

Examination of the Enfield Local Plan 2019-2041

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Examination webpage: [Local plan examination \(enfield.gov.uk\)](http://Local%20plan%20examination%20(enfield.gov.uk))

IN2: 'Stage 1' - Matters, Issues and Questions

1. Thank you for your initial response to the preliminary questions set out in document IN1. I look forward to receiving the remainder of the answers in due course.
2. Further to the answers you have provided, there are several issues which I consider would benefit from being discussed at an early stage. These relate primarily to matters of legal compliance, the spatial strategy, housing and employment land requirements, the approach Gypsies and Travellers, whether or not there are exceptional circumstances for amending Green Belt boundaries in principle, the approach to site selection and whether the Plan is in general conformity with the London Plan (at least in relation to the other matters to be discussed). Other matters, including the housing supply and individual allocations, will be discussed at subsequent stages.
3. Subsequent to your responses to PQ1, I understand from the Programme Officer that they have been contacted by representers who have expressed some concern that the issues identified with the representation database have not been resolved. This is, of course, for the Council to investigate and address where necessary. However, these 'stage1' hearings will also provide an opportunity to consider whether the engagement carried out has met the necessary statutory requirements, as well as the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.
4. **Appendix 1** to this note sets out my first set of Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQs). As set out in **Appendix 2**, the Council should submit written statements that respond to all my MIQs. Any representer may submit a written statement or statements. However, these should only be in response to questions that relate to their original representations. Representors' statements should set out the key points from their original representations against relevant questions and not introduce new arguments or evidence.
5. To carry out hearings in January next year, it is necessary for me to publish my MIQs and hearing programme prior to receiving the full range of answers to my Preliminary Questions. These are expected by 29 November. This is unfortunate. However, were I to delay publication any further then it is likely that hearings could not take place for some time.

6. I have drafted the MIQs to cover those issues where responses are outstanding. It may be that the further answers to my Preliminary Questions will address these points adequately. However, it is possible that on receipt of the final response, I shall need to issue supplementary MIQs.
7. Written statements must be prepared in accordance with the advice in **Appendix 2**. All statements in response to the questions in this note must be sent to the Programme Officer by **Wednesday 8 January 2025**.
8. I anticipate that 'stage 1' hearings into these matters will start on **Wednesday 22 January 2025**. These will take place at: **D-Block, Civic Centre, Enfield Council, Silver Street, Enfield EN1 3XA**
9. A draft programme is attached to this note as **Appendix 3**. This will be subject to change once it is confirmed who wishes to attend and/or once the deadline for hearing statements has passed. Interested parties are advised to regularly check the examination website to check for the latest version of the programme. Representors are also requested to familiarise themselves with the Guidance Note (document IN2), which provides some details about attendance at the hearings.
10. Written statements will be published on the examination website as soon as possible after the deadline so that they are available to all participants and anyone else who wishes to read them. As they will be available on the website, they will not be circulated directly to participants. Anyone who is unable to access them on the website should contact the Programme Officer.
11. As well as written statements I shall take account of other published evidence and representations made in accordance with regulation 20 in coming to my conclusion at the end of the examination. However, I can only recommend main modifications where they are essential to make the Plan sound or legally compliant. I cannot recommend a modification because it would "improve" the Plan, irrespective of the wishes of the Council or any interested party.
12. No written material will be accepted after the relevant deadline unless I have specifically requested it.
13. Key dates for stage 1 are as follows:

Advise Programme Officer of Participation:	Wednesday 18 December 2024
Submission of Written Statements:	Wednesday 8 January 2025
Opening of Hearing Sessions:	Wednesday 22 January 2025
14. Any queries about this note should be taken up with the Programme Officer.

Yours sincerely

S J Lee

20 November 2024
