



City of Westminster

Strategic Director for the Built Environment
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Consultee Reference Number:

«684»

Date 9th December 2009

**Mr Chris Turner
Planning Services
Policy Team
Room 328
The Town Hall
Hornton Street
London
W8 7NX**

Dear Chris,

Ongoing engagement and cross-boundary issues

Thank you for your letter inviting comments on the proposed submission Core Strategy for Kensington and Chelsea with a focus on North Kensington. We are pleased to have this opportunity to comment and have been involved at various stages throughout the development of Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Local Development Framework (LDF) documents.

We have been involved in an ongoing process of engagement with all of our neighbouring boroughs on the preparation of their respective LDF documents. Discussions between Westminster and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea have focused on common issues that will affect both authorities and on issues affecting areas close to our shared boundary.

We have met with members of your policy team on several occasions during the drafting of our respective Core Strategies and are still in regular contact. We have agreed an approach to support the designated Strategic Cultural Area. We support and will continue to discuss the possible designation of a World Heritage Site in South Kensington to deliver a shared vision for the area.

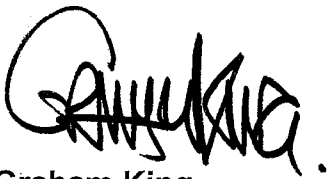
We will work together to secure a better quality public realm in Knightsbridge, and support the need to review the possibility of implementing alfresco dining, outdoor market stalls and space for events in Montpelier Street. We are keen to continue to work jointly with you to implement the Exhibition Road public realm project.

We continue to support your policy approach towards supporting small business and light industrial in North Kensington as this is consistent with uses identified in the North Westminster Economic Development Area. The clustering of these uses will benefit both boroughs. Both Core Strategies promote better connectivity and legibility along the Westway and along borough boundaries this will create improved physical connections for the residents, workers and visitors.

As regards to the Royal Borough's ambition for a Crossrail station we understand the proposal but given the potential impacts we would like to be kept advised of how this matter progresses.

After reviewing your Proposed Submission Documents, we consider that your document comply with legal requirements and are sound. We have not identified any conflict between our approaches to common issues or areas close to the boundary between the authorities. Westminster looks forward to working closely with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in the further development of our respective LDF's.

I also would like to take this opportunity to remind you that our Core Strategy Publication Draft is also out to consultation now, and is available on our website at www.westminster.gov.uk/ldf. The deadline for representations is the 13th January 2010 if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Helena Merriott to discuss further.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham King', with a large, stylized initial 'G'.

Graham King
Head of Strategic Planning and Transportation.