

**London Borough of Merton Draft Local Plan
Stage 2 Hearings
Hearing Statement**

Introduction

DP9 Ltd have submitted a series of representations on behalf of United Westminster & Grey Coat Foundation (the 'Foundation') to the draft Merton Local Plan. Those representations have chiefly related to the Tamworth Lane site (reference Mi14) and its promotion as an allocated site within the draft Local Plan.

As such, we wish to appear generally in relation to Matter 3 and provide a response to Issue (i).

Response to the Inspector's matters, issues and questions

Matter 3- Issue (i)

Question 1- . Taking into account the definition of 'developable' given in the glossary of the Framework:

a. Does the plan contain specific developable sites for years 6 to 10 from adoption?

The Foundation has played an active part in the Draft Local Plan review, having submitted representations to the Call for Sites consultation in January 2018 and further representations in January 2019, January 2021 and September 2021. The Foundation has also participated in detailed conversations with Sport England, sporting bodies and local sporting groups in fully exploring the viability of providing a sporting use on part of the site. The current site allocation is a product of those discussions. Those discussions continue and we will continue to keep parties updated.

The Tamworth Lane site is one of the housing sites identified as part of the draft Local Plan. The delivery of housing could facilitate the creation of new publicly accessible sporting facilities on part of the site.

The Foundation want to reiterate the clear deliverability of the Tamworth Lane site and contribution it can make to the housing delivery numbers. This is based on five years of engagement with the Council and the full participation in the process. As such we support the Council's inclusion of the site which is based on a clear understanding of the land available and importantly its deliverability. It therefore forms a key site within the 6-10 year list of developable sites.