

Barnet Local Plan EIP – Note on Policy CHW02 – Promoting Health and Wellbeing

Reason for producing this note

At the hearing session on Day 11 (3rd November 2022) during consideration of Matter 9 Local Plan EIP - Matter 9 - Parks and Open Spaces, Community Uses, Health and Wellbeing, Inspector Philpott requested provision of a Note on policy CHW02. This Note was to include:

- consider scales and types of proposals subject to HUDU model and approach of developer contributions to SPD/appendix to Plan. Following tall building discussions re standards
- Health Impact Assessment – modification to confirm why approach justified, including clarification of “larger development proposals” and consistency of definitions of HIA with the London Plan
- Reconsider reference to regard to Sport England’s Active Design Principles and whether “due regard” more appropriate than current wording
- Review consistency of CHW02(e) and contents of TOW03 in terms of health commitment
- Ensure (d) (e), (g) and (h) accurately reflect intentions of CDH03, TOW3, ECC02 and TRC01 – terminology and consistency check

The following format has been used in this Note to denote further proposed modifications to the submission version of plan as revised by the proposed modifications listed in EXAM 4.

- ~~Strikethrough text~~ to indicate text proposed for removal.
- Underlined text to indicate additional text.

Background

This Note sets out explanations for aspects of the wording of the policy and supporting text for Policy CHW02 – Promoting Health and Wellbeing in the draft Barnet Local Plan, further proposed modifications seeking to ensure clarity and consistency with the London Plan and the NPPF.

Consideration

- **consider scales and types of proposals subject to HUDU model and approach of developer contributions to SPD/appendix to Plan. Following tall building discussions re standards**

The Council acknowledges that there are merits in making specific reference to the HUDU Model. It therefore proposes an additional para at 8.18.2A as follows

8.18.2A The Council works with NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board and NHS England to determine what investment is required by monitoring housing and population growth, keeping infrastructure plans up to date and working together to identify and develop projects towards which Section 106 and CIL contributions

could be used. Developer contributions are used to fund the capital costs of new or expanded primary and community care facilities in order to meet the increasing demand for services which arises from population growth in new developments. The Council uses the London Healthy Urban Development Unit Planning Contributions Model (HUDU Model) to calculate the capital cost of the additional health facilities required to meet the increased demand.

The Council's approach to the scales and types of proposals from which it would seek planning contributions will be addressed in the Note on Viability.

The Council refers to the separate Note on Policy CDH04 - Tall Buildings.

- **Health Impact Assessment – modification to confirm why approach justified, including clarification of “larger development proposals” and consistency of definitions of HIA with the London Plan**

The Council acknowledges that with regards to the requirement for Health Impact Assessments (HIAs), there is a lack of justification in the supporting text. The Council is still in the process of producing guidance for HIA screening and appraisal. In the absence of this guidance it has reviewed references in other adopted Local Plans (at LB Camden – 2017 and LB Havering 2022) and proposes the following wording at para 8.19.2A and Policy CHW02 (ba) :

The Council will require a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to be undertaken for all large development proposals.

8.19.2A To ensure that development promotes and positively contributes to a healthy living environment, proposals will be expected to consider health outcomes at an early stage, prior to the submission of a planning application. The Council will therefore require that a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) should be undertaken by developers for all large development. HIAs can help to identify aspects of development that can be enhanced to achieve the greatest health gains and where there is a need to mitigate for any potential negative impacts.

With regard to the definition of “large development” this is set out in the Glossary. It states that large scale development is residential development over 200 units or a site of 4 hectares or more. It includes non residential development over 10,000m².

The Council acknowledges that the definition of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) should be consistent with the London Plan. The Council therefore proposes the following modification to the definition of HIA in the Glossary as follows

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is used as a systematic framework to identify the potential impacts of a development proposal, policy or plan on the health and wellbeing of the population and highlight any health inequalities that may arise. HIA should be undertaken as early as possible in the plan making or design process to identify opportunities for maximising potential health gains, minimising harm, and addressing health inequalities.

- **Reconsider reference to regard to Sport England’s Active Design Principles and whether “due regard” more appropriate than current wording**

Concern also arose during the hearing session regarding the reference to Sport England’s Active Design Principles. The Council had already flagged a proposed modification to CHW02c in its Matter 9 Statement to address compliance with the guidance. It acknowledges that ‘have regard’ is more appropriate wording. It therefore proposes the following modification to CHW02:

~~“C. Adopting~~ Ensuring that proposals for major development have regard to the principles set out in Sport England’s Active Design Principles;”

The Council also proposes the following modification to the supporting text at end of para 8.19.2.

~~Thereby assisting~~ This will assist in the improvement of the physical and mental well-being of residents. Major developments are expected to promote active design by having due regard to Sport England’s principles of Active Design..

- **Review consistency of CHW02(e) and contents of TOW03 in terms of health commitment**

CHW02e refers to the Council’s Healthier Catering Commitment (HCC) which is a scheme that helps existing food businesses in Barnet to provide healthier food, which is low in fat, salt and sugar, to their customers. In those instances where new hot food takeaway premises are allowed the Council will require, through a planning condition, that operators comply with the HCC. This is set out at para 7.8.3 rather than in TOW03. The Council therefore considers that there are merits in making a modification to CHW02 (e) as follows

Proposed Modifications to TOW03 are set out in EXAM 38.

~~Ensuring~~ Ensure compliance with the Council’s Healthier Healthy Catering Commitment ~~as set out in~~ with regard to Policy TOW03

- **Ensure (d) (e), (g) and (h) accurately reflect intentions of CDH03, TOW3, ECC02 and TRC01 – terminology and consistency check**

As with CHW02(e) the Council acknowledges that there are merits in clarifying the requirements of CHW02 (d), (g) and (h) accurately reflect intentions of CDH03, ECC02 and TRC01. The Council is producing separate notes on CDH03 and ECC02.

Reference to drinking fountains and public toilets is made in the supporting text to CDH03 (para 6.17.1). The Council considers that a cross-reference to London Plan Policy S6 – Public Toilets clarifies requirements for provision of ‘changing places’.

Proposed Modifications to TRC01 are set out in EXAM 50.

Policy ECC02 expects development proposals to improve air quality. The Council considers that this should be accurately reflected in CHW02(g)

The Council proposes the following modifications Subsequently the policy has been amended as follows-

d. Providing access to free drinking fountains, and public toilets and changing places in new and improved public realm with regard to as set out in Policy CDH03 and London Plan Policy S6 – Public Toilets;

g. ~~Mitigating the impact of air pollutants~~ Ensuring that development improves air quality with regard to as set out in Policy ECC02; and

h. ~~Deliver more sustainable and active travel~~ Reducing car dependency, promoting active travel and encouraging sustainable modes of transport with regard to as set out in Policy TRC01

Conclusion

The Council invites the Inspectors to consider and recommend that the Council makes the additional further modifications set out in this paper recognising that those considered to be Main Modifications will need to be formally consulted upon following the examination hearing sessions.