

Rebecca Burden  
Development Plans Manager  
Planning Policy  
London Borough of Camden  
Town Hall  
Judd Street  
London WC1H 9JE

Date: 3 November 2025

Dear Ms Burden,

### **Examination of the Camden Local Plan**

1. Further to the submission of the Camden Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft, I have started work on the examination with an initial reading of the Plan, the supporting evidence base and representations.
2. Based on what I have read so far, I have some initial questions and requests for further information on specific topic areas. I am raising this at this point in the interests of proceeding with the examination efficiently.
3. I am not inviting further comment from any other party at this stage and will set out in due course when representors may make further submissions.

### **The Scope of the Examination**

4. The Plan that I am examining is the Camden Local Plan (Regulation 19) Consultation version (April 2025) (examination library reference SD02). This is the starting point for the examination.

### **Modifications to the Plan**

5. The Council has indicated that they intend to submit a Schedule of Suggested Modifications (documents SD50 and SD51). However, they will not form part of the submission version of the Plan. During the examination I will consider whether any main modifications should be recommended for soundness. Any necessary main modifications I identify would then be subject to full public consultation.

## **Duty to Cooperate**

6. Local Planning Authorities are under a legal duty to cooperate with each other and other prescribed bodies on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. Engagement must be constructive, active and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of local plan preparation. The NPPF identifies that effective and on-going joint working between strategic policy making authorities and relevant bodies is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy. Reflecting this and in order for me to take a view on compliance with the Duty, please provide the additional following information:

### *Strategic Issues*

7. Please confirm that the strategic issues are the ones that are listed in column one of the table in section 4 of the Duty to Cooperate Statement (SD17).

### *Statements of Common Ground*

8. The NPPF outlines that in order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic policy making authorities should prepare and maintain statements of common ground (SoCG), to document the matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address them.
9. I note that the Council has produced SoCG with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities. In relation to these documents please set out the following:
  - a. How specific regard has been paid to the Planning Practice Guidance in terms of the scope, preparation and publication of each SoCG.
  - b. The reasons for any shortfalls in the evidence or omissions in terms of following the guidance and any steps the Council proposes to take to address this.

### *Prescribed Bodies*

10. At paragraph 1.3 of document SD17 the Council lists relevant prescribed bodies. Please confirm whether the Council has prepared SoCGs with any prescribed bodies and if so, when are they to be submitted. If not, please explain why they are considered unnecessary.
11. Beyond formal consultation stages (such as Regulation 18 and Regulation 19), what evidence is there to demonstrate that the Council has worked with prescribed bodies constructively, effectively and on an ongoing basis throughout the plan making process?

### *Outstanding Matters*

12. Can the Council confirm whether there any outstanding Duty to Cooperate matters with neighbouring authorities or prescribed bodies, including details of what they are.

### *Plan Outcomes*

13. The Council is asked to provide a clear narrative to explain how ongoing engagement on key strategic matters with relevant bodies through the Duty to Cooperate informed key outcomes for the Plan. Cross reference should be made, where relevant, to specific meetings with other local planning authorities and prescribed bodies. Evidence to support this should be provided, such as agendas/ minutes of meetings, redacted as may be necessary. Where appropriate to support the explanation, earlier versions of SoCG may also assist in demonstrating how discussions evolved and that they were active.

### **General Conformity with the London Plan**

14. The Council has indicated their intention to submit a SoCG with the Greater London Authority (GLA). To supplement this and the submitted General Conformity Statement (SD18), please can the Council provide a table setting out your position on general conformity with the London Plan for each policy in their plan. This should include any reasons for variance and the Council's understanding of the GLAs position in each case.

### **Housing Land Supply**

15. Please can the Council complete the attached table (Annex A) for each site that the Council assumes will contribute to the 5 year housing land supply on adoption and that will contribute to the overall housing land supply position over the whole plan period.

### **Infrastructure**

16. I note the Infrastructure Delivery Plan that the Council has submitted (document EB43). To supplement this, please complete the attached table (Annex B) for each site allocation, identifying what infrastructure is required under each of the different categories.

### **Next Steps**

17. Please reply to me by 21 November 2025 with a suggested timetable for responding to the matters raised. Your responses will inform my decision on when it will be possible to move forward with the publication of the Matters, Issues and Questions, guidance note and Hearings programme. I may have further requests for information/ clarification as I move forward.

*K Ford*      INSPECTOR

## Annex A: Housing Land Supply

[illegible]

## Annex B: Infrastructure Requirements

Site Ref	Site Name	Infrastructure Type			Notes
		Critical	Essential	Desirable	
		Needed to unlock development and mitigate impacts. Development cannot come forward without it.	Needed to support and mitigate development and ensure policy objectives are met.	Not essential for delivery but support objectives of the plan.	
01	Anywhere town	Infrastructure item x		Infrastructure item x Infrastructure item x	Example

