

Examination of the South London Waste Plan Inspectors' Main Modifications Covering Note 14 July 2022

Stephen Normington BSc DipTP MRICS MRTPI FIQ FIHE G J Fort BA PGDip LLM MCD MRTPI

Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State

Main Modifications

- 1. Following the hearing sessions on the South London Waste Plan held in September 2021 and our post-hearings letter of 7 September 2021, a schedule of Main Modifications (MMs) has been produced. As we set out in closing remarks at the hearings, MMs are changes to the plan that would cause material effects to its policies which we can recommend in the interests of soundness, or to ensure legal compliance. The Boroughs have requested that we recommend MMs on this basis. A schedule of changes to the Boroughs' policy maps, which are necessary to capture the spatial implications of the MMs is also being published for consultation.
- 2. It should be noted that, following the closure of the hearings, and during the production of the MM Schedule, it became apparent that MMs should be made to the plan period and related apportionment and arisings targets. These are necessary to achieve consistency with the National Planning Policy Framework (at paragraph 22) insofar as it requires strategic policies to look ahead a minimum 15 years from adoption, and to ensure general conformity with the London Plan in terms of the relevant apportionment targets. It is important to point out, however, that these MMs do not lead to a requirement for any further sites to be identified or safeguarded.
- 3. The proposed MMs are all those which we consider to be necessary to ensure the soundness of the plan. However, this is without prejudice to our final conclusions on the plan which will be made having regard to consultation responses on the MMs as well as all of the other representations and evidence before us in this examination.
- 4. Representations on the MMs and associated material should be sent to the Boroughs, not the Programme Officer, via the methods published on the consultation website. They should be focused on the material presented for consultation and not about other aspects of the plan.

- 5. After the consultation period has concluded, the Boroughs should forward the representations to the Programme Officer. This should be accompanied by a list of those representations including a summary of main issues raised. The Boroughs should also provide their responses to those main issues. All submitted representations and the Boroughs' responses to them will form part of our considerations when we come to finalise the report. They will also be publicly available alongside other documents that form part of the examination.
- 6. At this stage we are not anticipating any further hearing sessions on the plan. Nevertheless, if we were to consider that substantial issues raised about the MMs require further discussion, or that such discussion would be essential in the interests of fairness, additional sessions could be necessary following the conclusion of the MM consultation period.

Stephen Normington	$G \mathcal{J}$ Fort
INSPECTOR	INSPECTOR