

# London Forum E-bulletin

As I'm sure you know, the Government is consulting on a planning white paper (PWP), Planning for the Future, that proposes a radical shake up of the planning system. The link to the published document is [here](#). The consultation closes on 29th October 2020. In parallel, the Government is consulting on proposed Changes to the Current Planning System (CCPS), see [here](#). Consultation on this document closes on 1st October. I am writing to members about both of these documents because the latter is likely to lead to substantial increases to London's housing targets, and this may influence your view of the PWP. A London Forum briefing for members is [here](#).

The CCPS document proposes a new algorithm for assessing local housing need. Binding housing targets will be set top-down by central Government, taking into account each borough's capacity to meet that need. Section 7 of the briefing document discusses this proposal and the consequences for London in more detail. The CCPS also proposes measures to increase the supply of homes for first-time buyers, to support small and medium-sized developers and extend the Permission in Principle regime to major sites. Member societies may wish to respond on some or all of these proposals, as well as on the Housing Need algorithm and its consequences. We urge your society to respond to the CCPS consultation directly, and to copy your response to [membership@london\\_forum.org.uk](mailto:membership@london_forum.org.uk).

Planning for the Future proposes that Local Plans should be greatly simplified, with all land zoned as either Development, Renewal or Protected. Design Codes would be created for Development and Renewal areas, and there would be outline planning consent and/or a presumption in favour of development for all proposals complying with the Design Codes. Community engagement in Development and Renewal zones is encouraged in the creation of the Local (zoning) Plan and Design Codes, but not thereafter. Controls in Protected areas will be largely unchanged.

It is no secret that these proposals have been heavily criticised by organisations with which London Forum often finds common cause. However, it is important that members understand what is being proposed, and the underlying thinking, before responding to the PWP consultation. We have therefore arranged a webinar with leading planning barrister Christopher Katkowski QC of Landmark Chambers, a member of the Government's Planning Taskforce which offered advice in developing these proposals. The webinar will take place on Thursday 10th September at 11am. Members may submit questions either ahead of or during the webinar.

After the webinar, we shall be asking London Forum members to let us have their views on the PWP proposals, with a view to formulating London Forum's response by the end of the month.

**PLEASE NOTE** the need to **register in advance** to attend the webinar, as it has limited capacity.

London Forum Webinar on the Planning White Paper  
Sep 10, 2020 11:00 AM

**Please click the link below to register by 5 p.m. on 9th September for the webinar:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9WjGibqgQquck4vNMTtpVQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9WjGibqgQquck4vNMTtpVQ)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please make sure that your Committee is aware of these consultations and the need to respond.