Westminster City Plan 2019-2040 Examination Changes to the Use Classes Order – Additional Question for Matter 1

Introduction

On 21 July 2020, the Government published The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020. These come into force on 1 September 2020.

Use classes A, B and D will no longer exist. A new class E (commercial, business, and service) will be created. This subsumes A1 (shops), A2 (financial and professional services), A3 (restaurants and cafes) and B1 (business), along with uses for indoor sport, recreation or fitness, or for the provision of medical or health service or for a crèche, day nursery or day centre, where principally to visiting members of the public.

New classes F.1 (learning and non-residential institutions) and F.2 (local community) subsume some uses formerly in D1 and D2. F.2 also includes shops mostly selling essential goods, including food, to visiting members of the public (in certain circumstances).

The list of uses not included in any class is expanded to include uses formerly in A4 (drinking establishments) and A5 (hot food takeaways), and some uses formerly in D1 and D2 including cinemas and venues for live music performance.

Matter 1 - Procedural/legal requirements

Issue

Whether the Council has complied with relevant procedural and legal requirements.

Additional Question

Other matters

18) What are the implications of the changes to the Use Classes Order set out above on the legal compliance and soundness of the City Plan particularly with regard to (but not limited to) objectives 2,3 and 4 and the policies contained within the Spatial Strategy, Housing and Economy and Employment sections of the City Plan?

Submission of Statements

Statements should be sent to the Programme Officer. For both the Council and other participants, the deadline for receipt of written statements is **5pm on Friday 4 September 2020**. Statements should be prepared and submitted in accordance with the advice contained in the Inspector's Guidance Notes, which are accessible through the link below:

https://www.westminster.gov.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/insp4 - quidance notes.pdfui.