

LB Brent response to LB Barnet Local Plan Examination in Public - Inspector Led Consultation April 2023

LB Brent welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Actions and on the whole welcomes the way LB Barnet has addressed them. It has two points to make which it hopes will be helpful to the examination process.

Key Diagram (Exam 28)

The Key Diagram ([Exam 28](#)) does not now show the same revised boundaries of Brent Cross ([Exam 29A](#)) and Brent Cross West Growth Areas ([Exam 30](#)). It is not clear if the key diagram was produced earlier and has been superseded by a later version, but clearly the Key Diagram that is inserted in the final plan should be consistent with the final boundaries identified for those areas.

Tall Building policy (Exam 79)

The Council overall welcomes the changes as set in this paper. Nevertheless, with respect to the Cricklewood Growth Area being regarded as acceptable for Very Tall Buildings it notes a potential conflict with the content of Site Allocations 7 and 8. Exam 75 changes the classification of Sites 7 and 8 from Central to Urban and also reduces their residential capacity substantially. These sites make up the majority of the Cricklewood Growth Area and arguably the remaining sites of that Growth Area have more sensitive boundaries than those allocations. Given the discussion in Exam 75, the impression given is that LB Barnet now considers 'gentle density' the more desirable townscape outcome for this area given its surrounding context.

Whilst there may not necessarily be a linear relationship between height and density, the Plan as currently proposed might have policies that give inconsistent messaging on what might be considered the preferred approach to height in that area. To provide greater clarity, perhaps Policy CDH 04 should be amended to not make reference to Cricklewood Growth Area being acceptable for Very Tall Buildings, or the site allocations should indicate that notwithstanding the 'Urban' classification 7 and 8 may nevertheless be acceptable in principle for Very Tall Buildings.