

Ellie Kuper Thomas

From: Jules Pipe <Jules.Pipe@london.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 April 2018 16:53
To: 'Richard Horwood LDC'
Cc: Ellie Kuper Thomas; Neighbourhood Planning
Subject: RE: Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Development Infrastructure Funding Study (DIFS)

Dear Mr Horwood

Thank you for your emails of the 19th and 23rd April regarding the availability of the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Development Infrastructure Funding Study.

The draft Isle of Dogs & South Poplar Opportunity Area Planning Framework and associated evidence base documents, including the Development Infrastructure Funding Study are currently undergoing final review and changes could still be made in advance of the proposed publication on 9th May.

These documents therefore remain incomplete and are not yet available for circulation. It should be noted that once published these documents will remain in draft form until such time as the London Plan Examination in Public (EiP) has taken place and the new London Plan has been adopted in 2019. As such, they should be afforded limited weight as part of a current development plan process.

Nevertheless, the GLA will be happy to provide these draft documents once they are completed and will endeavour to provide them in advance of the hearing on 10th May.

Yours sincerely

Jules Pipe

Jules Pipe CBE | Deputy Mayor | Planning, Regeneration & Skills

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Email: jules.pipe@london.gov.uk; Web: www.london.gov.uk

From: Richard Horwood LDC [mailto:richard@localdigital.co.uk]
Sent: 19 April 2018 16:01
To: Jules Pipe <Jules.Pipe@london.gov.uk>
Cc: Mayor <mayor@london.gov.uk>; Ellie.KuperThomas@towerhamlets.gov.uk;
NeighbourhoodPlanning@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Subject: Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Development Infrastructure Funding Study (DIFS)
Importance: High

Dear Mr Pipe

Please see below and attached. I am writing to you now as I have not yet received a reply to my message a week ago to the London Mayor's email address, and the issue is urgent.

It appears that the GLA is seeking to suppress the results of a publicly funded study.

It gives me no pleasure in saying this and I find it hard to believe. But the only plausible explanation is that the GLA – in apparent collusion with Tower Hamlets Borough Council (LBTH) – is seeking to suppress the Development Infrastructure Funding Study (DIFS) for the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar OAPF, to try to undermine the evidence base for the Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Plan.

Moreover, the DIFS has been expressly asked about by the Independent Examiner who will be holding a public hearing on our Plan on 10th May. Both the GLA and LBTH have objected to its being produced to him, arguing that it's officially a draft (even though it's nearly a year old); while at the same time expressly relying on it in their submissions as part of LBTH's Regulation 16 consultation on the Plan. It is inequitable for some participants in a plan making process to have access to and refer to a document that others have not seen. It compromises the plan process and creates a serious and entirely avoidable procedural irregularity.

I explain the context for this in the attached letter. But in short, the fact is that the study was completed and provided to the GLA on 15th June 2017. We know this as members of the Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Planning Forum who are also LBTH councillors were given copies of it after the GLA had sent it to LBTH.

The bottom line is this. The GLA and LBTH know full well that there is a huge funding deficiency for the infrastructure needed to support the uniquely dense residential development happening on the Isle of Dogs, and yet they have continued to approve exceedingly dense developments here to satisfy high housing targets. It seems that publication of the eye-watering unfunded infrastructure requirement would be politically unhelpful, particularly in the run-up to the local elections.

I do not want to enter into a public fight over this, as it would be unseemly and is surely unnecessary. It's not as though the growing infrastructure crisis is contentious. See for example the attached Regulation 16 consultation submission by Thames Water, which could not be clearer.

So I ask you please to step in and agree to provide the DIFS to the Independent Examiner prior to the public hearing on 10th May. Preventing him from seeing it would compromise his examination. If he will accept it on a confidential basis, then that's fine by us.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible, and in any event by close of business on Thursday 26th April. If we haven't been able to agree a way forward on this by then, I shall have to assume that the GLA is continuing to try to suppress this information.

Your sincerely

Richard Horwood
Chair, Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Planning Forum

From: Richard Horwood LDC [<mailto:richard@localdigital.co.uk>]

Sent: 11 April 2018 15:23

To: 'mayor@london.gov.uk' <mayor@london.gov.uk>

Cc: 'Ellie.KuperThomas@towerhamlets.gov.uk' <Ellie.KuperThomas@towerhamlets.gov.uk>; 'Neighbourhood Planning' <NeighbourhoodPlanning@towerhamlets.gov.uk>; 'john@johnparmiter.com' <john@johnparmiter.com>

Subject: MGLA070318-5916, FAO Paul Robinson, Information Governance Officer

Dear sirs

I attach a request for disclosure of the Development Infrastructure Funding Study for the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar OAPF dated 15th June 2017.

Please confirm receipt.

Yours faithfully

Richard Horwood
Chair, Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Planning Forum

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