

Duty to Cooperate Monitoring 2015/16 - 2016/17

Planning

3 October 2017

Duty to Cooperate Monitoring

2015/16 – 2016/17

Context

1. The Localism Act requires local authorities to prepare a report, which should include (amongst other things) information on how the Council has met its Duty to Cooperate. This statement covers cooperation that has taken place on strategic planning issues under the Duty to Cooperate between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. It provides commentary up to the end of December 2014 to demonstrate ongoing cooperation.
2. The Duty to Cooperate was introduced under the Localism Act 2011. It places a legal duty on Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to 'engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis' with other LPAs and public bodies in relation to strategic cross-boundary matters.
3. Para 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) sets out the strategic priorities that public bodies have a duty to cooperate on in the preparation of the Local Plan. These are:
 - the homes and jobs needed in the area;
 - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
 - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
 - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.

Duty to Cooperate initiated by other authorities and prescribed bodies

4. This Monitoring Report only covers Duty to Cooperate activity and engagement activities initiated and requested by other prescribed bodies.
5. The tables below set out the Duty to Cooperate activity undertaken throughout the financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17. It covers other Authorities' Planning Documents, set out by strategic issue. It can be seen that the borough is part of a number of formal joint working groups, such as the West London Waste Plan group and the Lower Thames Planning Officers Group, and also has a positive working relationship with neighbouring boroughs.
6. The borough also positively engages with the GLA in the preparation and monitoring of the spatial development strategy for London – known as the London Plan, and any alterations or reviews, which cover strategic issues particularly housing, retail and employment. The borough also contributes to research projects such as the GLA's Town Centre Health Checks. The Mayor of London and the GLA are also strongly committed to working with authorities and agencies in the East and South East of England to co-ordinate approaches to strategic issues of common concern.
7. For Duty to Cooperate activities and engagements carried out and initiated by LB Richmond, particularly with regard to the development of the Local Plan, please refer to the Local Plan Review: www.richmond.gov.uk/local_plan_review, which has been supported by a separate Duty to Cooperate Statement.

Table 1: Duty to Cooperate Monitoring 2015/16

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|--|--|---|---|------------|
| The homes and jobs needed in the area | | | | |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Updates on Elmbridge Local Development Framework prior to Lower Thames Planning Officers Group (LTPOG) | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | Updates to LDF evidence base include; + Green Belt Review, SHMA and review of absolute constraints. + Call for Sites exercise Dec / Jan. + SFRA is published and we will continue to update. + Consultation on the Flood Risk SPD closed, adoption early 2016 | 10/11/2015 |
| London Borough of Wandsworth | Duty to Cooperate Meeting | Neighbouring borough - Wandsworth | Discussed concerns regarding the loss of employment floorspace and industrial land | 15/01/2016 |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Duty to Cooperate Meeting | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | Discussed overall housing numbers, capacity and the balance of protecting Green Belt vs meeting housing needs and Gypsies and Travellers | 25/01/2016 |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Land Availability Assessment Draft Methodology | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | No further comments to add | 25/01/2016 |
| London Borough of Wandsworth | Consultation on Employment and Industry Local Plan review document - preparation stage | | Richmond responded with comments on Key industrial sites and Offices policies + both neighbouring boroughs are taking a similar approach + continuing to engage as the evidence base and detailed policy approaches are prepared | 28/01/2016 |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Strategic Housing Market Assessment for the London Borough of Hounslow | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hounslow | Telephone interview with consultants carrying out a Strategic Housing Market Assessment to discuss cross-boundary issues + further information provided on Richmond private rented sector and extra care housing | 11/02/2016 |
| Spelthorne Borough Council | Consultation on the draft Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) analysis for Spelthorne Borough Council | Neighbouring borough - Spelthorne Borough Council | Richmond response recognised the links identified in the report + no strategic cross-border issues identified in the report or recent Duty to Cooperate meeting. + support the progress of economic work through joint working + officers have no further detailed comments to raise | 31/03/2016 |

