

MAYOR OF LONDON

Tony Devenish AM

Chair of the Regeneration Committee

Date: 31 March 2020

Dear Tony,

Regeneration Committee 27 February 2020

Thank you for your letter of 16 March 2020.

I agreed to provide details on the following:

1. A breakdown of figures for each Opportunity Area, including the number of jobs per square metre and homes planned, the current progress and numbers completed, alongside the overall target period for development;

Please find attached a spreadsheet containing information on jobs and homes in each of the 47 Opportunity Areas. I should clarify that there is no target period for development. The homes and jobs figures are the capacity for each Opportunity Area to 2041, but delivery will be dependent on infrastructure investment.

2. Detail of the accountability arrangements for each of the 47 Opportunity Areas.

Opportunity Areas are designated in the London Plan, which provides strategic guidance on the key principles for enabling Good Growth in these areas that have the potential to deliver significant numbers of new homes and jobs. Progress relies on a wide range of factors, with some areas already seeing development under construction, while others may need to wait years or decades to reach their full potential. In light of this, it is not appropriate or efficient for the GLA to put in place accountability arrangements for every area.

The Plan sets out an overarching framework for the development of more detailed policy guidance at the local level. It provides an effective strategic framework for boroughs to use their local plans and/or Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks (OAPFs) to set out how they will deliver the potential for growth, including creating employment and housing choice for Londoners, planning for the necessary infrastructure, establishing capacity for growth using good design, supporting industrial capacity, supporting sustainable transport and regeneration, and involving the local community in the process.

Successful Opportunity Areas are managed locally, with strong support from local stakeholders, extensive local political engagement and buy-in from existing and neighbouring communities. In line with this, active Opportunity Areas each have some form of board involving the senior members and officers from the relevant boroughs to oversee production of the planning framework, such as the Nine Elms Partnership at Vauxhall, Nine Elms and Battersea, or the Isle of Dogs Partnership Board.

In order to make the most efficient use of resources, the Mayor directs his focus to one or two key Opportunity Areas at any one time. The Isle of Dogs and South Poplar OAPF was adopted in October 2019. At the moment the GLA Planning team is working in partnership with the boroughs on Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks for Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, and Royal Docks and Beckton Riverside. Other parts of the GLA may provide support and assistance at any time in other OAs where this will aid delivery.

If you have any further queries relating to this, or to Opportunity Areas more generally, please contact Darren Richards, Growth Strategies and Urban Design Manager.
Darren.richards@london.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jules Pipe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Jules Pipe CBE

Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills