Wandsworth

## Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

Statement of Common Ground between:

- (i) London Borough of Wandsworth and
- (ii) London Borough of Merton

# May 2025

#### **Executive Summary**

A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written record of the progress made by strategic policy making authorities during the process of planning for cross-boundary matters. This SoCG has been prepared to demonstrate that the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review (LPPR) is *'based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters'*, in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 36 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) chapter on Planmaking<sup>1</sup> (Maintaining Effective Co-operation).

This SoCG focuses on any strategic cross boundary matters being addressed between the London Borough of Merton and the London Borough of Wandsworth relating to strategic cross-boundary matters covered in the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review.

<sup>1</sup> <u>Plan-making - GOV.UK</u>

### 1. Overview

- 1.1. The Wandsworth Local Plan (2023-2038) was formally adopted in July 2023 following an examination in public in November 2022 by inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State. In response to the significant need for affordable housing in the Borough, Wandsworth Council (the Council) has initiated a partial review of the adopted Local Plan. This review aims to strengthen its affordable housing policy. Additionally, it includes changes to policies relative to housing mix, student accommodation, specialist housing for older people, build-to-rent properties and housing with shared facilities.
- 1.2. Wandsworth and the London Borough of Merton share borders and work in partnership to ensure a coordinated approach to cross-boundary strategic matters.
- 1.3. This SoCG records the outcomes of engagement between the London Borough of Merton and Wandsworth Council relating to the preparation of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review and, where relevant, any other live strategic matters. It summarises the collaboration between the two parties on strategic matters, ensuring that policies are appropriately justified and effectively address strategic or cross-boundary challenges.
- 1.4. The Council has routinely prepared and agreed Statements of Common Ground as part of its own plan-making processes, and in relation to those being delivered by others. The Council has agreed Statements of Common Ground with the London Borough of Merton. This SoCG partially supersedes these previous statements insofar as they were agreed prior to the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review.

## 2. Legislation and Policy Background

- 2.1. The Localism Act 2011 introduced a "Duty to Cooperate" into the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This duty requires local planning authorities, county councils, and other statutory bodies to actively engage and collaborate on strategic matters. Section 110 of Section 33A, entitled "Duty to Cooperate in relation to planning of sustainable development", in the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 defines cooperation on 'strategic matters' to be:
  - sustainable development or use of land that has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas, including (in particular) sustainable development or use of land for or in connection with infrastructure that is

strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas;"

- sustainable development or use of land in a two-tier area if the development or use is a county matter or has or would have a significant impact on a county matter."
- 2.2. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2024) (Paras 20-24) sets out the requirements and guidance that the Local Plan will be tested against. This includes cooperation on 'strategic priorities', in delivering:

  a) homes (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development
  b) infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat)
  c) community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure)

d) conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

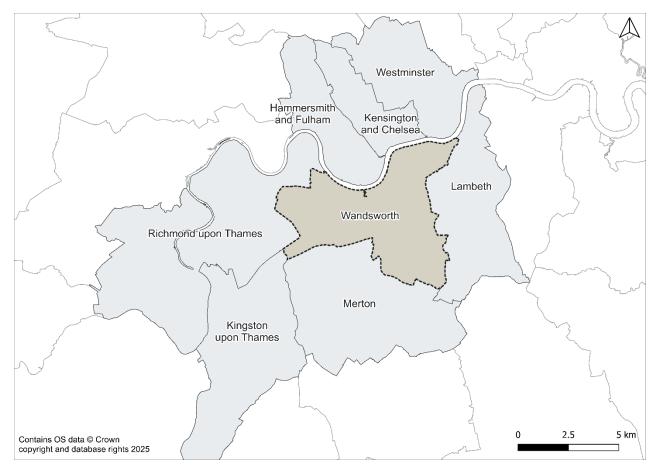
- 2.3. Paragraphs 24 to 27 of the NPPF (2024) state that strategic planning plays a vital role in ensuring sustainable growth and strategic policy-making authorities should work collaboratively on strategic matters that need to be addressed within the plan. This includes where applicable working with *'Local Nature Partnerships, the Marine Management Organisation, county councils, infrastructure providers, elected Mayors and combined authorities'* (Para 25).
- 2.4. Planning Inspectors are required to test legal compliance with the Duty to Cooperate legislation and all other legal requirements alongside the wider tests of the Plan's 'soundness'.

## 3. Legal Duty to Cooperate

- 3.1. The London Plan (2021) expresses the need for collaboration between boroughs on strategic issues that go beyond the scope of borough boundaries.
   Wandsworth Borough Council and other public bodies have routinely and effectively cooperated on cross-boundary and strategic matters.
- 3.2. Co-operation can take many forms which are effective in different contexts. The Council and other prescribed bodies for the purpose of the Duty to Cooperate co-operate effectively through shared participation in a range of strategic or cross-boundary forums. These forums include:
  - The Association of London Borough Planning Officers (ALBPO)
  - London Councils
  - Specific projects or workstreams overseen by the Greater London Authority (GLA)
- 3.3. The Council and other prescribed bodies also achieve effective co-operation through ongoing informal liaison and the holding of periodic or ad hoc meetings between officers which ensure issues are monitored and addressed collaboratively.
- 3.4. In scoping the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review, the Council has generally not identified or foreseen significant strategic or cross-boundary matters. Given the relatively limited scope of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review, a majority of the co-operation with other prescribed bodies has been achieved effectively through periodic and/or ad hoc meetings and through formal consultation responses. Updates have also been provided at meetings of some of the strategic forums listed above.
- 3.5. Where advice or feedback has been provided, either through informal liaison or formal consultation responses, the Council has given these appropriate weight and used these to inform the drafting of policies as part of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review.

## 4. Strategic Geography

- 4.1. Wandsworth is an inner-London Borough located in south-west London and is bordered on the northern edge by the river Thames with the London Borough of Lambeth to the east, London Borough of Merton to the south and London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames to the west.
- 4.2. Figure 1 below shows Wandsworth Borough in relation to adjoining Boroughs.
- 4.3. As shown by Figure 1, the London Borough of Merton is located to the south of Wandsworth.



## 5. Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

- 5.1. The Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review underwent Regulation 18 consultation from 23 October to 4 December 2023, followed by a Regulation 19 consultation from 13 January to 24 February 2025. The draft policies within the Local Plan that are relevant to the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review include:
  - Policy LP23 Affordable Housing
  - Policy LP24 (Housing Mix)
  - Policy LP28 (Purpose Built Student Accommodation)
  - Policy LP29 (Housing with Shared Facilities)

- Policy LP30 (Build to Rent)
- Policy LP31 (Specialist Housing for Vulnerable and Older People)
- 5.2. All other policies within the Local Plan are proposed to remain as existing in the adopted Wandsworth Local Plan (2023-2038).
- 5.3. The following sections give an overview of the main changes proposed to each of the above listed policies.

#### Affordable Housing (Policy LP23)

- 5.4. Draft Policy LP23 aim to address the affordable housing needs in Wandsworth as detailed in the Housing Needs Assessment (2024). Draft Policy LP23 sets a strategic target of 50% of new homes (by habitable room) to be affordable. It requires an affordable housing tenure split of a minimum of 70% social rent and maximum of 30% intermediate housing. The threshold for the Council's Fast Track Route is set at 45% for private sites, and 50% for public sector land and strategic or local industrial locations.
- 5.5. Additionally, the draft policy requires financial contributions towards affordable housing from small sites with 9 or fewer dwellings of £50,000 per dwelling calculated on a gross basis.
- 5.6. Developments that are unable to meet these requirements must submit viability evidence and follow the Viability Tested Route (VTR).

#### Housing Mix (Policy LP24)

- 5.7. Draft Policy LP24 slightly reduces the proportion of one-bedroom homes sought from market housing and re-balances towards family-sized homes (two or more bedrooms), which are most needed in Wandsworth. This adjustment aims to address the high demand for larger homes suitable for families.
- 5.8. The housing mix policy has also been updated to require a greater proportion of one- to two-bedroom intermediate homes. These changes are intended to ensure that the housing mix aligns with the current needs and income levels of residents, providing a more balanced and accessible range of housing options across the borough.

#### Purpose Built-Student Accommodation (Policy LP28)

5.9. Draft Policy LP28 proposes that Purpose-Built Student Accommodation (PBSA) is only suitable on land which is unsuitable for conventional housing. This measure

aims to prioritise the use of available land for conventional housing, including conventional affordable housing.

