

# PRESS RELEASE

**EALING  
MATTERS**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The draft New London Plan: Ealing to deliver the sharpest increase in housing across London**

Green light given to taller, denser developments and ‘garden grabbing’

If approved, the draft New London Plan will require house building in the London Borough of Ealing to increase by 116% per annum, more than twice as fast as across London as a whole. This equates to 2,800 new homes to be built each year for the next ten years in the borough, compared with the 1,297 homes targeted in the current Plan.

This would be achieved by:

- Encouraging more tall buildings. Boroughs will be required to identify locations where tall buildings would be appropriate.
- Relaxing the rules governing the density of new housing developments and making it easier to exceed the maximum.
- Building on small sites. Boroughs will be set targets for new homes to be built on small sites. Planning permission for residential conversions and extensions, redevelopment of existing houses and development within the boundaries of a house (aka ‘garden grabbing’) will all be easier to obtain in the face of any local objections.

Ealing Matters, a borough-wide alliance of community groups and residents’ associations, has submitted its objections to the consultation, which closed on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. According to Eric Leach, Chair of the alliance: ‘London badly needs more homes. However, the New London Plan expects Ealing to deliver far more than its fair share of new homes. Development on the scale proposed is comparable to creating a town the size of Stevenage within the borough over the next decade, but the Plan fails to explain this target, and it provides none of the infrastructure that will be needed by either existing or incoming residents. It’s a developers’ charter. With Council elections coming up, people should be asking their candidates what they will be doing to stop Ealing being blighted by a building free-for-all.’

To read more about Ealing Matters’ response to the draft New London Plan and its implications for Ealing go to Ealing Matters on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).

**END**

## **Editors' Notes**

- The London Plan:
  - is the strategic plan setting out an integrated social, economic and environmental framework for the future development of London, looking forward 15-20 years.
  - integrates the physical and geographic dimensions of the Mayor's other strategies, including broad locations for change and providing a framework for land use management and development, which is strongly linked to improvements in infrastructure, especially transport
  - provides the Londonwide context within which individual boroughs must set their local planning policies
  - sets the policy framework for the Mayor's involvement in major planning decisions in London
- The first version was first published in February 2004 by the then Mayor, Ken Livingstone. Since then there have been multiple new versions and alterations.
- The draft New London Plan was published by the Mayor, Sadiq Khan on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and put out for consultation up to 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018. An independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out the Examination in Public for the London Plan will review the comments received. The examination will take place in Autumn 2018 and the final London Plan will be published in Autumn 2019.
- Ealing Matters is a newly established borough-wide alliance of residents' associations and community groups (including local conservation panels and neighbourhood forums). We formed in response to changes sweeping through the London Borough of Ealing that are trashing our heritage, disposing of our public assets and generally ruining the fabric of our communities in a way that residents find themselves unable to influence.