted via email, five responses through the Let's Talk online survey, and one response was sent it by post.

Respondents included built environment professionals or landowning entities (4), community organisations and campaign groups (3), government organisations (5), infrastructure and utilities bodies (1), and private citizens (5).

The table below provides a summary of individual representations alongside the corresponding response from Islington Council, including any changes made to the proposed final version of the SPD.

Consultation responses and summary of council responses

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------|---|--|
| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 1 | Edwards Rensen Architects | 2.11 | The bullet list gives the impression that certain types of developments are exempt, but the last bullet point (Other developments where necessary to ensure they are acceptable in planning terms) is arbitrary and so brings all projects within the realm of s106 agreements. | The vast majority of planning applications received by the council are not subject to legal agreements as they do not include new dwellings or commercial floorspace. However, depending on the exact nature of a development and its localised impacts, the option to require planning obligations on other developments is required to ensure that they are acceptable in planning terms. Changes : the last bullet point was removed and clarified in a new paragraph. |
| | | 2.12 | Should also include damages caused, and services lost. Paragraph may be redundant, as the topic is explained better and more inclusively in 2.13 to 2.19. | Changes: paragraph removed due to identified redundancies. |
| | | 4.7 | Why use the word usually (e.g. "usually in excess of 200 residential units or 10,000 square metres of gross external floorspace") instead of firm thresholds? | The intention is to give an indication of where on-site facilities will be required as it is not considered appropriate to have firm thresholds e.g. a 300 unit development may not have the space for on-site facilities due to site circumstances whereas a 150 unit development may have the space and requirements for public realm reasons to provide facilities on site. No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 1 | Edwards Rensen Architects | 6.7 | The cost for building a single house in a tight urban location has dramatically gone up, yet the contribution is still unchanged at £50,000. Has the affordability justification for this figure been reviewed? Should it be more or less? | Whilst the cost of construction may have risen since this contribution was set in 2014 the selling costs of such units has also increased significantly. Viability assessments were completed to support the new Local Plan and it was determined that the policy requirements are viable across the council's area. |
| | | - | | No changes. |
| 2 | London Cycling Campaign | Standards for developers and contractors | The SPD requires all developments to comply with Islington's Code of Practice for Construction Site and submit a Construction Logistics Plan (CLP), but does not provide links to the relevant up-to-date document. An online search leads to 2018 guidance for construction sites, which does not specify that developers must comply with Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCS) standards - a stated council requirement. This inconsistency should be resolved and the SPD should state directly whether developers should meet CLOCS standards. | Changes: the text has been updated so as to link to most up-to-date guidance document and reference made to compliance with CLOCS standards. |
| | | Accessible car parking | The SPD states that parking spaces should be provided at a ratio of 10% of units. Given that blue badge holder usage of spaces is estimated at 3%, to what uses can the developer or development owner put the remining parking spaces? Do they remain empty or can they be leased or rented to non-blue badge holders? | On sites where it is not feasible or appropriate to provide 10% of spaces on site, less spaces will be provided with a contribution paid <i>in lieu</i> . Any remaining spaces may not be rented out to non-blue badge holders. Changes: text has been updated to provide further clarity on instances where the 10% figure does not need to be applied. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 3 | Natural England | General | Natural England have no comments to make on this | No changes. |
| | | comment | occasion. | |
| 4 | Thames Water | Water | The Planning Obligations SPD should include a specific | It is considered these issues are adequately addressed via |
| | | infrastructure | policy on the key issue of the provision of water and | Policy ST4 of the Local Plan and no further guidance is |
| | | | sewerage/wastewater infrastructure to service | specifically required in the Planning Obligations SPD. |
| | | | development. Thames Water included suggested text for | |
| | | | inclusion in the revised document. | No changes. |
| 5 | Historic England | Heritage Assets | Support the section on heritage assets within the | Para 8.4 of the SPD does state that Planning Obligations |
| | | | document that sets out the potential application of a S106 | may be used to make appropriate provision for protection |
| | | | Agreement in respect of heritage assets, with references | etc of heritage assets. This would include financial |
| | | | to their conservation, repair and restoration. | contributions as appropriate. In some cases, CIL funding |
| | | | | could be used to support protection of heritage assets on |
| | | | Suggest including specific reference to the potential | the risk register. |
| | | | allocation of S106 funding to address heritage assets on | |
| | | | the national Heritage at Risk Register or to provide | No changes. |
| | | | interpretation on their significance and therefore | |
| | | | potentially raise awareness of them. | |
| 6 | Individual | 2. Introduction | Planning Obligations, S106 Agreements and unilateral | Planning obligations are secured to deal with the impacts |
| | | | undertakings must be drafted to ensure that the | of development. Neighbouring boroughs are consulted |
| | | | restrictions and benefits they contain relate to the | on planning applications that may affect their areas and |
| | | | immediate neighbourhood of the development and not a | their comments are taken account including regarding |
| | | | more distant part of Islington. Better co-operation with | planning obligations as appropriate. |
| | | | Hackney would see those benefits address | |
| | | | | No changes. |

