



SWBA Ltd
c/o White Light Ltd
20 Merton Industrial Estate
Jubilee Way
London
SW19 3WL

Future Merton Team
London Borough of Merton
London Road
Morden
SM4 5DX

25 January 2019

Dear Sirs

Merton Local Plan Stage 2 Consultation

I am writing on behalf of the South Wimbledon Business Area BID in response to the consultation on the new Local Plan for Merton. Whilst this response has been agreed by the BID Board it may not necessarily reflect the views of all SWBA businesses.

We very much welcome the fact that the SWBA is recognised by the Council as one of South London's most successful business areas and that the Council undertakes to continue to support this Strategic Industrial Location (SIL).

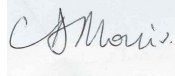
We also welcome the strong emphasis running through the plan on safeguarding employment and protecting, managing and improving wherever possible the quality of designated SILs. In particular, the provision in the Economy section (Paras 7.2.13 to 7.2.20 inclusive) which relates to the need to allow businesses in industrial areas to operate without unnecessary restrictions is very positive. The provision at Para 7.2.19 relating to the Council's removal of permitted development rights from offices in designated industrial areas that wish to convert to residential use is also helpful.

In this context, we particularly support the provisions in Para 7.2.20 relating to the need for proposals for new development or change of use to be compatible with the particular nature of the SILs. We would nevertheless be grateful for confirmation that this would be the case whether such development was for residential or for other purposes, and for all buildings within the SILs.

Other aspects of the plan of note include future improvements to transport infrastructure and better environmental quality which will undoubtedly have benefits for the SWBA and its businesses.

The SWBA BID is grateful for the opportunity to comment and would appreciate being kept informed of developments in the light of the outcome of this consultation.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C Morris', is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Claire Morris
SWBA BID Estate Coordinator