

Environmental Strategy

CPRE London has responded to the mayor's environmental strategy and calls for improvements **E**.

Green space. Stronger measures are needed to protect London's green belt and metropolitan open land. Greater protection is needed for high-value green infrastructure including mature trees, sites of importance for nature conservation and high quality agricultural land. The mayor should lead a city region lobby to save the metropolitan green belt.

Transport. The strategy needs to explicitly recognise that extensive low density housing development around London is set to add at least one million new car journeys a week within the metropolitan green belt, undermining the mayor's transport and environment strategies.

Noise and light. There is a need for a clearer relationship between ambient noise and the green infrastructure agenda. The strategy should recognise that one third of London's parks are severely impacted by noise. Clear proposals are needed to reduce or remove noise from ten parks that are very well used but also highly impacted by traffic. The absence of any proposals or policies relating to light pollution is a significant omission from the strategy.

Placemaking. A fifth strategic approach should be added to the strategy to focus on championing the character of place and placemaking, embracing local distinctiveness, and providing a broader and more people-centred perspective to environmental quality.

Green infrastructure. The proposed Green Space Factor needs to reflect qualitative issues including, ensuring safety, sustaining biodiversity, accommodating usability, encouraging sociability and ensuring coherence with surroundings. Stronger measures must protect high-value green infrastructure such as mature trees, sites of importance for nature conservation and high quality agricultural land.

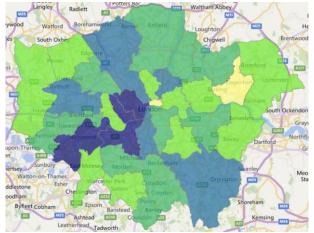
Healthy Streets. The strategy should set ambitious targets for healthy streets. These might include more targeted action on locations beyond Oxford Street and Parliament Square; an ambitious target for permanently filtering out through traffic from streets in residential areas and near schools and parks; and an ambitious approach to street closures, including around the capital's parks.

The London Plan

Consultation. Sadiq Khan has published the draft of the new London plan. It sets out ambitions to build 65,000 new homes in the capital every year. It includes proposals to increase housing density in the suburbs and to create car free developments close to transport hubs. Cycling provision will be increased. Metropolitan open land will remain protected and the draft plan staunchly defends the green belt: "The extension of the green belt will be supported, where appropriate. Its dedesignation will not." The consultation closes on 2 March is the green belt in the draft plan and new housing targets will be published in the January edition of the Green London eBulletin.

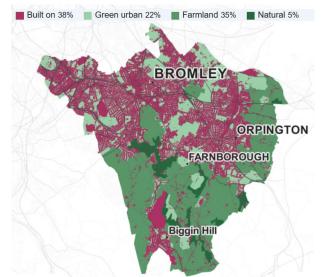
Open Space

Natural capital. A report commissioned by the GLA, National Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund has revealed that public parks in London have a gross net value of more than £91bn. The *Natural Capital Accounts for Public Green Space in London* report said every £1 spent by boroughs on public green space delivered Londoners at least £27 in value. Londoners also avoided £950m per year in health costs due to the health benefits of public green space. The economic benefits from parks are not distributed equally across or within London's boroughs as some areas lack public open space. This is leading to inequalities in leisure and health outcomes \overrightarrow{BON} \overrightarrow{BON} \overrightarrow{BON} More data on page 7.



Blue areas gain the highest green space benefits, yellow areas the least

Green space metrics. The BBC and University of Sheffield have crunched numbers from EU data and have published maps of the most, and least, green parts of Britain. In London, no one would be surprised that the City, followed by Islington and Tower Hamlets, are the most built up boroughs. Bromley, Havering and Kingston have the most green space. Details are on page 7 of this eBulletin and online and the BBC's maps are a useful simplification of detailed data. The full information and maps are provided by the University of Sheffield . The new maps have led to a political row in Bromley, where Labour councillors accused the leadership of overdeveloping the north of the borough to protect the leafy south .



