

Policy H7 Monitoring of affordable housing

- A Boroughs are required to have clear monitoring processes to ensure that the affordable housing secured on or off site is delivered and recorded in line with the Section 106 agreement.
- B Monitoring processes should ensure that any cash in lieu payments are used to deliver additional affordable housing.
- C Boroughs should ensure that where a review mechanism is triggered, it is implemented and the number of extra homes delivered, or cash in lieu secured, is recorded.
- D Boroughs must publish monitoring information on Parts A – C annually to ensure transparency in the planning process and so the public know how funds are being spent. This information should be shared with the GLA so it can be part of the annual monitoring process.

- 4.7.1 Policy H4 Delivering affordable housing, Policy H5 Threshold approach to applications and Policy H6 Affordable housing tenure set out the approach to affordable housing delivery in London. It is crucial that the implementation of Section 106 agreements and the outcome of review mechanisms are monitored. Policy H7 Monitoring of affordable housing will ensure that boroughs have **monitoring processes** in place to implement Section 106 agreements and that the information is in the public domain.

Policy H8 Loss of existing housing and estate redevelopment

- A Loss of existing housing should be replaced by new housing at existing or higher densities with at least the equivalent level of overall floorspace.
- B Loss of hostels, staff accommodation and shared and supported accommodation that meet an identified housing need should be satisfactorily re-provided to an equivalent or better standard.

Demolition and replacement of affordable housing

- C Before considering the demolition and replacement of affordable homes, boroughs, housing associations and their partners should always consider

alternative options first. They should balance the potential benefits of demolition and rebuilding of homes against the wider social and environmental impacts and consider the availability of Mayoral funding and any conditions attached to that funding.

- D Demolition of affordable housing, including where it is part of an estate redevelopment programme, should not be permitted unless it is replaced by an equivalent amount of affordable housing floorspace. Affordable housing that is replacing social rent housing must be provided as social rent housing where it is facilitating a right of return for existing tenants. Where affordable housing that is replacing social rent housing is not facilitating a right of return, it may be provided as either social rent or London Affordable Rent housing. Replacement affordable housing should be integrated into the development to ensure mixed and inclusive communities.
- E All development proposals that include the demolition and replacement of affordable housing are required to follow the Viability Tested Route and should seek to provide an uplift in affordable housing in addition to the replacement affordable housing floorspace

- 4.8.1 It is important that existing homes of all tenures are well-maintained and are of good quality as these will continue to house the majority of Londoners. However, the **redevelopment and intensification** of London's existing housing has played, and will continue to play, an important role in the evolution of London. The benefits of development proposals that involve the demolition and replacement of existing homes should be balanced against any potential harm.
- 4.8.2 Parts C, D and E of this policy concern the **redevelopment of social housing estates**. This will generally occur as part of a wider process of estate regeneration, some elements of which fall beyond the remit of the London Plan. The Mayor's Good Practice Guide to Estate Regeneration provides detailed guidance for assessing appropriate approaches to estate regeneration. In particular, only once the objectives of an estate regeneration scheme have been formulated in consultation with residents, should the physical interventions required to achieve them be considered. The approach taken will differ from project to project, depending on factors that include: the existing characteristics and quality of an estate; the financial resources available; any regeneration or redevelopment plans that affect the wider area; and the wishes of residents and other stakeholders.

- 4.8.3 The range of physical interventions that may be required to support the delivery of estate regeneration projects include: repairs to, and refurbishment of, existing homes; building new homes on 'infill' sites; and demolition and redevelopment. Different schemes will require different interventions, or a combination of some or all of the above – there is no 'one size fits all' approach. In the Good Practice Guide, the Mayor is clear that when considering options to deliver estate regeneration projects, boroughs, housing associations and their partners should **always consider alternative options to demolition first**. They should balance the potential benefits of demolishing and rebuilding homes against the wider social and environmental impacts of this option.
- 4.8.4 Regardless of whether an estate regeneration project includes the demolition and replacement of affordable homes, it is important that all such schemes are delivered with existing and new residents and communities in mind. All proposals for such schemes should take account of the requirements of the **Mayor's Good Practice Guide** to Estate Regeneration (2018) and the requirement for a ballot of residents when accessing Mayoral funding for schemes that involve demolition.
- 4.8.5 Estate regeneration that involves the loss and replacement of affordable housing should deliver an **uplift in affordable housing** wherever possible. Therefore, all such estate regeneration schemes must go through the Viability Tested Route to demonstrate they have maximised the delivery of any additional affordable housing. For the purposes of this policy, existing affordable housing floorspace includes both occupied and vacant floorspace regardless of the current condition of the stock.
- 4.8.6 Where an affordable housing provider is redeveloping an estate as part of a **wider programme** then it may be possible to re-provide a different mix of affordable housing on the estate (taking account of the wishes of people who want to return to the estate) if the overall level of provision is maintained across the programme and where the approach is acceptable to the borough and, where relevant, the Mayor (further guidance is provided in the Affordable Housing and Viability SPG). The Mayor will closely scrutinise proposals and will only agree to them where he is certain that the housing is being genuinely re-provided and that no better option is available. Given the impact of estate regeneration schemes on existing residents, it is particularly important that information about the viability of schemes is available to the public even where a high level of affordable housing is being delivered