

# Response Form

## Partial Review of the Core Strategy for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea with a focus on North Kensington

### Development Plan Document policies

All representations **must** express a view regarding the soundness or legal compliance of a planning policy. If the representation does not comment on soundness or legal compliance, or deal with how a policy can be altered to make it sound the representation will **not** be valid.

**Name:** Dr C W I Owens

**Company/Organisation:** \_\_RBKC Resident\_\_\_\_\_

**Representing:** \_\_\_\_\_Self\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the form and email it or send it to:

The Executive Director of Planning and Borough Development  
f.a.o The Policy Team  
The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
The Town Hall,  
Hornton Street,  
London W8 7NX

**Email address:** [planningpolicy@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@rbkc.gov.uk)

## Publication Stage Representation Form

To be **“sound”** the contents of a local plan should be POSITIVELY PREPARED, JUSTIFIED, EFFECTIVE and consistent with NATIONAL POLICY.

**“Positively prepared”** means that the planning policy needs to:

- be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to objectively assess development and infrastructure requirements, including those of neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so.
- It must also be consistent with achieving sustainable development.

**“Justified”** means that the planning policy must be:

- founded on a proportional evidence base
- the most appropriate strategy has been selected when considered against the reasonable alternatives.

**“Effective”** means that the planning policy must be:

- deliverable over its period
- based on effective joint working on cross – boundary strategic priorities.

**“Consistent with National Policy”** means that the planning policy should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

It must also be **legally compliant** which means that the planning policies have been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements.

**State planning policy or paragraph number to which you are referring**

Basement Developments – Whole submission

**Do you consider the planning policy to be sound?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Please tick box as appropriate**

**If you have selected YES and you wish to support the soundness of the planning policy, please give your reasons below. Please be as precise as possible. Please make it clear which paragraph number or Policy box number you are commenting on.**

**Whole submission.**

The proposal seeks a modest restraint on the intensively disruptive process of basement development and is welcome. A balance is struck where neither respectable developers nor those less well endowed will have anything to fear or legitimate reason to complain.

It is positively prepared using a reasonably comprehensive evidence base and therefore the restraint can be considered justified though the justification is incomplete and inconsistent.

In particular no evidence is presented that even attempts to justify the need for basement development. A significant omission given that it is a desire not a need, the number of citizens that benefit extremely small, the number disadvantaged moderately large, and the ability of the environment to absorb the process unscathed in densely populated areas of old buildings extremely limited.

Further, discretion is proposed to allow relaxation of the proposed constraint for larger dwellings and commercial premises. No such discretion is proposed that allows tightening of the constraint where the situation involves small old buildings in congested areas and where the activity is impractical if not dangerous.

Nothing other than qualitative comment is presented to quantify the disadvantages, disruption and cost the process confers on Third Parties. The bias of disadvantage against Adjoining Owners and the General Public remains obvious yet totally unaddressed.

My own experience involves 5 years of stress and anxiety, a threat of litigation for over £20,000 for fees in dispute, an incomplete arbitration process, about 400 e-mails with 5 kg of hard copy, a house with permanent loss of amenity value through the proximity of forced 24hr ventilation and still in need of substantial repair and me several thousands of pounds out of pocket through no fault of my own.

**please attach additional pages as requirements**

**If you have selected NO to the planning policy being sound do you consider the planning policy to be unsound because it is not:**

Positively prepared	Justified	Effective	Consistent with national policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Please give details of why you consider the planning policy to be unsound and / or suggest changes as to how it could be made sound. Please make it clear which paragraph number or Policy box number you are commenting on.**

**Please attach additional pages as required**

Yes

No

Do you consider the Planning Policy Document to be legally compliant?

**Please give the reasons for your choice below and be as precise as possible. Please make it clear which paragraph number or Policy box number you are commenting on.**

please attach additional pages as required

Do you wish to appear at the Examination on any of these matters?

Yes

No

Please specify on what matter