Bromley land use (source: BBC & Sheffield University)

Green belt. After acknowledging record levels of housebuilding in the borough, the leader of Bromley council reiterated a commitment to protecting the green belt m. The editor of CityMetric has once again attacked the metropolitan green belt, claiming just 22% is publicly accessible. After criticism, he admitted that the analysis provided by Quod ignored footpaths and other rights of way 🙋. Campaigners celebrated winning the battle to save Oakfield Playing Fields after a planning inspectorate said the site is not needed to meet housing targets in the local plan. But although the leader of Redbridge council accepted defeat over building 850 homes on the green belt recreation site, he has since rejected a proposal to extend Oakfield Playing Field's lease or to support an application for the site to be registered as a Field in Trust Re Gu.

Parks and squares. The Bridget Joyce Square Community Rainpark, a combined park and sustainable drainage project, has won the 2017 Landscape Institute President's Award Landowner Grosvenor is to launch an international design competition aiming to transform Grosvenor Square into a more welcoming space. Its research has shown that only 9% of Londoners are 'very familiar' with Grosvenor Square, the second largest garden square in the capital. The move is part of the company's 20-year plan to improve its Mayfair and Belgravia estates 📟 🙋 🔛 Hounslow council is to transfer its parks services from troubled contractor Carillion to its in-house company Lampton 360 🏙 🎆. Greenwich council is planning to build a sports pavilion at Hervey Fields, which were saved after University researchers say urban parks and public spaces can provide a crucial free resource to enhance asylum seekers' well-being and help them integrate \mathcal{O} . The use of parks in Scotland is declining, and the evidence casts doubts on earlier UK-wide surveys that show high levels of satisfaction with parks 🌆

Allotments. A petition to save Northfields Allotments in Ealing, London's oldest allotments, has gained more than 5,000 signatures ³⁸. Despite this, Pathways housing aims to build 15 affordable units on part of the site ^{get} get get get. Writing in The Times, Dulwich allotment holder Jane Merrick said protecting allotments is vital to the health and environment of Londoners ³⁸.

Around the Capital

Barnet. Around 100 people attended a public meeting on saving the 14-acre Whalebones Park from housing development. The park is agricultural land used by community groups, including smallholders and beekeepers to a book and beekeepers to a book and beekeepers to be and beekeepers to be an additional beekeepers to be a statistical protection of the set of the



Plans for the Grahame Park estate

Brent. A new station at Willesden Junction is being considered ^{get}. Proposals for a 553-home urban quarter in Wembley Park have received planning approval **bd**.

Bexley. After a competition, a design has been selected for a new waterside library at Thamesmead **T**.



Proposed library at Thamesmead

Bromley. The Environment Agency has cleared 27,000 tonnes of waste from a site in Orpington

Camden. Sadiq Khan will decide on a 573-home scheme, with blocks up to 14-storeys, to replace a supermarket and petrol filling station on Chalk Farm Road. Camden planning officers had recommended approval despite concerns over damage to the setting of Primrose Hill Conservation Area and the special historic interest of Regent's Park, and fears that two of the seven proposed buildings will have an "overbearing effect on the public realm" **Q**.



Plans for Chalk Farm Road

City. Plans have been published for a 56-storey town on Leadenhall Street **de** (1). Residents are protesting with banners and threatening high court action against a 10-storey luxury apartment block they say will overshadow their homes **bd Gaz**.

Croydon council has approved new plans to redevelop the Whitgift Centre as the Westfield Centre, with 300 shops and up to 1,000 homes, around 20% affordable. Sadiq Khan has said he will not intervene despite the low affordable housing provision to be the mayor has approved two town centre towers, one 68-storeys in height **2** methods. The Croydon Advertiser featured a roundup of developments in the borough to be.



Proposed Westfield Centre

Ealing. Planning permission has been given for a new secondary school at Twyford Abbey, which is derelict after years of failed planning applications and changes of ownership **bd**.



Plans for Twyford Abbey

Greenwich. Council planners have recommended that developers retain the historic East Greenwich gasholder in any new plans for the site. Redevelopment of the site must await a decision on the Silverton Tunnel ⁸⁵³.

