

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

## Development & Environment Directorate

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### **Steve Cardis**

LDF and Policy Manager  
Kingston upon Thames Council  
Planning Policy  
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Kingston upon Thames  
Surrey KT1 1EU

**Our ref:** PDU/LDF21/LDD03  
/MAS03

**Date:** 20 May 2010

Dear Mr Cardis

### **Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended); Greater London Authority Acts 1999 and 2007; Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended).**

### **Re: Kingston upon Thames Council Core Strategy (Preferred options) – Hogsmill Valley**

I am writing further to my letter and report of 20 January 2010 concerning Kingston Council's Core Strategy (Preferred Options).

At that time, I set out that I would write with further comments relating to the Hogsmill Valley 'Key Area of Change'.

Since that time, my officers have carried out a joint site visit with officers from your Council and the matter has been discussed with Sir Simon Milton (Deputy Mayor and Chief of Staff).

The Core Strategy sets out 3 options for the Hogsmill Valley – the Preferred Option (Option 1), a Minimal Change Option (Option 2) and an expanded change option (Option 3). The document explains that these options are not mutually exclusive, and the informal discussions between the Council and the GLA indicate that the Option 1 approach together with aspects of Option 3 would involve the loss of approximately 6.0 to 6.5 ha of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) (less than 10% of the overall area). It would also allow an enlarged student campus and additional recreational land for Kingston University; an enlarged stadium for AFC Wimbledon with associated playing pitches forming a sports 'hub', a new primary school, green infrastructure and replacement allotments.

This option would increase the amount of publicly accessible open space from around 45% to 75% – around 22 ha. The option has the potential to provide recreational opportunities, and in particular can become part of the All London Green Grid. It also offers leisure and sporting opportunities, and in particular opportunities for residents of Norbiton wards, ranked within the 10 – 20% most deprived nationally.

It is this option that is likely to be the most favourable to the Mayor. However, the Option will need to be supported by considerably more analysis and detailed evidence.

You will appreciate that these comments are officer level only and do not prejudice any future decision by the Mayor.

Please contact Martin Scholar on 020 7983 5750 or by email at [martin.scholar@london.gov.uk](mailto:martin.scholar@london.gov.uk) should you wish to discuss these comments in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Giles Dolphin'.

**Giles Dolphin**

Assistant Director – Planning

cc Tony Arbour, London Assembly Constituency Member  
Nicky Gavron, Chair of London Assembly Planning and Housing Committee  
John Pierce and Ian McNally, GOL  
Colin Lovell, TfL