

Maslin. P

1.30 The Vision and Strategic Objectives:

You say that '[t]ackling climate change, and the effects of climate change remains at the heart of Merton's planning policies', so why does the Council still invest some of its pension funds in companies who deal in fossil fuels?

Strategic policy H4.1 - Housing Choice (Housing document):

-) Why set the 'affordable housing' target for 11 or more units on public sector land at 50%, but accept 'minimum provision of 35%' in the case of 'all other sites'? And why set the 'affordable housing' target for 2-10 units as low as 20%? I would say that a housing plan which rests on the notion that it is acceptable to have 50%/65%/80% unaffordable housing is unambitious and unethical, especially in light of the dearth of social housing and the increase in homelessness.
-) Further to this, why did only '19% of new housing provision for 2016/17 consist[] of affordable housing'? And why has the 'affordable housing completion rate' '[o]ver the last seven years' been, 'on average', only 30%?

Strategic policy HW2.1 - Health and wellbeing (Health and Wellbeing document):

-) In b, you say that you are 'improving access to health care ... and community health facilities', so why has the long-promised GP surgery in the Crest Nicholson Rowan Park development not materialised?
-) You say that you will be '[c]reating ... Autism Friendly public realm, housing and communities'. How do you plan to do this?

Strategic policy W.6.3 - Waste management (Infrastructure document):

You say 'We will increase recycling rates'. Please be more specific. What is the current rate? And what is your target rate?

Strategic policy 08.1 - Open Space, Green Infrastructure and Nature Conservation (Environment document):

In light of the aims set out in a, c, d, e and j, why has Merton Council enabled Wimbledon Tennis Championships to situate a park and ride facility in Morden Park, and We are the Fair to hold Eastern Electrics festivals there too? Allowing WTC and WatF/EE to use Morden Park in these ways is surely contradictory to the aims.

Policy N3.2 - Mitcham Town Centre (Mitcham document)

You say that you are '[c]reating healthier streets', but Mitcham Society's latest report on air quality indicates that the Council's current strategy is having the opposite effect: <https://www.mitchamsociety.org.uk/assets/documents/mitcham-society-air-quality-su-2>. What is your response to the report?

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your time.