



Planning Inspectorate

Sripriya Sudhakar
Director of Planning and Building Control
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London
E1 1BJ

2 July 2026

Dear Sripriya Sudhakar,

Tower Hamlets Consolidated Draft Local Plan Examination Hearings

We write in relation to the recent direction issued by Matthew Pennycook MP, Minister of State for Housing and Planning, on 25 June 2026 concerning the potential impact of development on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Tower of London.

The Minister has directed that these matters be addressed as a matter of urgency to avoid undue delay to the adoption of the City of London Plan. Given the significance of the Tower of London as an internationally recognised World Heritage Site, and the close relationship between the issues raised and the matters under examination, we consider it necessary to implement the Minister's direction before proceeding with any examination hearings in Tower Hamlets.

We appreciate that this short-notice postponement will be disappointing and frustrating, and we apologise for the inconvenience caused. As soon as a confirmed timetable has been established for progressing these matters with the City of London, we will provide a further update and work with all parties to arrange revised dates for the examination hearings.

Yours sincerely,

Jameson Bridgwater, Alastair Phillips, Barry John Lomax

INSPECTORS