

Stage 1 response:

Regarding response to stage 1 action documents (Ex42-57)

The Isleworth Society (TIS) appreciates the opportunity to review the approx 25 documents as the Council responses to questions from the Inspectors at Stage 1 of the Examination, with the following comments:

Ex44a

Para 2.3

TIS remains of the view that the Local Plan housing target is not based on realistic or accurate data for the period of the Plan, from 31 March 2025 to the end of the Local Plan period.

Noting Base data of 1 April 25, using housing completion 2019/20 to 31 March 2025 as a base line up to 2041.

TIS remains of the view that targets should be reviewed every 5 years, set against actual progress, the public should be informed of actual progress - including linking to affordable housing targets - and then targets should be revised accordingly. Thus making the Local Plan a 'living document' which remains realistic and relevant.

Ex12 Local Plan housing capacity

TIS notes this Main Modification, Tabler SC1.1, Fig SC 2.1 Housing targets 2020-2041

TIS would like to repeat concerns raised that the area of Brentford has already become over developed, with urbanisation and high-rise sky scrapers out of keeping with the neighbourhood.

With 11,268 homes to be built only 26 sites are Brown Field and 2532 pipeline sites. This development is already having a negative impact on views across Syon Estate Capability Brown landscape towards Gillette corner, reducing rather than increasing leisure centre and Arts Centre provision and reducing access to tow path of the river Thames.

In neighboring Isleworth, 870 homes are due to be built in an area which is already becoming over developed and should remain low-rise and increasing the provision of green local open space.

Ex44b

TIS is surprised to see the Council comment in Para 3.3 that there are "no qualifying bodies capable of preparing a neighborhood plan nor are there and current indications that activity will pick up again"

Can the Council explain how 'communities' have been made aware of this - and what organisations are expected to seek to re-establish Neighborhood Forums?

This seems an unacceptable response.

Ex44d

Affordable Housing - Main Modification

TIS remains concerned that housing numbers, driven by the Local Plan targets and reliant on Property Development companies to deliver, will not meet the need for affordable and social housing in the Borough. More luxury high rise tower blocks will 'tick the box' for numbers only.

Without a clear way to meet this - the Local Plan remains not sound.

44g Brentford Docks

This document seems unsatisfactory in response to the case made at Stage 1 in providing clear evidence that public access to the riverside area should be restored with immediate effect first - then any case to be made to the contrary can be made.

TIS would like the Inspectors to follow up on this point with the Council.

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TIS will respond on specific Site Allocations under Stage 2 in a further email

I hope this submission can be accepted

Please send confirmation

With thanks and best wishes

Val

Dr Val Snewin

On behalf of The Isleworth Society