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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 6 | Individual | 6. Community | Community Use Agreements and POPS: The draft states | Point noted. The intention is that such spaces should be |
| | | obligations | that "that they must operate indistinguishable from public | indistinguishable from public spaces. New private |
| | | | spaces". It is not clear how this can operate in practice | enclaves are not encouraged or acceptable. |
| | | | since compliance may be by private patrols etc not police. | |
| | | | There should be a presumption that POPS are to operate | No changes. |
| | | | in perpetuity. | |
| | | 7. | Where targets and requirements cannot be met and there | Point noted and accepted - neighbouring boroughs are |
| | | Environmental | is a requirement for financial provision or other charges | consulted on applications that may have impacts on their |
| | | Obligations | the funds collected need to be allocated to the area | areas. |
| | | | affected and this may include Hackney and Haringey - | |
| | | | note particularly Construction Practice and Carbon | No changes. |
| | | | Offsetting | |
| 7 | Environment | 8.6 | It is preferable for all Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) to | Point noted and it is the intention to deliver BNG onsite in |
| | Agency | | remain on site and any offsite provisions should only be | line with the hierarchy. Further information will be set |
| | | | explored as a last resort. | out in the council's upcoming Climate Action SPD. |
| | | | | |
| | | | The EA requires further clarification on contributions | No changes. |
| | | | towards BNG offsite gains - the BNG process itself already | |
| | | | provides for purchasing of statutory off-site credits should | |
| | | | the threshold 2 not be met prior to a planning permission | |
| | | | being accepted. | |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 7 | Environment | Water | There are no references to water quality or resources | Comments noted. It is considered that water |
| | Agency | infrastructure | within the SPD, therefore we recommend that the LPA | infrastructure is adequately addressed in the Local Plan |
| | | | considers this further. Encourage ensuring that the | and there are not further requirements or clarifications |
| | | | efficient use of natural resources and water efficient | that need to be addressed in the Planning Obligations |
| | | | targets are stated with the SPD. Water efficiency | SPD. |
| | | | measures should also be included in retrofit measures. | |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | | We would like to see identification of the WFD | |
| | | | waterbodies in the London Borough of Islington and their | |
| | | | protective status within the SPD, with the mention of the | |
| | | | legal responsibility to avoid the deterioration of WFD | |
| | | | water bodies and their associated elements, and to | |
| | | | support their enhancements. | |
| | | Sustainable | We note that there is no mention of Sustainable Drainage | Comments noted. It is considered that SuDS in new |
| | | urban drainage | Systems (SuDS) within the SPD. We would recommend | development is adequately addressed in the Local Plan |
| | | | that this is something that should be commented on | and there are not further requirements or clarifications |
| | | | further. We highly encourage the use of SuDS in new | that need to be addressed in the Planning Obligations |
| | | | developments which is supported by Paragraph 173 and | SPD. |
| | | | 175 within the NPPF. | |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | Contaminated | We advise that early engagement between the developer, | Comments noted. It is considered that issues around |
| | | Land | local authority and the Environment Agency is made to | contaminated land are adequately addressed in the Local |
| | | | discuss the opportunities available through planning | Plan and there are not further requirements or |
| | | | obligation (Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning | clarifications that need to be addressed in the Planning |
| | | | Act 1990) agreements to ensure that sites within Islington | Obligations SPD. |
| | | | are appropriately remediated and or/monitored to | |
| | | | protect controlled waters. | No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 7 | Environment | Waste | would like to see reference regarding waste and the | Comments noted. It is considered that the circular |
| | Agency | | circular economy. Although paragraph 7.2 under | economy including reference to waste is adequately |
| | | | Construction practice reference Policy T5 of the Islington | addressed in the Local Plan and there are not further |
| | | | Local Plan (adopted 28 September 2023), it fails to | requirements or clarifications that need to be addressed |
| | | | reference specific waste materials such as demolition and | in the Planning Obligations SPD. |
| | | | construction related material, as specified in the Mayor of | |
| | | | London' Circular Economy Statement. | No changes. |
| | | Air Quality | We note that air quality is not specifically mentioned | Comments noted. It is considered that air quality is |
| | | | within the SPD. We would like to see reference of the | adequately addressed in the Local Plan and the London |
| | | | London Plan regarding Air Quality, generally aiming for | Plan and there are not further requirements or |