Planning and Environmental News from CPRE London

Hackney council is to consult again on the Dalston Area Action Plan (DAAP) after accepting that its initial consultation was jargon ridden and misleading. The DAAP threatens the community run Dalston Eastern Curve Garden Ga Me. The council's housing strategy, which aims to build more council and affordable homes, has been approved . A high court judge has quashed planning permission for a major redevelopment at Eagle Wharf on the Regent's Canal after concluding the public and businesses were not consulted on important amendments to the scheme Se Me.

Hammersmith and Fulham. Plans for regeneration of Hammersmith town hall include a new public open space and improved green spaces to help link King Street to the riverside ^{get}. Developer Capco is drawing up a new masterplan for the 77-acre Earls Court development, which will involve the council taking back control of redevelopment of the estates SM E

Haringey. Plans to improve conditions for cyclists and pedestrians in Crouch End could include a new public square around the clock tower **High**.

Hounslow council is consulting on revisions to its West of Borough and Great Western Corridor local plans. The West of Borough plan proposes releasing green belt land for housing and reclassifying other green belt areas as metropolitan open land or local open space. The consultation closes on 10 December ៉ An application has been submitted to build a promenade under Barnes Bridge ^{W4}. A second Chiswick application aims to build a mixed river leisure facility on the river by Strand on the Green ^{W4}. The redevelopment of facilities at Dukes Meadow remains controversial, with the council submitting a planning application before a public consultation on options was completed ^{W4}. The owner of the derelict Hanworth Park House has withdrawn plans for new housing aimed at paying for the repairs. Hounslow council had said it would be unacceptable development in the green belt ^{non} ^{get}. From 11 January, an Article 4 Direction will prevent conversion of office to housing without planning permission in parts of the borough 🕍. Plans have been submitted for five apartment blocks with 427 flats, 40% affordable, on the Citroen Garage site 🗮 🌇



Plans for the Citroen Garage site

Islington. Sadiq Khan told the government that the redevelopment of Holloway Prison must include substantial affordable housing. He rejected calls to bid for the site but said it would be an "outrage" if it ended up as vacant luxury housing HO FOR GAZ. An inspector has refused plans to replace three locally listed buildings on Pentonville Road with a modern seven-storey mixed-use block, saying the scheme would fail to reflect the area's Victorian character

Lambeth. Residents of the Cressingham Gardens estate plan marched to the town hall to demand a ballot on regeneration of their estate, which could involve the demolition of 300 homes 2000. Proposals for a contemporary extension to a language school on Roupell Street have been turned down due to the loss of open space and harm to a conservation area **bd** 2000 1000.

Merton. A councillor has applied for a temporary Building Preservation Notice for the historic Merton Hall in South Wimbledon, which has planning permission to become a church Street.

Newham. The Greater Carpenters neighbourhood plan calls for a referendum before any housing is demolished. The draft plan also aims to enhance existing and new green spaces to encourage community gardening, food growing and sports and play **...**



Richmond. More than 200 people have signed a petition against Turing House School being moved to Heathfield village in Whitton. They are concerned about traffic and loss of open space Reference. The Crane Valley Partnership is to restore 3km of the River Crane to create a riverside path and promote wildlife Reference.

Tower Hamlets. Revised plans for the former Royal London Hospital, which is being converted into a civic centre and council offices, will retain more historic fabric **bd**. The purchase by the V&A of a three storey section of a brutalist block at Robins Hood Gardens has been criticised by professionals **2 g b**. Plans to build a tower block in east London on open land next to the Regent's Canal was rejected by Tower Hamlets councillors for the third time this year Ad Ad. Plans for two towers of 30 and 26 storeys met opposition from councillors due to their height and massing **bd**. The 1950s Chrisp Street Market Clock Tower and the neighbouring Festival Inn have been listed **a**.

Waltham Forest is consulting on "the direction on travel" for its new local plan for the next 15 years. It says 1,810 new homes a year are needed in the borough, 69% affordable, along with more employment land. The council will "continue to resist the inappropriate loss of the green belt, metropolitan open land and open spaces" and "support the provision of new open space in development proposals." The consultation closes on 22 December .