5.10. Additionally, Draft Policy LP28 has been revised to require developers of PBSA to make a contribution towards conventional affordable housing. This requirement aligns with draft Policy LP23, ensuring that the development of student accommodation also supports the wider goal of increasing the availability of affordable housing in the borough.

#### Housing with Shared Facilities (Policy LP29)

5.11. Draft Policy LP29 has been updated to require developers of housing with shared facilities to make a financial contribution towards conventional affordable housing in line with draft Policy LP23.

#### Build to Rent (Policy LP30)

5.12. Draft Policy LP30 has been updated to require developers to make a higher proportion of units available as conventional affordable housing, in line with Draft Policy LP23. This means that affordable units must be delivered on-site whenever possible. If on-site delivery is not feasible, developers are required to provide affordable housing on another site. If neither option is possible, developers must make a financial contribution towards affordable housing.

#### Housing for Vulnerable People and Older People (Policy LP31)

5.13. Draft Policy LP29 has been updated to require developers of housing with shared facilities to make a contribution towards conventional affordable housing in line with draft Policy LP23.

- 6.1. The Council and the London Borough of Merton agree on the following statements:
  - i. No cross-boundary or strategic matters arising from the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review have been identified through co-operation between the parties
  - In relation to co-operation between the parties, both parties are satisfied that Wandsworth Council has fulfilled its legal duty to cooperate in the preparation of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review
  - iii. The parties which are signatories to this Statement have co-operated effectively and an ongoing basis throughout the preparation of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

## 7. Evidence and Outcomes of Co-operation

- 7.1. A list of meetings held between the Council and the London Borough of Merton in relation to the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review are below:
  - 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024
  - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024
  - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- 7.2. A copy of the London Borough of Merton's response to consultations on the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review is provided at Appendix A.
- 7.3. Specific outcomes of co-operation between the parties are:
  - LB Wandsworth and LB Merton shared information about the ongoing work on the Local Development Plans of the respective boroughs.

## 8. Governance Arrangements

8.1. The parties are responsible for reviewing and signing this SoCG in line with their own governance arrangements.

## 9. <u>Timetable for Review</u>

- 9.1. The parties note the Council's current Local Development Scheme timetable for the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review.
- 9.2. The parties expect the SoCG to expire six months from adoption of the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review and/or the superseding of this document by a new SoCG agreed by both parties, whichever is sooner.

## 10. Signatures



Name: Adam Hutchings

Date: 28/05/2025

On behalf of the London Borough of Wandsworth



Name: Tara Butler Programme Manager,

Housing and Sustainable Development

On behalf of the London Borough of Merton

Date: 25/04/2025

Official

#### Official

## Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

## **Update Meeting with LB Merton**

## 24.01.2024

#### Attendees

- Richard Crutchley (RC) Wandsworth
- Daniel Goodman (DG) Wandsworth
- Tara Butler (TB) Merton
- Valerie Mowah (VM) Merton
- Katharine Fox (KF) Merton

#### Introductions

- DG introduced himself as a new Principal Planner in the Wandsworth Spatial Planning team
- RC introduced wider changes to team

#### Discussions

#### Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

- RC introduced the purpose of the meeting as to update LB Merton on the Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review, part of a series of early meetings being undertaken with neighbouring authorities and the GLA
- RC gave background and context to the Local Plan Partial Review; WBC submitted their plan in 2022. Whilst the Local Plan was adopted in July 2023, this was followed by an immediate review focussed around affordable housing
- RC advised that a single page Regulation 18 consultation was held late last year focussed on three main ambitions:
  - To seek a 50% affordable housing contribution from developments
  - $\circ$   $\,$  To change the tenure split to 70:30 in favour of social rent
  - To start requiring affordable housing contributions from small sites (<10 dwellings)</li>
- Around 230 responses received, of which around 40% from small developers, handful from agents and professionals, residents and community groups
  - Majority of responses were opposed, with some general support from residents and community groups
  - Many small developers used a templated response
  - Opposition from small developers focussed on the ambition to scope small sites into affordable housing requirements
  - Opposition from larger developers focussed on the ambition to increase the overall affordable housing requirement to 50%