| | | | the London Plan's guidance on Air Quality Neutral and Air | clarifications that need to be addressed in the Planning |
| | | | Quality Positive. | Obligations SPD. |
| | | | | |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | Agent of | We would like to see the SPD include/refer to the agent of | Comments noted. It is considered this is adequately |
| | | Change | change principle with respect to new development | addressed in the Local Plan and there are not further |
| | | Principle | entering an area where there are existing industrial uses. | requirements or clarifications that need to be addressed |
| | | | This is important as co-location of new housing with | in the Planning Obligations SPD. |
| | | | existing industrial use can, without appropriate | |
| | | | mitigation, cause issues with noise, dust and odor. | No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 8 | Derwent London | Affordable | The proposed represents an additional obligation for | No changes. |
| | (via DP9) | Workspace | developers, and case-by-case flexibility should be | |
| | | | provided. Derwent London therefore support the | |
| | | | reference within the Draft SPD which acknowledges that | |
| | | | some schemes may not be able to achieve a full policy | |
| | | | compliant amount of affordable workspace due to | |
| | | | viability constraints. This mechanism has been successful | |
| | | | within recent schemes across the Borough which have | |
| | | | provided significant payments in lieu of affordable | |
| | | | workspace, due to this not being able to be delivered on | |
| | | | site. | |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 8 | Derwent London | Employment | A number of financial contributions as well as non- | It is considered that the increases in financial obligations |
| | (via DP9) | and | financial obligations expected from development are | set out in the draft SPD are relatively modest in nature |
| | | Construction | proposed to be increased by the Draft SPD. Some | and they reflect the costs of adequately addressing |
| | | Obligations | | development impacts. The majority of the obligations |
| | | | current levels. it is becoming increasingly important that | have not increased for nearly 10 years. Where viability of |
| | | | Local Planning Authorities ensure that the cost of financial | development is raised a clear process is in place as per the |
| | | | contributions do not start to frustrate the delivery of | Development Viability SPD. |
| | | | present a prohibitive burden on developers and | |
| | | | development. | No changes. |
| | | | | |
| | | | It is also important to note the substantial increase in fees | |
| | | | for monitoring construction practices. such significant | |
| | | | increases could adversely impact a development's overall | |
| | | | viability, along with other increased financial obligations. | |
| | | | It is important that appropriate mechanisms, whereby if | |
| | | | such increased obligations are proven to be unviable, | |
| | | | developers are not unduly penalised through increased | |
| | | | uncertainty, delays and planning risk | |
| | | General | In addition to the above, it should be noted that whilst | Comments noted. Use of CIL funding is set out annually in |
| | | comment | Derwent London recognises it is important that | the Infrastructure Funding Statement. The use of S106 |
| | | | development contributes to the delivery of supporting | planning obligations for infrastructure has reduced |
| | | | infrastructure associated with new development, the | significantly since the introduction of the Islington CIL. |
| | | | Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) also mandates | |
| | | | substantial financial contributions from new development | No changes. |
| | | | for this purpose. | |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 9 | Places for London | Employment | It is unclear what the timing expectations are for | The baseline is 12 months and this will be updated in final |
| | (TfL) | and Training | placements. In paragraph 5.7 it is noted that work | document. In practice this 'bursary' will be attached to a |
| | | | placements should last a minimum of 26 weeks but in | given apprentice in a flexible response to their actual |
| | | | paragraph 5.11 it sets out that an upfront financial | training and development needs and will favour quality |
| | | | contribution for a 12 month period will be required, so it | outcomes over quantity. The duration will be dictated by |
| | | | is unclear whether the baseline is 26 weeks or 12 months. | the length of available work packages and similar on-site |
| | | | | opportunity particulars. |
| | | | | |
| | | | | Changes: Text to be updated to clarify timescales. |
| 10 | Sport England | Community | Sport England welcome that Community Use Agreements | Comments noted and template documents will be used as |
| | | Use | | appropriate. |
| | | Agreements | opportunities for local communities to access a range of | |
| | | | facilities where they can play sport and be physically | No changes. |
| | | | active. Sport England has guidance/resource that supports | |
| | | | schools (which could be tailored to non-education | |
| | | | facilities) to open up their facilities for the community | |
| | | | when they would otherwise not be in use. There is also a | |
| | | | template CUA that can be used to secure community use | |
| | | | of facilities | |

