



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR LONDON

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3rd March 2010

Dear Mr Houston,

PROTECTED VISTA DIRECTIONS

The Mayor of London wrote to DCLG Ministers on 2nd February enclosing the text for the final version of his revised London View Management Framework (LVMF). This is Supplementary Guidance document to the London Plan (Spatial Development Strategy for London) and is based on policies in the London Plan that set the context for this View Framework document. It is intended that this revised Framework replaces the existing LVMF guidance that was issued in July 2007. In his letter to Ministers the Mayor requests that the existing eleven Protected Vista directions be withdrawn and replaced with new directions that relate to the thirteen Protected Vistas identified in the replacement LVMF.

Thirteen draft directions relating to the Protected Vistas, which would replace the existing 11 Protected Vistas directions, have been prepared. Each draft direction stipulates that the local planning authorities and other organisations named in it be consulted on planning applications for development which falls wholly or partly within the areas of land described in the direction and which breaches certain height thresholds (again set out in each direction). The requirements for consultation are that the LPA responsible for deciding the application must allow at least 14 days after the notice of consultation is given before determining the application.

Following the Mayor's consultation on his revised Framework during 2009, we are broadly satisfied that adequate and appropriate arrangements are in place for defining the views to be protected and operating the policy in order to implement the directions. Accompanying the revisions made to the Framework, the GLA have produced a document explaining the changes made to LVMF from the current 2007 version and following consultation last summer. This document is available from the GLA's website (<http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/vision/supplementary-planning-guidance/view-management>).

Ministers are therefore minded to cancel the existing directions and replace them with new directions covering the thirteen Protected Vistas. However before doing so comments are invited on the thirteen draft directions.

Comments are particularly invited on the following matters:

- i) Whether the thirteen directions are readily intelligible and workable. If not then we would be grateful for a brief explanation of why this is and suggestions for how they might be improved.
- ii) Whether the details contained in the directions are accurate: For example are the coordinates given correct? Have all the boroughs with an interest in each of the Protected Vistas been correctly identified?
- iii) Whether any other organisations should be added to the list of statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of the directions for either any, or all, of the directions.

This letter and the draft directions are published on GOL's website (<http://www.gos.gov.uk/gol>). Paper copies can be made available to organisations and individuals on request (Telephone 020 7217 3117). Copies of the current eleven Protected Vista Directions that it is proposed will be replaced, are also available on GOL's website (<http://www.gos.gov.uk/gol/Planning/regionalPlanning/698691/?a=42496>).

Although the draft revised LVMF SPG is not the subject of this limited consultation exercise, you will find it useful as background information in helping to formulate your response to the draft directions. Both the current (July 2007) and consultation draft revised LVMF (June 2009) can be viewed on the GLA's website (<http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/vision/supplementary-planning-guidance/view-management>).

Comments on the draft directions should be sent to Ken Bean at the above address or emailed to him at ken.bean@gol.gsi.gov.uk. Any representations should be received by 5pm on 14th April 2010.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Melville