

MAYOR OF LONDON

Andrew Boff AM

Chair of the Planning and Regeneration
Committee

Andrew.boff@london.gov.uk

Date: 29 June 2020

Nicky Gavron AM

Deputy Chair of the Planning and Regeneration
Committee

Nicky.gavron@london.gov.uk

Dear Andrew and Nicky,

Thank you for your letter of 18th May regarding the new Planning and Regeneration Committee, and your query about the timescales for formal publication of the London Plan. I likewise look forward to working with you over the coming year.

You will be aware that we do not have any control over when the Secretary of State will provide his response. Following the Mayor's letter on this matter on 24th April, officers met with MHCLG officials on 7th May and discussed the changes that were considered necessary to make the plan workable in practice following the Secretary of State's Direction.

Officers have remained in contact with MHCLG officials to press on this important issue for London. However, the Secretary of State has not yet responded to the suggested areas of change.

Once we have the informal approval from the Secretary of State (and any other relevant government departments he wishes to consult with) there are still a number of steps that are required to finalise the Plan which I have set out below:

- Complete the Integrated Impact Assessment, Habitat Regulations Assessment and necessary legal checks taking into account the final wording of the Plan as agreed with the Secretary of State (informally).
- Take the Mayoral Decision on the new Plan.
- Formally send the Secretary of State the final Plan.
- Receive the Secretary of State's Section 337 (GLA Act) confirmation that either the amendments in the Plan satisfy the Direction or he withdraws the Direction.
- Formal publication, including creation of the final document and preparation of the web version and the statutory notices in newspapers and notifications.

We estimate that internal procedures from receipt of the Secretary of State's informal response to formally seeking his approval to publish would take at least 4 to 6 weeks providing there are no significant issues with the Secretary of State's response that need to be taken into account.

It would be a further 2 to 3 weeks following the Secretary of State's formal confirmation that the Mayor can publish his plan before actual publication could take place, primarily relating to the placing of statutory notification in the papers, but also the work needed to get the web version live.

Clearly there is potential for a scenario where further time is required to consider specific wording or other complications that would add, possibly significantly, to these timescales.

I recognise that this does not give you much certainty to set the workplan for the new Planning and Regeneration Committee for the year ahead. I will ensure that you are kept up to date on any developments with respect to the Secretary of State's response to enable you to take this into account as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jules Pipe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Jules Pipe CBE
Deputy Mayor Planning,
Regeneration & Skills