- DG outlined WBC's intention to procure two main pieces of evidence over the next 6 weeks; a Housing Needs Assessment and a Whole Plan Viability Assessment (WPVA).
   WBC recognise the importance of the WPVA in particular to test / demonstrate the deliverability of the policy objectives. WBC also considering bespoke evidence around small sites.
- DG outlined that the brief for the WPVA was designed to incorporate sensitivity testing and to consider the relative impacts of disapplying different policies on the ability to achieve the policy objectives. WBC also have not ruled out different approaches to policy such as zonal requirements
- RC acknowledged that Merton had responded to the Reg 18 consultation showing general support for the three objectives. VM acknowledged that these objectives broadly echo the policy in the emerging Merton Local Plan
- VM advised that Merton's emerging policy similarly requires 70% low cost rent, 30% intermediate tenures, with a 50% strategic target
- In response to a question, RC clarified that WBC want to be sure that developers using the fast-track approach are not underproviding affordable housing relative to the full 50% target. It could therefore be that any new WBC policy looks to raise the Fast Track threshold beyond 35%
- In response to a question, DG summarised the feedback received from the GLA. Considerations around the threshold approach were acknowledged as a potential nonconformity issue unless WBC could demonstrate through its evidence base that any new policy was justified and deliverable. GLA general position appears to be that the London Plan threshold approach increases affordable housing overall and speeds up the planning process, and that an alternative threshold could have the unintended consequence of reducing affordable housing delivery by requiring more schemes to go through the viability tested approach
- VM asked whether historical data suggested the policy objectives could be met DG advised that his understanding was the threshold approach was seen as having had limited impact in overall rates of affordable housing delivery in Wandsworth but that this is an area the Council will need to develop evidence on
- Linked to this, WBC are encouraged by the success / precedent that some authorities had in introducing policies that increase the threshold relative to the London Plan
- RC acknowledged that beyond the objectives, some parameters of the Partial Review are not fully defined. WBC have set up Steering and Working Groups comprising senior Members and Officers. The purpose of these groups is to better define the priorities and details of the review.
- VM acknowledged that the London Plan has prioritisation included which could be useful to consider
- VM asked whether the 70% low-cost rent element was envisaged to all be social rent. RC acknowledged this as the type of issue that needs to be better defined by the Steering and Working Groups
- RC clarified the timetable for the Local Plan Partial Review WBC expect to consult on a Reg 19 in Autumn 2024 and are motivated by the June 2025 submission deadline under the current regulations
- To meet this timetable, the scope of the Partial Review is being kept intentionally focussed but acknowledge the interrelationship with other policies and need to keep

this under consideration. Not many, if any, reps to the Reg 18 consultation suggested scoping in other policies.

#### Other Matters

- RC introduced a separate workstream which is looking to develop a Clapham Junction Masterplan – currently defining the method for engaging the community
- WBC also have an ambition to update their SPDs currently have a joint Planning Obligations and Affordable Housing SPD which pre-dates adopted plan.
- Ongoing discussions around best approach to updating SPDs but generally reluctant to update them to reflect the Partial Review until greater clarity over the parameters of the review. It may be that an updated SPD is advanced but statutory elements are delayed until the Partial Review has reached Reg 19 stage, or that Affordable Housing and Planning Obligations are de-merged into two separate SPDs with the Planning Obligations SPD brought forward sooner. DG is separately working on a non-statutory guidance document around viability for applicants which leans into the objectives of the partial review
- WBC are generally reviewing the need for design codes and how these may fit in

#### Updates from Merton

- Merton have been at examination for around 2 years following submission in December 2021. Spent entirety of 2023 working with the Inspector on a variety of issues; have now received a message saying they can move to post-hearings consultation. Merton will write to WBC about the consultation; hoping it could start shortly but would end in pre-election period, otherwise will begin in May. Merton are hopeful of adoption prior to any General Election.
- WBC's experience of examination was good, although experienced a long period between Main Modifications and Inspector's report
- Merton plan to move on to SPDs after adoption
- More generally, Merton are engaged in regeneration activity. Plan to construct 96 100% social rent Passivhauses not currently a stockholding authority. Another series of sites in pipeline to build 400. Merton are prioritising sustainability.