Planning and Environmental News from CPRE London

Wandsworth council is to plant more than 1,050 street trees . Residents are concerned about Wandsworth council's plans to lease Roehampton playing fields to a private company in return for upgraded facilities, including a new pavilion. Nearly 2,000 people have signed a petition opposing the plans . The council is planning to build 1,000 new homes, including 605 for social rent or shared ownership. The council's Labour group voted against the proposals saying more genuinely affordable housing should be provided . The Twentieth Century Society is campaigning to preserve the 1950s brutalist Alton Estate. It says the scale of proposed regeneration is "completely inappropriate" bd



Plans for the Alton Estate

Westminster. Save Britain's Heritage is threatening to appeal after the High Court rejected its legal action against Renzo Piano's Paddington Cube, which has permission to replace a disused Royal Mail sorting office built in 1907. The campaign group was challenging the secretary of state over his refusal to call in the proposals for public inquiry bd estimates and the Canal and Rivers Trust says will cause further overshadowing of Grand Union Canal estimates. Nearly 3,000 people have signed a petition to preserve the brutalist diamond-themed car park built for Debenhams in 1971 near Oxford Street estime.

Energy, Waste and Recycling

Recycling. A poll by services company Serco asked more than 3,300 people whether they recycle all they can. The proportion answering "yes" was lowest in London (54%), compared to 68% nationally. Young people were also the least likely to recycle **C**. Recycle for London has launched a new campaign: "One bin is rubbish". It aims to encourage London residents to be creative with recycling storage at home. More than a third of Londoners saying they would recycle more if they had more bin space at home **C BRE TI RE**. Sadiq Khan is aiming to install a new network of water fountains and bottle-refill stations across the capital to help reduce the use of single-use packaging **S**. His action follows an earlier move by Borough Market **S**.

Energy. Plans have been developed for a second energy from waste (incinerator) facility at Riverside Energy Park in Bexley. A decision will be made by the planning inspectorate. The two units at Riverside could together power 10% of the capital's homes **II Mathematical Structure**. Sadig Khan is asking London boroughs to ban fracking **S Mathematical Structure**.

Planning

Local plans. Westminster council is delaying revisions to its city plan to take account of the mayor's housing announcements and changes to the government's calculations of housing need **P**.

Homes above. *Out of Thin Air* is the title of a report by engineering consultants WSP. It proposes that around 10% of London's 1,142km of open rail lines could be covered over and blocks of homes built on top. This could provide 251,000 new homes in blocks averaging 12 storeys in height . Another report suggested 75,000 homes could be built above London's car parks and the same problems of accommodating growing population. In Singapore, they are building seven "vertical villages"

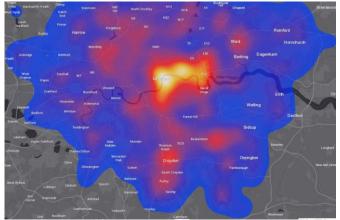


Homes above railways?

Shops below. Network Rail is to sell its commercial property portfolio, including commercial spaces under railway arches T. There is a fear that independent businesses will be squeezed out by higher rents or be evicted, as occurred in Brixton .

Sanctions. Eight planning authorities in England had more than 10% of their decisions overturned on appeal last year, including Bromley. If Sajid Javid designates these authorities, developers will be able to take their applications directly to the planning inspectorate **P**.

Brownfield. Every local authority must publish a register of brownfield land by the end of the year but many will not make the deadline according to research by Troy Planning **P**.