| # | Organisation | Paragraph/ topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
|----|---------------|---|--|---|
| 10 | Sport England | 9. Negotiating Planning Obligations | Sport England recognise that the impact on sporting infrastructure is likely to be addressed through the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy however if it were to seek obligations through a S.106 Agreement Sport England has tools that could assist the Council in determining an appropriate level of contribution based on the needs generated from a development. An estimate of the demand generated for outdoor sports provision can be provided by Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator strategic planning tool. Team data from the Council's sport facility strategy can be applied to the Playing Pitch Calculator which can then assess the demand generated in pitch equivalents (and the associated costs of delivery) by the population generated in a new residential development. It can also calculate changing room demand to support the use of this pitch demand. In relation to built sport facilities such as swimming pools and sports halls, Sport England's Facilities Calculator can help to provide an indication of the likely demand that will be generated by a development for these sports facility types. | Comments noted and tools referenced will be used as appropriate. No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 11 | Resident | Mitigating | It would seem that requirements suggested by NHS and | In most cases, developer contributions towards |
| | | impact of | the Department of Education are not being properly | maintaining and providing key infrastructure (including |
| | | development | assimilated for the development at Barnsbury Estate, re | healthcare facilities) will be covered through CIL, although |
| | | | clinic and school/s. | some developments may create specific infrastructure |
| | | | | needs which the council will seek to address through |
| | | | Barnsbury Estate is being suggested to increase at approx | planning obligations on a case-by-case basis. |
| | | | 300% more dwellings - there will be serious pressure on | |
| | | | local facilities and amenities. Thus far, this pressure does | No changes. |
| | | | not seem to be addressed. | |
| 12 | Highbury | General | These draft Planning Obligations are acceptable. | No changes. |
| | Community | comment | | |
| | Association | | | |
| 13 | Resident | Environmental | Not enough emphasis on net zero - sometimes we are | Questions on retrofit measures and climate impact are |
| | | impacts | going to have to sacrifice some conservation objectives to | expected to be addressed in Islington's upcoming Climate |
| | | | enable greater efficiency. The obligations drafted do not | Action SPD, including a retrofit handbook. |
| | | | take this into account sufficiently. | |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | | As an example, insulation of walls, doors and windows in | |
| | | | Victorian buildings which are listed and/or in conservation | |
| | | | areas is in many cases impossible or far from financially | |
| | | | viable - leaving well insulated homes the preserve of the | |
| | | | wealthy. | |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 14 | CBRE Ltd | 5.28 | The Draft SPD provides a calculation to be utilised to determine affordable workspace financial contributions. At line no.2 of this formula, it is noted that you need to identify 10% of floorspace in square metres (NIA). This formula mirrors that which is provided at paragraph 4.54 of the Local Plan. We consider that this is not consistent with Policy B4 of the Local Plan, whereby it states within Part A that the affordable workspace should account for 10% of the proposed proportion of floorspace in GIA. Please confirm on this point. | This is not an inconsistency. For the purposes of securing the affordable workspace this is calculated in GIA as this includes some features not counted in the NIA of market listings for office space — such as stairwells, plant and equipment, walls, circulation space or lobby space. Such elements can be crucial for the workspace to function and meet relevant quality requirements. When securing actual space, therefore, it is more appropriate to consider a proportion of GIA so that 10% of the entire site is secured. Should a cash-in-lieu payment be provided instead, however, the space is by NIA, as the above noted features would likely not be counted as part of the listing's floorspace, and by extension the rental value and the formula is based on the rental value of the floorspace. |
| 15 | Finsbury Park & Stroud Green Neighbourhood Forum | 3. Policy Framework | The Policy Framework section of the document does not take sufficient consideration of current/ongoing Government legislation and guidance changes and will be out-of-date before it is published. These include issues such as: - NPPF e.g. Achieving well-designed places - Withdrawal of the London Plan review in September 2024 due to new housing requirements. These include significant increases in LB Islington, compared with many other London boroughs where there are reduced percentages. | It is not considered that the SPD will come out of date due to NPPF or London Plan changes. Planning Obligations are flexible if required to meet new requirements to make developments acceptable in planning terms. No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
