

# Guidance on how to make a representation on the Camden Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft

## 1. Introduction

The Camden Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (Plan) is published in order for representations to be made prior to submission.

The best way for you to make representations is by using the representation form.

Representations should be returned to the Planning Policy Team at Camden Council by 5pm on 27 June 2025 by:

**E-mail to:** [planningpolicy@camden.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@camden.gov.uk)

**Post to:** Planning Policy, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London, WC1H 8EQ.

The Camden Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan is published in order for representations to be made prior to submission. The representations will be considered alongside the published Plan when it submitted for examination a Planning Inspector. Under the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) (as amended) (PCPA) the purpose of the examination is to consider whether the Plan complies with the legal requirements, the duty to co-operate and is sound.

## 2. Legal Compliance and Duty to Co-operate

During the examination, the Inspector will first check that the Plan meets the legal requirements under s20(5)(a) and the duty to co-operate under s20(5)(c) of the PCPA before moving on to test for soundness.

You should consider the following before making a representation on legal compliance:

- The Plan in question should be included in the current [Local Development Scheme](#) (LDS) and the key stages should have been followed. The LDS is effectively a programme of work prepared by the council, setting out the [Local Development Documents](#) (LDDs) it proposes to produce. It will set out the key stages in the production of any Plans which the council proposes to bring forward for independent examination. If the Plan is not in the current LDS it should not have been published for representations.
- The process of community involvement for the Plan in question should be in general accordance with the council's [Statement of Community Involvement](#) (SCI). The SCI sets out the council's strategy for involving the community in the preparation and revision of planning policy documents and the consideration of planning applications.
- The Plan should comply with the [Town and County Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) (the Regulations). On publication, the council must publish the documents prescribed in the Regulations, and make them available at its principal offices and on its website. The council must also notify the Local Plan bodies (as set out in the Regulations) and any persons who have requested to be notified.
- The council is required to provide a [Sustainability Appraisal Report](#) when it publishes a Plan. This should identify the process by which the Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out, and the baseline information used to inform the process and the outcomes of that process. Sustainability Appraisal is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect social, environmental, and economic factors

You should consider the following before making a representation on compliance with the duty to co-operate:

- Councils are expected to provide evidence of how they have complied with any requirements arising from the duty.
- The PCPA establishes that non-compliance with the duty to cooperate cannot be rectified after the submission of the Plan. Therefore the Inspector has no power to recommend modifications in this regard. Where the duty has not been complied with, the Inspector has no choice but to recommend non-adoption of the Plan.

### **3. Soundness**

Local Plans are examined to assess whether they have been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements, and whether they are sound. Paragraph 36 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the tests of soundness. The Inspector has to be satisfied that the Plan is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

- ***Positively prepared***

This means that the Plan should be prepared based on a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development.

- ***Justified***

The Plan should be an appropriate strategy, taking into account reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence.

- ***Effective***

The Plan should be deliverable over the plan period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters.

- ***Consistent with national policy***

The Plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the NPPF and other statements of national planning policy, where relevant.

If you think the content of the Plan is not sound because it does not include a policy where it should do, you should go through the following steps before making representations:

- Is the issue with which you are concerned already covered specifically by national planning policy? If so, it does not need to be included?
- Is what you are concerned with covered by any other policies in the Plan on which you are seeking to make representations or in any other Plan?
- If the policy is not covered elsewhere, in what way is the Plan unsound without the policy?
- If the Plan is unsound without the policy, what should the policy say?

### **4. General advice**

If you wish to make a representation seeking a modification to the Plan or part of the Plan you should make clear in what way the Plan or part of the Plan is not sound having regard to legal compliance, duty to cooperate and the four tests of soundness set out above. You should try to support your representation by evidence showing why the Plan should be modified. It will be helpful if you also say precisely how you think the Plan should be modified. Representations should cover succinctly all the

information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested modification, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further submissions based on the original representation made at publication. After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues they identify for examination.

Where there are groups who share a common view on how they wish to see a Plan modified, it would be very helpful for that group to send a single representation which represents the view, rather than for a large number of individuals to send in separate representations which repeat the same points. In such cases the group should indicate how many people it is representing and how the representation has been authorised.