Heat map of brownfield land in London (source: Troy Planning)

Transport Strategy

London strategy. CPRE London has responded to the mayor's draft transport strategy saying that it strongly supports the healthy streets approach, active travel goals and the expansion of Legible London. It wants specific targets for walking and cycling and more involvement of community groups in developing sustainable transport. TfL should work with councils around London to determine whether current housing plans in the green belt will increase car dependency. Stronger measures are needed to improve tranquility, including around public parks. CPRE supports Crossrail 2 but wants greater priority to protecting green space. It opposes expansion of Heathrow and wants greater restrictions on expansion of City Airport R. Also responding to the consultation, the Strategic Transport Forum at England's Economic Heartland's said: "It is essential that the interests of London are balanced with the interests of the surrounding area when deciding priorities for investment in strategic infrastructure"

National strategy. The government has published its "strategic vision for rail" **2 2**. It contains few new announcements, including for London, and is cautious on Crossrail 2:

"We have to ensure we get any scheme right. We are therefore working... through an independent review of funding and financing, to develop plans for an affordable scheme that is fair to the taxpayer, where London pays its share."

Ministers will press ahead with plans to split the Thameslink, Southern and Great Northern franchises. They are considering transferring some services to TfL, including the West London Line

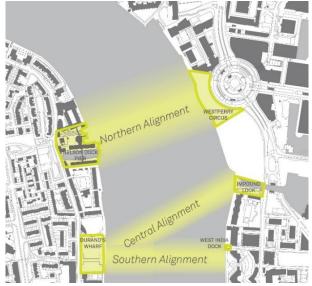
Transport

Sustainability. London has topped the UK rankings of the cities with the most sustainable transport networks but it is only 7th in world rankings $\bigoplus 9$.

Cycling. AM Caroline Pidgeon has described as perverse plans to shorten and divert the planned Cycle Superhighway 4 away from the centre of Greenwich and from Woolwich ⁸⁵³. Chiswick councillors have criticised the extension to Cycle Superhighway 9, saying it will not improve air pollution, will damage local businesses and will not strike a balance between the needs of cyclists and other stakeholders **W4**. In the Guardian, walking and cycling commissioner Will Norman argued: "Cycling doesn't clog up our roads" **E** rode.

Silverton Tunnel. The department for transport has delayed a decision on the controversial project for six months. Transport for London has been asked to reassess the air quality impact of the scheme. Lord Adonis, councils and business leaders expressed frustration at the delay in the delay is a size and the mayor to use the opportunity to show leadership and cancel the crossing is.

Rotherhithe bridge. TfL is consulting on options for a new Thames river crossing between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf for pedestrians and cyclists. Its preferred option is for a bridge which would raise for large shipping to pass through \bigcirc 853 \bigcirc 853 \bigcirc .



Potential locations for a cycle and pedestrian bridge at Rotherhithe



Planning and Environmental News from CPRE London

Rail. The planned increased frequency of Thameslink services is being delayed by a year to "manage the risks of each service change" Ar . Four London boroughs, Camden, Ealing, Hillingdon and Westminster, will receive a share of £30m being handed out to improve road safety ahead of construction of HS2 . TfL is consulting on the location and design of two new London Overground stations in the Old Oak Opportunity Area \bigcirc ...

Emissions. Sadiq Khan confirmed that the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in central London will come into force in April 2019 Im Image and Camden council has adopted new powers to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers who fail to switch off their engines whilst stationary and. Wandsworth council is to explore options for a major expansion of vehicle charging points across the borough Image. The environment food and rural affairs, environmental audit, health, and transport select committees have re-launched their joint inquiry into improving air quality Image. The area around Borough High Street is to be designated as a "Business Low Emissions Neighbourhood" Image and the select of the select

A new runway. The chairman of the National Infrastructure Commission, Lord Adonis, warned MPs that further delays to any Heathrow expansion could damage export markets **II**. The Commons transport select committee is holding an inquiry into the airports national policy statement (NPS). This sets out plans for airport expansion in the south east, including a third Heathrow runway. Transport secretary Chris Grayling is confident that the NPS will be approved by MPs but Gatwick Airport managers continue to argue that it should be the location for a new runway 📓 🎬 🛄 🔛 🛃 \mathfrak{T} . A report for rival scheme Heathrow Hub claimed the expanded airport will be restricted to fewer than 700,000 flights annually, not the 740,000 planned. It also said the scheme would have a much bigger impact on homes than Heathrow has suggested $rac{20}{3}$ $ilde{\mathbf{U}}$. Wandsworth, Richmond, Hillingdon and Windsor and Maidenhead councils said: "Any serious attempt at a UK-wide policy must come before any policy on individual airports, including Heathrow" 綴