|----|-----------------|---------------|--|---|
| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 15 | Finsbury Park & | 8.6 | | Further guidance will be set out in the Climate Action SPD. |
| | Stroud Green | | Environmental obligations, and it is noted (Other | |
| | Neighbourhood | | Obligations 8.6) that on-site is preferred. It would be a | No changes. |
| | Forum | | concern if too much BNG obligations are to be off-sited, as | |
| | | | this would result in reduced biodiversity, particularly in | |
| | | | denser and the more deprived parts of the borough | |
| | | | leading to detriment both to wildlife and in terms of | |
| | | | access to nature for local communities. I hope this will be | |
| | | | firmed up in the upcoming Climate Action SPD referred to. | |
| | | Development | It is noted that the Development Viability SPD is dated | The principles of viability assessments and the process to |
| | | Viability SPD | 2016. Is this to be updated, as surely Viability issues must | be followed outlined in the 2016 SPD are still relevant. An |
| | | | have changed since this date? | updated document will be produced over the coming year |
| | | | | or two. |
| | | | | |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | 9.28 | Under Allocations and Expenditure, 9.28, Community | Community Plan documents are being updated and will |
| | | | Plans are referred to. I checked the one for my ward, | include dates or actual and project delivery of projects. |
| | | | Finsbury Park. Although the document lists projects under | |
| | | | proposed, ongoing and completed, it is very hard to | No changes. |
| | | | follow as no dates are provided (except one). | |
| 16 | Resident | 3.4 | Should say "emphasise the role large site can play…" | Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
|----|--------------|----------------|--|---|
| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 16 | Resident | 6.37 | Suggest including a list of types of stakeholders (e.g. | Four meetings per year would be excessive to review this |
| | | | voluntary/community groups). | type of document. Suggestion regarding reviewing every two years accepted and text changed. |
| | | | Requirements for the public meetings would be best | |
| | | | increased from one per annum to four, to compensate for | Change: Text updated to include two year reviews for |
| | | | disruptions and changes of plans. | plan documents. |
| | | | Review of plans should change from "6 months, 3 years, 5 | |
| | | | years and 7 years" to 2every two years" | |
| | | 9. Negotiating | Propose the inclusion of voluntary sector bodies in the | Voluntary bodies can respond to planning application |
| | | Planning | negotiation of S106 agreements | consultations and include comments on what should be |
| | | Obligations | | secured in legal agreements. |
| | | | | No changes. |
| | | 9.12 | Suggest adding that planning committee/subcommittee | These comments can be noted in responses to individual |
| | | | should "entertain other proposals from | planning applications and/or at Planning Committee. |
| | | | resident/voluntary groups prior to S106 approval. Ideally, | |
| | | | observations from local community groups would be | No changes. |
| | | | recorded in meeting minutes. | |
| | | 9.28 | Observation that ward partnership meetings have not | Comments noted - there are reviews taking place on ward |
| | | | been sufficient in allowing engagement, particularly that | partnerships and the way forward for them. |
| | | | they have not enabled in-depth discussion relating to | |
| | | | major proposals. | No changes. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
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| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 17 | Individual | Affordable Housing Contributions | The self-build exemption to affordable housing contributions that was present in the 2016 Planning Obligations SPD is not present in the draft. This exemption should be reintroduced. It would be acceptable for the contribution to be payable in cases where the house is sold before a certain period of time post-completion (e.g. 10 years). | Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |
| 18 | Transport for London (TfL) | 4.5 | The following amendments are suggested as follows: Amend second bullet point to read 'New extended or revised bus routes or additional bus capacity' It would be preferable if mitigations towards the design and implementation of step-free access at London Underground stations in the borough could be mentioned specifically as a separate bullet rather than the general list of potential enhancements contained in the fourth bullet point. While reference to TfL being a signatory to agreements in Para. 9.1 is welcomed, to strengthen our enforcement powers, we request to be one of the signatories for the relevant S106 agreement if we have requested obligation(s) generally. We would appreciate if this could be included in the SPD, so that it can aid the process for s106 monitoring. | Suggested amendments will be incorporated in final documents. TfL will be signatory to agreements where there are any obligations enforceable by them. Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |

