

# Statement of Common Ground

Westminster City Council, the  
Environment Agency and Thames Water

October 2019

v1.2

## 1.0 Introduction

This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared to inform the Inspector and other stakeholders about the areas of agreement between Westminster City Council, the Environment Agency and Thames Water in respect of representations relating to the City of Westminster's Draft City Plan 2019 - 2040.

## 2.0 Background

In response to Regulation 19 Consultation, the Environment Agency and Thames Water provided detailed representations which includes several suggestions to increase the soundness and robustness of the policies in the plan that relate to

- Flood risk;
- Biodiversity;
- Water Efficiency;
- Groundwater and contaminated land; and
- Waste water infrastructure

Officers from each party met on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to discuss the representations in more detail.

## 3.0 Areas of agreement between parties

- **All parties agree** that following the discussion as of 15<sup>th</sup> October amendments to policies 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 39 and 46 will be made to resolve the soundness issues raised at the Regulation 19 consultation.
- Proposed modifications have been shared. **Thames Water and Environment Agency** agree to work with **Westminster** to reach consensus on the final policy wording to address issues raised at Regulation 19 consultation as the City Plan moves through its examination.
- **All parties agree** that, at this stage, it is envisaged that no strategic waste water infrastructure is required in Westminster and that this will be set out in the council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
- **All parties agree** that amendments to the SFRA will be finalised in a separate meeting and that a level 2 SFRA will be produced if sites proposed within the future Site Allocations DPD cannot be located in areas with the lowest risk of flooding from all sources.
- **Environment Agency** agree with **Westminster** that there is no need to refer to the Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage pro forma again in the supporting text as it is already referenced in paragraph 36.3.
- **All parties agree** to work together on the council's forthcoming Environment SPD and potential Riverside strategy.

Further engagement will take place following submission of the Draft City Plan 2019 – 2040 to the Planning Inspectorate. An updated SoCG will be produced at this time detailing how discussions have moved on and proposed and agreed amendments to the City Plan policies.

All parties agree that this statement is an accurate representation of matters discussed and sets out both the representations that all parties agreed upon and the matters which required further discussion.

Signed on behalf of Westminster City Council		
Name and Position	Signature	Date
Councillor Richard Beddoe Cabinet Member for Place Shaping and Planning		13 November 2019

Signed on behalf of Environment Agency		
Name and Position	Signature	Date
Donatella Cillo – Planning Specialist – Sustainable Places		25 October 2019

Signed on behalf of Thames Water		
Name and Position	Signature	Date
Eliot Williams		5 <sup>th</sup> Nov - 19