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|--|--|--|--|------------|
| Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, Elmbridge Borough Council and Tandridge District Council | Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) Draft Methodology | Neighbouring boroughs - Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, Elmbridge Borough Council and Tandridge District Council | At Duty to Cooperate meeting in January 2016 with Elmbridge (with whom a direct border is shared), it was noted that Gypsies and Travellers from Surrey tend to stay within Surrey travelling up and down towards the coast and not crossing into Greater London, and there doesn't appear to be a cross boundary issue. Officers therefore have no further detailed comments to raise. | 31/03/2016 |
| The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development | | | | |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Consultation on the Functional Economic Area (FEA) and Baseline Review | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | Response recognised the wider links identified in the report, and that there were no strategic cross-border issues identified in the report or the recent Duty to Cooperate meeting. + Support the conclusions to progress economic work through joint working + Officers have no further detailed comments to raise. | 31/03/2016 |
| London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham | Proposed Submission Local Plan | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham | Richmond responded with comments on: + Support for Policy CC3 - Minimising Flood Risk and Water Use + Policy DC3 - Tall Buildings - LBRuT would seek to be consulted on any applications for buildings likely to be visible from the Borough and supports H&R Policy DC3 - Tall Buildings + Support for Policy DC7 - Views and Landmarks, + Discussion on Hammersmith Flyover, Hammersmith Gyrotory and adjoining land, and it's impact upon the north of LBRuT and the strategic routes through this borough. Reduced congestion, noise, and improved air quality are welcomed. + Cross boundary, infrastructure provision such as schools and health care facilities may come under increased pressure with growing numbers in population; however this can be kept under review through ongoing liaison through the Duty to Cooperate. | 28/10/2016 |

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| The provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities | | | | |
| Elmbridge Borough Council - Local Plan Evidence Base Review | Green Belt Boundary Review Minor Amendments Draft Methodology Consultation | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | <p>Provided updates in relation to statements made regarding LB Richmond.</p> <p>+ Response discussed the Green Belt closest to London (Strategic Area A) and its role in preventing the outward sprawl of the metropolitan area and its coalescence with surrounding towns which was deemed particularly important.</p> <p>+ No alterations are proposed that will impact on the openness and purpose of the Green Belt in the Richmond area.</p> | 15/01/2016 |
| The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and minerals and energy | | | | |
| Thames Water | Local Plan Data for Thames Water's Strategic Water Resource Planning | Thames Water | Providing Local Plan Data and phasing information for Thames Water's Strategic Water Resource Planning | 23/09/2016 29/11/2016 |
| Surrey County Council | Surrey County Council Replacement Waste Local Plan 2018 cross border movements | Neighbouring borough - Surrey County Council | Provided information relating to potential land use planning barriers to the future management of waste | 21/12/2016 |
| Surrey County Council | Surrey Waste Local Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment & Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report | Neighbouring borough - Surrey County Council | Agreed on the scope and potential impacts by which waste related development might impact upon different characteristics of the Environment. | 25/11/2016 |

Table 2: Duty to Cooperate Monitoring 2016/17

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| The homes and jobs needed in the area | | | | |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Elmbridge Borough Council Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) Draft Report- Duty to Cooperate Consultation | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | Richmond responded and discussed provision in LBRuT at Bishops Grove, managed by Richmond Housing Partnership + Noted the contents of the draft report and did not have any Duty to Co-operate comments to raise | 13/04/2016 02/08/2016 26/01/2017 |
| Elmbridge Borough Council | Shaping Elmbridge: A New Local Plan - Strategic Options Consultation | Neighbouring borough - Elmbridge | Richmond responded with comments on: + Strategic options - Support protection of Green Belt and “absolute constraints” such as flood plain, Heritage Assets and Sites of Special Scientific Interest + Housing - Officers have agreed in previous Duty to Co-operate discussions that housing is a strategic and cross boundary issue that we continue to liaise on + Employment - In previous Duty to Co-operate discussions we have not identified any strategic or cross boundary issues on this matter + River Thames - support the approach to retain and update the Policy CS12 + Affordable housing policies - support the decision to continue to consider Policy CS21 on a case by case basis | 06/02/2017 |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Draft Employment Land Review - Functional Economic Market Area | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hounslow | Richmond responded to support the inclusion of Richmond within the FEMA + Shared concerns over implications of PD rights and the loss of employment floorspace + Noted concern over the Great West Corridor Plan and the impact of major development on the borough + Support the progress of economic work through further joint working and discussions under the Duty to Cooperate | 04/04/2016 |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hounslow | Richmond provided a summary of provision in LBRuT at Bishops Grove, managed by Richmond Housing Partnership as for Elmbridge GTAA | 02/09/2016 |