| | | Paragraph/ | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------------|---|--|
| # | Organisation | topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
| 18 | Transport for London (TfL) | 6.15 | The text should clarify that SDM Policy T3 is referring to on street accessible car parking spaces and that these spaces will only be physically provided when demand | Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |
| | | | materialises as explained in the policy wording. | |
| | | 6.20 | The wording of the final sentence refers to additional requirements for car-free developments, but all developments should be car free in line with SDM Policy T3. | Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |

| # | Organisation | Paragraph/ topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| 18 | Transport for London (TfL) | 7.29 | - | Islington has had these exceptions in place for many years. In instances that residents with existing permits move to a new property, we do not consider it reasonable that they should need to sell their vehicle. This is not a regular occurrence and it is considered that it will not lead to a material increase in permits. No changes. |

| # | Organisation | Paragraph/ topic | Comment summary | Islington response and changes to the SPD |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| # 18 | Transport for London (TfL) | 7.31-7.36 | | Change: Text updated to match the suggestion. |
| | | | TfL suggest that the Travel Plan section is amended to reflect that a Travel Plan will/should enable a development to support achieving Islington's 2041 Mayor's Transport Strategy (MTS) sustainable mode share target. | |
| | | Omission of Cycle Hire Scheme | Santander Cycle Hire mitigations, and there may be | Para 4.5 does reference that new or enlarged cycle hire docking stations may be required. This is considered sufficient. No changes. |

Summary of additional modifications to final draft

In the process of finalising the SPD and following internal discussions a number of changes have been to the final draft. These are largely for consistency reasons or to provide further clarifications. These are summarised below:

5 – Employment and Training (Construction Phase)

To meet London Living Wage requirements the trainee bursary contribution has been increased to £28,000 per placement.

6 – House in multiple occupation (HMO)

Clarification that for the payment in lieu calculation the rental income should be calculation against the total rental value – operating or other costs should not be deducted.

6 – Wheelchair accessible housing:

The key changes include:

- Expanding the marketing requirements to include people with reduced mobility rather than only wheelchair users. Previously, ambiguity existed in requiring the flats to only be let/sold to wheelchair users. The change is to reflect the current council/housing needs team approach to nominating tenants for accessible units, which does cover many people using mobility aids such as walking frames or canes.
- Changes to structure of the text to make the obligations applying to private development and social rent housing easier to distinguish.

7 – Carbon offsetting

Paragraph 7.19 has been amended to clarify that carbon offsetting contributions apply to all new residential units. This includes units in new build developments as well as those created through subdivision, extension, and change of use.

