

55

London

Reference: 675005/002/L001CH

Audrey House, 16-20 Ely Place, London EC1N 6SN
Tel: 020 7092 3600 Fax: 020 7404 7917
www.dpplp.com

17 June 2010

Planning Policy
Freepost LON 11863
London Borough of Haringey
639 High Road
Tottenham
N17 8BD

10 111, 112



Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation – Proposed Submission Core Strategy

In respect of the above consultation document, we set out here representations on behalf of Her Majesty's Court Service (HMCS).

HMCS is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) with a remit to deliver justice effectively and efficiently to the public. As such, HMCS is responsible for managing the Magistrates' Courts, County Courts, Crown Court, High Court, and Court of Appeal in England & Wales. As part of its remit, HMCS is continually reviewing its substantial portfolio of buildings and property to ensure it best meets modern and evolving needs, as effectively as possible in the interest of public justice and the public purse.

In many instances throughout the country and particularly within Greater London, HMCS has requirements to expand, consolidate, merge, or relocate its premises. This is to ensure both efficient and effective delivery of its services and improved flexibility to allow for future changes in response to new pressures and requirements. Following from this, there is a need to adapt and construct new Court facilities, especially in areas subject to substantial population growth or change. In other circumstances, existing courts may be displaced as a result of wider development aspirations or regeneration initiatives. As a direct consequence, court facilities are affected by new development.

The London region of HMCS has an agreed Crown Court estates strategy in place, and is currently working towards completing this for the rest of its estates. A key factor that affects HMCS assumptions in term of projecting future needs are the levels and locations

- Bedford
- Belfast
- Cardiff
- Dublin
- Edinburgh
- Glasgow
- Leeds
- London
- Manchester
- Newcastle-upon-Tyne



of growth being promoted through Local Planning Authorities (LPA) Local Development Framework (LDF) planning. As such, we are seeking to work in partnership with LPAs, to take the strategic aspect of HMCS service delivery forward.

As you are aware, HMCS currently operate Enfield Magistrates' Court, Haringey Magistrates' Court, and Wood Green Crown Court in the Borough, all of which provide a core service for HMCS. Previously, we submitted a representation in July 2009 towards the Preferred Options Core Strategy document. In summary we requested that:

- Community facilities are defined to include the court service
- HMCS is included as a recipient of planning obligations.

This representation has not been reflected in the current draft; as such our requested changes still stand. It is within this context that we make the following representations towards the Core Strategy proposed changes.

Policy SP16 Community Infrastructure

We support this policy insofar as it seeks to ensure that development make appropriate contributions towards providing new community facilities or enhancing existing facilities. However, it is our experience that whilst schools and health care services are typically addressed as part of community and infrastructure needs, the role that the courts play in the community is often overlooked.

The important role that HMCS has in supporting communities has been recognised in the Draft London Plan that was issued for public consultation in October 2009. Paragraph 3.79 lists facilities that form part of social infrastructure and states that these include "*criminal justice or community safety facilities*".

As such, and as set out in our previous representation, we request the following amendment to the preamble of this policy, so as to include the court service within the definition of community facilities:

"For the purpose of this policy, community facilities include education and childcare, health facilities (also covered in SP14), community halls, places of worship, and criminal justice facilities."

Policy SP17 Delivering and Monitoring

Population and economic growth tends to place additional pressure on a range of court services, as

12/18/11
111

a result requiring existing services to be enhanced or extended.

It is appropriate therefore that the cost of additional court service requirements are met by development in the Borough, in exactly the same way as other community services are supported. Accordingly, it is entirely appropriate that the requirement for contributions to be made through the Borough's prevailing s106 / CIL payments regimes should be recognised in policy.

We therefore support Policy SP17 insofar as it seeks to secure community facilities through planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions where appropriate. However, in accordance with our previous representation we request that the court service is specifically included within the Council's priority list for planning obligations, and as such we request that paragraph 8.2.15 is amended to read:

*"Community facilities and services including education, health, open space **and criminal justice facilities**"*

12/2/8:
JH2

The representations made here reflect the role of HMCS in the delivery of sustainable communities. If you would like to discuss the content of the letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Charlotte Handscomb
(charlotte.handscomb@dpplp.com)

DPP

Direct Line: 0207 092 3624