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|--|---|--|--|------------|
| Runnymede Borough Council | Enquiry regarding assistance for Runnymede in meeting its unmet housing needs | Neighbouring borough - Runnymede | Richmond provided updates on final Borough SHMA outcomes, which demonstrate need exceeds our capacity and that we are not in a position to assist Runnymede. Emphasised there is no direct border and the context of wider London and South East discussions on accommodating needs and projected growth will consider this challenging issue going forward. | 08/04/2016 |
| Spelthorne Borough Council | Local Plan Evidence Base Consultation | Neighbouring borough - Spelthorne Borough Council | Richmond provided updates on LB Richmond upon Thames Local Plan and provided comments on the Functional Economic Area Analysis noting that the functional labour market will extend into Richmond-upon-Thames although not as strongly | 07/11/2016 |
| The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development | | | | |
| Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Consultation on Draft Direction of Travel document | Neighbouring borough - Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Richmond response noted the estimates of growth and the areas identified for transformational change and selective growth | 01/09/2016 |
| Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Consulting on a draft Duty to Cooperate Scoping Statement | Neighbouring borough - Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Richmond responded with comments on: + Strategic Areas for Growth + Homes & Jobs - continue to work together on SHMA and welcome involvement in Kingston's Economic Development Strategy + Retail leisure and commercial - continuous cross-boundary issue + Transport infrastructure - support ambitions to link cycle network and footpaths and improve public transport connectivity + Flooding - continue to work together with the Environment Agency and other authorities on the River Thames Scheme through the Lower Thames Planning Officers Group + Schools and health - RBK and LBRuT are working together on education matters under Achieving for Children (AfC) + Green Belt and MOL | 05/09/2016 |

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------|
| Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Consultation on the proposed North Kingston Neighbourhood Area. | Neighbouring borough - Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Richmond response referred to designated Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood area immediately adjoining the proposed North Kingston neighbourhood area + as none of the proposed Neighbourhood Area falls within the London Borough of Richmond and that Kingston will not be designating any part that could cross the borough boundary, LBRuT does not have any further comments | 25/01/2017 |
| Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Draft North Kingston Development Brief | Neighbouring borough - Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Richmond responded to support the objectives of the Development Brief. Further discussions on: + tall buildings in Kingston Town Centre and alongside the riverside are likely to be of concern for LBRuT and that this is a cross-boundary issue + LBRuT would like to be involved / consulted on emerging Riverside and Public Realm SPD, which will consider tall buildings and identify key views that should be protected, e.g. Kingston Bridge to Richmond Hill + Advised on revised policy on building heights in Richmond's draft Local Plan. | 01/09/2016 |
| Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Kingston Riverside Public Realm Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and accompanying Design Guidance | Neighbouring borough - Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames | Richmond requested materials from workshop | 01/09/2016 |
| London Borough of Wandsworth | Employment and Industry Review – Policy Options | Neighbouring borough - Wandsworth | Noted Wandsworth's approach to a range of issues within the Employment and Industry Document Richmond would support Wandsworth Council in promoting the provision of flexible business space to meet the needs of small and medium enterprises in appropriate locations, including as part of mixed-use development so as to increase job and business opportunities throughout the area. | 04/11/2016 |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Local Plan review - Great West Corridor and West of Borough | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hounslow | Richmond policy officer attended stakeholder workshop for Local Plan review for the Great West Corridor. Requested specific Duty to Cooperate meeting with LB Hounslow to discuss in more detail | 10/03/2017 |

| Strategic issue | Details / Activity undertaken | Body involved | Outcomes | Date |
|---|--|--|---|------------|
| The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and minerals and energy | | | | |
| Highways England | Highways England request for data from Adopted Local Plan in order to inform the development of interactive mapping | Highways England | Richmond supplied LDF proposal sites and emerging site allocations | 29/07/2016 |
| Oxfordshire County Council Strategic Waste Movements | Consultation on Proposed Main Modifications to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan | West London Waste Group (LB Hillingdon, LB Hounslow, LB Brent, LB Ealing, LB Harrow, LB Richmond) + Oxfordshire CC | Response explained where waste generated by the West London Waste Group tended to go and said that the scale of the movement between LB Richmond and Oxfordshire is not of strategic importance so does not require ongoing discussion. | 02/02/2017 |
| London Borough of Hounslow | Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report to Local Plan reviews- Great West Corridor Plan Issues document and West of Borough Plan Issues document | Neighbouring borough - London Borough of Hounslow | Richmond provided comments on: + Infrastructure and air and noise pollution + Tall buildings and views over Kew World Heritage Site and conservation areas + Car travel - unacceptable traffic impacts and congestion without appropriate mitigation measures + Health Care - impacts on health care provision and GP surgeries within the Kew area + Education - questions regarding shared catchments in the Whitton/Hounslow area + Historic Environment - impact on the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, a World Heritage Site | 01/08/2016 |