#### <u>AOB</u>

- WBC Climate Change team have raised idea of having a Climate Change SPD RC asked if Merton had anything similar? TB clarified no intention Merton approach is fabric first and generally technology agnostic, with emphasis on developer-led solutions. Merton are looking at retrofit guidance but this is not just a planning matter.
- TB asked if WBC had a Biodiversity Net Gain lead. RC believes that this is managed by Enable on behalf of WBC, but will enquire and advise TB. Merton are working with DM colleagues on BNG introduction which has recently been announced as 12<sup>th</sup> Feb keen to liaise with contacts at other authorities
- During course of examination, Merton were asked to update Gypsy and Traveller policy to reflect changes to national policy. Merton's evidence base identified two figures, based on inclusion / exclusion of those who have ceased to travel. Inspectors taken a pragmatic approach but advised that it may need to be considered as part of a Partial Review. RC advised that the Lisa Smith judgement came out during Examination so made minor amends at the time, and acknowledged that RRR are doing strategic work

across London which may be relevant. If WBC policy based on older definition, may need to scope policy into a future review.

- Acknowledged that the AELTC application had been referred to the GLA
- TB advised that inspectors have asked Merton to withdraw allocations for Wimbledon Park and convert instead to a policy. TB has pointed out to Inspectors that this does not cover the whole Wimbledon Park as around a fifth is in Wandsworth. Merton therefore likely to write to WBC to ask them to have regard to this issue.

#### **Summary of Actions**

- WBC to keep Merton up to date on progress with Local Plan Partial Review
- Merton to inform WBC of the commencement of its Post-Hearings consultation and any relevant matters
- RC to enquire as to the best Biodiversity Net Gain contact and advise TB

## Update Meeting with LB Merton

## 06.06.2024

#### Attendees:

- Richard Crutchley (RC) Wandsworth
- Amy Ingle (AI) Wandsworth
- Bebert Longi (BL) Wandsworth
- Tara Butler (TB) Merton
- Ann Maria Clarke (AMC) Merton

#### Discussion:

#### Introductions

- AMC is a senior planner and leads on sustainability appraisal, habitats and health.
- TB is a manager in the regeneration team leading on CIL, Planning, Regeneration.

#### Update on Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

- Wandsworth adopted its Local Plan in 2023 following full review. Agreed to immediately review policy LP23 Affordable Housing with three main aspirations:
  - To seek a 50% affordable housing contribution from developments
  - To change the tenure split to 70:30 in favour of social rent
  - Affordable housing contributions from small sites (<10 dwellings)
- Wandsworth are aiming to get the Local Plan Review to Transport Committee in October. We are waiting for our Housing Needs Assessment to be delivered by consultants and need to be clear on key differences between the previous and revised HNA's.
- Wandsworth recognise that other areas of the Local Plan may need to be updated where amendments to affordable housing policy take place this may lead to a review of other policies, e.g. housing mix, student housing.
- Merton pursuing a similar affordable housing policy. Re. small sites, it became apparent that registered providers were not happy to take on small sites/ 1-2 homes on a small site because it's too costly to manage.
  - The assumption in Wandsworth is that this would be a financial contribution for the small sites, likely a price per unit.
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Wandsworth to look at Merton affordable housing policy  $\,$
- Merton have a viability-based approach in policy but working towards a price per unit approach to avoid need for viability assessment as to simplify the process.
- Wandsworth are considering the need to scope in student housing and co-living policies. London is unique in that it has high PTAL and current policy does not require student housing to be built close to HEPs as in other cities. One argument is that student housing should be dispersed across London and PBSA developments in other boroughs can take the pressure off boroughs where HEPs are located and already have a concentrated student population.

• Merton haven't had much interest from developers in student housing historically, but very recently have had lots of interest. Merton is cautious about this because of the extremely low level of HEPs in the borough. Haven't seen an increase in BtR but expect to in the coming years.

#### Other LBW matters

• Clapham Junction Masterplan is underway. Wandsworth are working with StopShop, Network Rail and the GLA to evaluate development potential around the station. This will be ongoing for next 12 months and Wandsworth will be undertaking engagement on this – Wandsworth would appreciate Merton's input on this although it is recognised that impacts in relation to Merton will be limited.

