

Cllr Ruth Gordon
Chair – Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

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Dear Cllr Ejiofor,

Following a recent meeting of the Housing & Regeneration scrutiny panel I am writing to you in your capacity as Cabinet Member with responsibility for planning policy with regards to child yield statistics used in relation to new housing developments in the Borough.

The scrutiny panel's meeting on 15th January received a deputation from Paul Burnham and Jacob Secker¹. Paul explained that the methodology recommended by the GLA's Shaping Neighbourhoods: Play and Informal Recreation – Supplementary Planning Guidance uses the Wandsworth Child Yield calculator but that this uses out of date census data and provides low estimates on the child yields of market and intermediate households in relation to new housing developments. This has a negative impact on the level of contributions required from developers for local infrastructure.

Paul informed the panel that there are newer figures available, uploaded to the GLA's data store at the end of 2017, which provide higher and more accurate child yields and that for some developments this would indicate at least double the amount of children. The London Borough of Merton have already adopted the more up to date statistics. More detail about their methodology is available at: <https://www2.merton.gov.uk/ChildYieldJanuary2018.pdf>

I understand that Haringey Council's current position is to wait for the new London Plan's Implementation Plan before the new figures can be used but, as demonstrated by the London Borough of Merton, it should not be necessary to wait for this in order to carry out such a policy change.

The Housing & Regeneration scrutiny panel's view was that the new figures should be adopted by the Council as soon as possible. I would be grateful if you could respond to this recommendation and provide a timetable on when such a policy change could be added to local planning policy.

Best regards,

Cllr Ruth Gordon
Chair – Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

CC: Emma Williamson, Assistant Director for Planning

¹ The full minutes for this item can be viewed at: <http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=754&MId=8938&Ver=4>
(item 39)