



Neighbourhood Planning
Policy and Projects
Westminster City Hall

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9th July 2020

By Email:
neighbourhoodplanning@westminster.gov.uk

Soho Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for consulting Thames Water on the above document. Thames Water are the statutory water and sewerage undertaker for the area.

General Comments

Thames Water are keen to work closely with local authorities and with developers to ensure that development is aligned with necessary water and wastewater infrastructure and would encourage developers to make use of Thames Waters pre-application service to discuss proposals ahead of the submission of any application. Where there are capacity concerns in relation to the water or wastewater infrastructure, Thames Water may seek the inclusion of phasing conditions on any approval to ensure that any relevant phase of development is not occupied until the necessary upgrades have been completed.

In order to ensure that development is delivered alongside any necessary water and wastewater infrastructure required to support it Thames Water would welcome the inclusion of text in the Neighbourhood Plan encouraging developers to engage with them ahead of the submission of planning applications for new developments. Such text could reference Policy 7 of the Submission City Plan which requires development to not overburden the capacity of local infrastructure.

In relation to proposed Policy 31 of the Neighbourhood Plan it is considered that part c of the policy should be expanded to help ensure that fats, oils and greases from food establishments are not disposed of into the sewer network. This will help to prevent blockages of the sewers which can result in sewer flooding and pollution of watercourses. As per Building regulations part H paragraph 2.21, drainage serving kitchens in commercial hot food premises should be fitted with a grease separator complying with BS EN 1825-:2004 and designed in accordance with BS EN 1825-2:2002 or other effective means of grease removal. Thames Water further recommend, in line with best practice for the disposal of Fats, Oils and Grease, the collection of waste oil by a contractor, particularly to recycle for the production of bio diesel. Part C of the Policy could be amended to read:

*“Development which includes the provision or retailing of food and drink must provide sufficient space in which to store food waste as a separate recycling category from other waste and recyclables and should encourage occupiers to use a food waste recycling service. **Kitchens in commercial hot food premises should be fitted with a grease separator complying with BS***

EN 1825-:2004 and designed in accordance with BS EN 1825-2:2002 or other effective means of grease removal.”

I trust the above and enclosed comments are satisfactory, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully,

Thames Water Utilities Limited