#### Merton Local Plan Update

- Merton submitted Local Plan in December 2021 and still in the examination period. Received permission from Inspectors to do post-hearing consultation Feb-March.
  - Merton has received many queries from Inspector, and there is also a struggle to meet Merton housing targets as well as unmet needs from previous years
- Merton also looking to undertake SPDs but this is on hold until after adoption.
- Merton don't own their own housing stock but LBM is going to build 96 100% social rent Passivhaus homes.

#### <u>AOB</u>

- Wandsworth are not reviewing Gypsies and Travellers sites policies as part of the Partial Review. Agreement to collaborate between Wandsworth and Merton and other south London authorities on Gypsy and Traveller sites and the Mayors guidance on this.
- Merton raised missing link on Wandle Trail at Earlsfield this is in the Wandsworth Local Plan (supporting text and Policy PM10 (C.2); Appendix 1).
- Wimbledon Park application which crosses over into Wandsworth expansion of tennis club. Merton allowed, Wandsworth refused, and this is now with the Mayor as the planning authority no action from Wandsworth and Merton required at this stage in the context of this meeting.



**Appendix 1 – Missing Link (Map 12.1, page 271 of LBW Local Plan)** Existing link shown on dotted line.

#### Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review

#### Update Meeting with LB Merton

#### 13.01.2025

#### Attendees

- Daniel Goodman (DG) Wandsworth
- Amy Ingle (AI) Wandsworth
- Bébert Longi (BL) Wandsworth
- Valerie Mowah (VM) Merton
- Ann Maria Clarke (AMC) Merton

#### Introductions

• DG provided background on the purpose of the meeting and the consultation launch for the partial review of the Local Plan.

#### Discussions

#### Partial Review of Local Plan (LPPR)

- DG gave updates on proposals of the LPPR:
  - Adopted in July 2023; partial review initiated shortly afterwards.
  - Focus on delivering affordable housing:
  - A target of 50% of housing to be affordable, with 70% for social rent and 30% intermediate split.
  - A financial contribution requirement for smaller sites (<10 units) to contribute to affordable housing.
  - Policy LP23 Affordable Housing the fast track threshold is increased to 45% for private sites
  - Policy LP24 Housing has been updated to shift a preference towards family-sized homes; fewer one-bedroom units.
  - Policy LP28 updates Student Accommodation to require developers contribute financially to conventional affordable housing.
  - Policy LP29 Shared Living/HMOs & Build-to-Rent updated to align with local thresholds and clarify contributions.
  - Policy LP31 Specialist Housing for Vulnerable People and for Older People updated to align with the Local Plan rather than London Plan requires for Affordable Housing.
  - Consultation set to close on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025.
- Merton supports the proposals of the LPPR in principle and will review Regulation 19 consultation documents to provide formal feedback.
- VM raised questions on the GLA perspective on the local fast track threshold and evidence supporting changes to threshold. DG responded that GLA is supportive or neutral on small site contributions and tenure mix but less in favour of the fast-track route. Wandsworth's evidence includes a whole-plan viability assessment and a background paper. The model shows that 80% of sites over 10 units will be able to meet the 45% threshold.
- DG highlighted that that £50,000 per dwelling contribution for sites below ten units is calculated gross

- VM also questioned whether evidence base is to include local definitions of household income thresholds and DG clarified that the definitions are intended to align with London Plan assumptions.
- On student accommodation the draft policy requires financial contributions, options may include on-site affordable housing in a separately managed block.
- DG emphasised that sites suitable for conventional housing are defined in the supporting text focusing on sites allocated or expected to deliver conventional housing.

#### Clapham Junction Masterplan

- DG gave updates on the progress of Stage 2 of the Clapham Junction Master Plan
- Collaborating with stakeholders to improve station access and surrounding development.
- SPD consultation planned for late 2025.

#### Updates from LB Merton

- Merton recently adopted its local plan and is currently undergoing a consultation on its Night-Time Economy Strategy for its town centres.
- A consultation for strategic flood risk and surface water management plans in development is also expected this year.
- Merton Council is also considering design codes for sites that have been identified for tall buildings.
- Merton will inform Wandsworth of progress on Morden Regeneration and flood risk strategies if relevant.

#### <u>AOB</u>

• VM questioned whether Wandsworth received the GLA's update on the pan London Gypsies and Travelers study and DG responded that this will be confirmed with Debbie Turner, the lead contact for Gypsies and Travelers issues.