

**From:**  
**To:** [Future Merton](#);  
**Cc:**  
**Date:** 13 February 2024 15:47:29

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### **Merton Local Plan MM Consultation.**

I refer to Merton Council's message of 2 February below regarding the MMs, which has gone to all who appeared at the Local Plan Consultation and Hearings. I have been asked to write to you to raise a couple of factual questions and very much hope you can please help at this stage. We wanted to raise these factual questions now and not to drop them on you at the last minute in the consultation. Your responses to any of these questions which you can answer at this stage will be very helpful and should inform our approach to understanding and commenting on the revisions.

**1. MOL Plan.** We are trying to see if the MOL boundaries on the existing AELTC site West of Church Road have been changed or not. The maps presented in the various documents are a little confusing and we should be grateful if you would please clarify.

1.1 LBM36 Schedule of Modifications to the Policies Map – January 2024 does not list any changes to MOL on the existing AELTC site.

1.2 At Page 307 of LBM31 the map of the revised Wi3 Site Allocation shows a quite extensive MOL area, which looks to us to be the same as the current MOL area.

1.3 At Page 153 of LBM29, this same presentation of the current MOL area also appears in the Map accompanying the proposed New Policy N8.1 for Wimbledon Park.

However,

1.4 The contents page and page 722 of LBM31 contain an embedded link to the new policies map. This link does not work, but goes to "Page Not Found".

1.5 At Page 19 of LBM31 the updated Map of "Merton's Spatial Strategy" has colouring which isn't clear as any pale blue stippling of MOL is not visible through the yellow shading of the land west of Church Road.

1.6 At Page 161 of LBM29 a map headed "MM Appendix 6 - page 283 (MM115) changes to Site Allocation Wi3" shows considerably less MOL within the AELTC site on the west side of Church Road .

If a change to MOL to the east of Church Road has in fact been made would you please provide, or indicate where we can find, the proposed justification so we may understand it? If no change to MOL has been made, should we infer that the Inspectors have dismissed the AELTC application for that?

**2. New Policy N8.1.** We are trying to understand the status of this proposed new policy.

2.1 Is N8.1 proposed to amount to a Site Allocation for Wimbledon Park? At Page 19 of LBM31, Figure 1 Merton's Spatial Strategy (Map Updated) includes the Park (land to the east of Church Road) within the yellow shading designation of Site Allocation. Is that correct, or is it an error and the yellow shading should be omitted from Wimbledon Park?

2.2 At page 14 of LBM35 Health Impact Assessment for Main Modifications (post hearings)

Merton's draft Local Plan, paragraph 8.33 states: "The council is proposing a new policy to cover the whole of Wimbledon Park following discussions that took place during the Hearings". We note the last phrase "*discussions that took place during the hearings in 2022*". Could you please confirm whether Historic England, the Gardens' Trust or any other party has been involved in preparing or commenting on it in the time that has passed since those discussions?

2.3 Paragraph 8.34 of LBM35 states: "As this is a new policy it has not been assessed as part of the SA process before." Could you please explain the significance of this sentence, the meaning of "SA", and confirm how it is proposed to undertake the full statutory consultation on it?

I do hope you will be able to put our minds at rest.



## Consultation on main modifications to Merton's draft Local Plan

Please tell us your views on the main modifications to Merton's draft Local Plan by Friday 22 March 2024

The Planning Inspectors examining Merton's draft Local Plan have proposed a list of main modifications to the Plan, including those discussed at the public hearing sessions during June and October 2022. Please see the Inspectors covering note on the main modifications ([INSP25](#)), which sets out the scope of this consultation to main modifications only.

The main modifications can be found in [LBM29 Schedule of Main Modifications](#) and, for ease of reference, have been incorporated into the draft Local Plan ([document LBM31](#)).

An updated Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment were also produced to assess the proposed modifications and are published below:

1. [LBM29 Schedule of Main Modifications dated January 2024](#)
2. [LBM30 Schedule of Additional Modifications dated January 2024](#)
3. [LBM31 Merton's Local Plan incorporating proposed modifications dated January 2024](#)
4. [LBM32 Sustainability Appraisal of Merton's Local Plan dated January 2024](#)

5. [LBM33 Habitats Regulations Assessment of Merton's Local Plan dated January 2024](#)
6. [LBM34 Equalities Impact Assessment of Merton's Local Plan dated January 2024](#)
7. [LBM35 Health Impact Assessment of Merton's Local Plan dated January 2024](#)
8. [LBM36 Schedule of Modifications to the Policies Map dated January 2024](#)
9. [LBM37 Delivering Net Zero report dated May 2023](#)
10. [LBM38 GLA Energy Assessment Guidance dated June 2022](#)

A [Schedule of Additional Modifications \(LBM30\)](#) for factual updates and other minor matters that do not influence the policy direction of the Local Plan is included above for reference.

All of the above documents can be found in the [examination library](#).

Please respond by email to [future.merton@merton.gov.uk](mailto:future.merton@merton.gov.uk) or by post to

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The Planning Inspectors will consider all responses received to this consultation before issuing their final report on Merton's Local Plan.

**[Email us your response](#)**

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