Appendix A: Representations from the consultation on the discussion paper for the Planning Obligations SPD

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|------------|---|--|
| 1 | Resident | Response on GTR community requirements and clarification on site selection | GTR assumed to stand for Gypsy, Traveller and Roma community. This falls outside the scope of the Planning Obligations SPD. Accommodations for Gypsy and Traveller communities in Islington are covered in a dedicated document, which is being reviewed at the time of writing. More information can be found on the Islington webpage for the <u>Gypsy and Traveller</u> Local Plan review. |
| 2 | Landowner | Rooftop extensions should be promoted, including in conservation areas to address need for small (e.g. 1-2 bed) living units. | This falls outside the scope of the Planning Obligations SPD. The council's approach to the supply of affordable housing is outlined in policies H2 and H3 of the Local Plan |

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|-----------------|------------|---|--|
| 3 | Resident | The council should include incentives for refurb and reuse approaches over demolishing and new build. The council should reinforce its approach to guaranteeing affordable housing from all developments while minimising impact on open spaces. | The SPD details the council's approach to carbon offsetting contribution resulting from developments where the net zero carbon target cannot be fully achieved on-site. Combined with policy S3 in the Local Plan, which requires all refurbishments to achieve a certified Excellent BREAM rating, refurbishment projects are expected to pay fewer offsetting contributions, this creates a financial incentive for developers to pursue refurbishment over new build schemes. Planning obligations will be used to ensure 50% of additional housing built in the borough is genuinely affordable, in accordance with policy H3 of the Local Plan. Policies G2 and G3 in the Local Plan outline the council's approach to protecting and creating open spaces. In most cases, developer contributions towards maintaining and providing key infrastructure (including open spaces) will be covered through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) chargeable to developments. In cases where a development creates specific infrastructure needs, we will seek to address them through planning obligations on a case-by-case basis. |

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|------------|---|--|
| 4 | Resident | Address detrimental effects of new developments on travel Maintain requirement for office developments in the Central Activity Zones (CAZ) to pay affordable housing contributions What constraints will there be on developments in terms of noise and disruption to surrounding businesses and residents? | All developments that will generate significant amounts of movement are required to provide a Travel Plan. Where Travel Plan measures are not considered adequate, the Council may require additional contributions to help to offset the impacts of the development. Travel Plans are reviewed throughout the development process and after the final development begins use and occupation. The council can no longer secure affordable housing contributions from office developments in the CAZ because this requirement is not in the new Local Plan. The Local Plan requires every development to take all possible measures to minimise negative impacts of construction on the environment (Policy T5). To this end, all developments are required to comply with Islington's Code of Practice for Construction Site and submit a Construction Logistics Plan (CLP) alongside development proposals. Additional obligations may also be sought where there are likely to be significant construction impacts or where a specific need is identified (e.g. the costs of any necessary modification, removal or replacement traffic calming, to avoid damage/ reduce noise and vibration). |

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|
| 5 | Resident | Environmental aspects are most important There is insufficient support for affordable housing | The draft Planning Obligations SPD details the council's approach to environmental obligations, including carbon offsetting and schemes' green performance plans. Policy H3 of the Local Plan requires that 50% of additional housing built in the borough should be genuinely affordable. The draft SPD requires an affordable housing tenure split of 70% social rented housing and 30% intermediate housing and includes details on any financial contributions in lieu of this obligation. |
| 6 | Natural England | No comment | Noted |
| 7 | Individual | Broad support for the SPD | Noted |

