

# London Borough of Sutton

## Environment & Neighbourhoods

### Eleanor Purser – Executive Head Economic Development, Planning and Sustainability



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#### **Please reply to:**

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Dear Tara,

#### **Re: Submission Draft Sites and Policies Plan and Draft Policies Map**

Thank you for sending us links to Merton's Submission Draft Sites and Policies Plan and Draft Policies Map.

We have no objections to the policies set out in the plan. However, we would like to see minor amendments or clarifications on three issues:

1. The London Borough of Sutton is extremely pleased to see that the proposed Tramlink routes within your borough have been safeguarded on the Draft Policies Map (Draft Policy 06TN). As you are aware, the London Borough of Sutton is very keen for two extensions to be constructed:
  - Sutton→Rosehill→Morden→Wimbledon; and,
  - Sutton→Rosehill→Mitcham Junction→(Croydon).

We have already safeguarded these routes within our planning framework and it is heartening that our safeguarding and your safeguarding dovetail.

We are also grateful for the support that the London Borough of Merton has given the London Borough of Sutton in meetings with Transport for London.

However, on a point of consistency, it may be helpful to name the safeguarding consistently. We note:

- On Page 150 the safeguarding is referred to as "Tram Line Extension" and "Tram Service"
- On Page 279 the safeguarding is referred to as "Light Rail Policies"

2. We are slightly surprised that there are no defined boundaries for the Wandle Valley Regional Park within the document, especially as Paragraph 15.9 of the Merton Core Strategy states: “The final boundary will be set following the recommendations of the Wandle Valley Regional Park Development Board, comprising the local authorities along the Wandle. Once agreed, it will be integrated into the next review of Merton’s Proposals Map.”

As you are aware, the London Borough of Sutton defined the boundaries of the Wandle Valley Regional Park within its area in 2009. We consider it would be useful if all of the boundaries of the Wandle Valley Regional Park were designated relatively quickly as we believe a defined Wandle Valley Regional Park would encourage the leveraging of funding and encourage local initiatives. We would welcome a clarification of when the London Borough of Merton intends to define its Wandle Valley Regional Park boundaries.

3. Finally, the London Borough of Sutton supports Draft Policy 15TN for the creation of a new access road from the Willow Lane Industrial Estate to Carshalton Road. This will reduce transport movements on Goat Road which forms the boundary between Sutton and Merton. Furthermore, it may encourage more industrial vehicles to use the A236 as a route to the A23, thereby reducing traffic passing through the centre of Hackbridge, which is currently undergoing significant public realm improvements.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

*D Clarke*

**Duncan Clarke**  
**Planning Policy Officer**

Chief Executive –  
**Niall Bolger**

Interim Strategic  
Director –  
**Mary Morrissey**