The Budget

Cities. It was a budget for cities but what did the budget do for London? Not much, according to Sadiq Khan with the budget and the budget is a huge relief to hear the Chancellor restate the Government's commitment to strong Green Belt protection and 'making best use of urban land' in providing new housing" and the budget affects matters in CPRE's remit has been published by CPRE South East and the strong strengthere is a strengthere in the communication of the strengthere is a strengthere in the strengthere in the strengthere is a strengthere in the strengthere in the strengthere is a strengthere in the strengthere in the strengthe

The CPRE London eBulletin

Editorial. The CPRE London eBulletin is issued several times a year. Any views expressed are those of the editor and contributors, not of any part of CPRE. Andy Boddington, Editor, *cprenews@andybodders.co.uk*. **CPRE London**. 020 7253 0300,

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| Borough | Built on (%) | Green urban (%) | Farmland (%) | Natural (%) | Park area (ha) | Park area (%) |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Barking and Dagenham | 70% | 27% | 3% | 1% | 700 | 18% |
| Barnet | 57% | 24% | 17% | 2% | 1,700 | 20% |
| Bexley | 61% | 28% | 10% | 2% | 1,200 | 19% |
| Brent | 77% | 23% | 0% | 1% | 600 | 14% |
| Bromley | 38% | 22% | 35% | 5% | 2,600 | 17% |
| Camden | 71% | 29% | 0% | 0% | 400 | 18% |
| City of London | 100% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 20 | 7% |
| Croydon | 57% | 29% | 7% | 6% | 1,900 | 22% |
| Ealing | 69% | 27% | 4% | 0% | 1,100 | 20% |
| Enfield | 51% | 22% | 22% | 6% | 1,700 | 21% |
| Greenwich | 67% | 33% | 0% | 0% | 1,200 | 24% |
| Hackney | 71% | 28% | 0% | 1% | 500 | 26% |
| Hammersmith & Fulham | 84% | 16% | 0% | 0% | 200 | 12% |
| Haringey | 69% | 29% | 0% | 2% | 500 | 17% |
| Harrow | 61% | 25% | 8% | 6% | 1,000 | 20% |
| Havering | 39% | 16% | 44% | 2% | 2,100 | 18% |
| Hillingdon | 53% | 18% | 23% | 6% | 1,800 | 16% |
| Hounslow | 58% | 34% | 8% | 1% | 1,600 | 28% |
| Islington | 86% | 14% | 0% | 0% | 200 | 13% |
| Kensington & Chelsea | 82% | 18% | 0% | 0% | 200 | 17% |
| Kingston Upon Thames | 57% | 30% | 13% | 1% | 500 | 14% |
| Lambeth | 79% | 21% | 0% | 0% | 400 | 15% |
| Lewisham | 73% | 27% | 0% | 0% | 500 | 14% |
| Merton | 62% | 38% | 0% | 0% | 1,100 | 29% |
| Newham | 75% | 25% | 0% | 0% | 300 | 8% |
| Redbridge | 55% | 31% | 12% | 1% | 1,200 | 21% |
| Richmond Upon Thames | 42% | 57% | 1% | 0% | 2,400 | 41% |
| Southwark | 72% | 26% | 0% | 1% | 400 | 13% |
| Sutton | 67% | 28% | 6% | 1% | 700 | 16% |
| Tower Hamlets | 86% | 14% | 0% | 0% | 300 | 14% |
| Waltham Forest | 61% | 24% | 1% | 14% | 1,000 | 26% |
| Wandsworth | 67% | 33% | 0% | 0% | 700 | 20% |
| Westminster | 75% | 25% | 0% | 0% | 400 | 18% |
| Greater London | 59% | 26% | 13% | 3% | 31,000 | 20% |

London Land Use

Data for Built on, Green urban (which includes parks), Farmland and Natural are from the BBC and University of Sheffield analysis . The rightmost two columns for park area are based on a GLA analysis .