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| 8 | NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit | Outlined changes do not sufficiently address the projected need for new healthcare facilities. While some of this shortfall is compensated for through Community Infrastructure Levy, there may be some cases where the impact on infrastructure (particularly healthcare) that justify being addressed though planning obligations. Historically, healthcare buildings have been funded through planning obligations and this level of support should be maintained or compensated for Health Impact Assessment (HIA) guidelines are expected to be brought in line with Policy SC3 of the Islington Local Plan (2023) and more detail provided in the new SPD. HIAs should be a requirement before planning permission is granted, rather than a planning obligations or condition Support commitment to improve the implementation and quality of construction work placement targets and greater emphasis on local procurement Support for providing affordable housing or a cash in lieu contribution, including for HMOs where appropriate Emphasis should be put on accessible housing provision on site instead of cash in lieu contributions Support for requirements for accessible parking and transport; however there should be consideration for parking needs of visiting healthcare workers Support ugate to formula for calculating carbon offsetting in line with nationally recognised prices | In most cases, developer contributions towards maintaining and providing key infrastructure will be covered through CIL, although some developments may create specific infrastructure needs which the council will seek to address through planning obligations on a case-by-case basis. The draft SPD contains no mention of HIAs; therefore, the policy defaults to that specified in the Local Plan. Noted Noted The draft SPD states that in lieu contributions for wheelchair accessible units will only be acceptable with definitive evidence (produced by the Council) of a supply/demand imbalance for wheelchair user units. These contributions will be used to finance accessible housing elsewhere in the borough. The process for securing this contribution, and the amount required, will be set out in a revised Inclusive Design SPD. The draft SPD states that resident parking permits will only be issued if the resident holds a disabled persons badge or has held an existing permit for a continuous period of at least 12 months. We expect that any demand for visiting healthcare worker parking will be addressed through a scheme's Travel Plan. Noted Noted |

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|-----------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| 9 | NHS Property Services | Greater emphasis should be placed on healthcare infrastructure as essential when considering increased needs from proposed development Developer contributions should be consistently applied to address increased needs due to large housing developments as well as the cumulative impact of smaller developments The new SPD should specify a process to determine the appropriate form of developer contributions to health infrastructure | See point 1 in the response above. We expect the combination of CIL and any secured planning obligations will provide the required flexibility to respond to increases in healthcare facility demands specific to a development and more widely across the borough. CIL will be charged according to the adopted schedule and the funds collected can used to address any identified needs in the borough, including for healthcare facilities. The draft SPD describes the process for negotiating and planning obligations, which should identify and address any site-specific impacts that should be mitigated through planning obligations. |

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| 10 | Transport for London | Generally supportive of approach in discussion paper New SPD should retain necessary transport and public transport contributions Planning obligations should be used in conjunction with CIL to deliver transport infrastructure SPD should include a cross reference to the S106 Crossrail Funding Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) as it applies to historic planning permissions Include clear indication of the requirement of a S278 agreement for transport reinstatement works TfL should be engaged directly by the developer for S278 works SPD should include mentions of a carbon offset fund References to the London Plan in the Travel Plan section of the SPD should be updated to take into account latest policy There is no mention in the discussion paper of using planning obligations to secure cycling infrastructure | Noted In most cases, developer contributions towards maintaining and providing key infrastructure will be covered through CIL, although some developments may create specific infrastructure needs which the council will seek to address through planning obligations on a case-by-case basis. See point 2. The draft SPD will act as guidance for future planning applications and therefore does not contain guidance for historic permissions. The Council will secure an agreement with the developer to ensure that all highways and footways shall be reinstated to the satisfaction of the Council after the completion of the development. Agreed Where necessary the Council will seek legal agreements with developers for monitoring fees or carbon offsetting in line with Policy S4 of the Local Plan. The draft SPD text has been updated so that London Plan 2021 Policy T4 (Assessing and Mitigating Transport Impacts): part B now applies. The draft SPD now includes cycle infrastructure as part of provisions that may be delivered through CIL or site-specific planning obligation agreements. |

| Response no. | Respondent | Summary of Comments | Islington Council response |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 11 | Department for Education | Supports the use of planning obligations to secure developer contributions for education, particularly as is ringfences funding for education Important to consider whether there will be sufficient CIL funds available to cover the cost of any rise in demand for school places and how planning obligations can address any potential CIL funding gap | Noted In most cases, developer contributions towards maintaining and providing key infrastructure (including education facilities) will be covered through CIL, although some developments may create specific infrastructure needs which the council will seek to address through planning obligations on a case-by- case basis. |
| 12 | Sport England | Supports the council's intention stated within the Discussion Paper to require Community Use Agreements (CUA) for new social and community infrastructure | The draft SPD maintains the use to CUAs to secure wider public access to new social and community infrastructure (including sports facilities) |