



ADPH London's response to Draft London Plan Consultation 2026

ADPH London welcomes the publication of the [Draft London Plan](#)¹ and the clear ambition to deliver the homes, infrastructure and economic growth needed to support London's future prosperity. We are encouraged by the Plan's continued commitment to Good Growth, inclusive design, healthier streets and sustainable transport, all of which have important implications for population health and wellbeing.

The Draft Plan reflects many of the priorities set out in [ADPH London's 2025 Position Statement](#)². We welcome the focus on increasing housing delivery, including affordable and accessible homes, alongside policies that support active travel, safer public spaces and sustainable neighbourhoods. The recognition that growth must be supported by infrastructure and delivered through a more implementation-focused planning framework is also positive.

However, from a public health perspective, there remains an opportunity to strengthen the role of health within the Plan.

Health and health equity

While health-promoting policies are evident throughout the document, health and health equity should be more explicitly positioned as fundamental objectives that underpin growth, housing delivery and economic development. A healthier population is essential to a productive, resilient and prosperous city, and reducing health inequalities should remain a central consideration in planning decisions across London. The Plan should also recognise the role of the commercial determinants of health, including the concentration and accessibility of gambling premises and unhealthy food outlets, which can contribute to poorer health outcomes and widen inequalities in already disadvantaged communities.

Health and community infrastructure

We would welcome stronger emphasis on the relationship between housing growth and the provision of health and community infrastructure. New growth areas, town centres and major regeneration schemes should demonstrate how they will support emerging neighbourhood health and care models, including provision for integrated neighbourhood teams, neighbourhood health centres, primary care capacity, community health services, mental health provision, social care and VCSE partners.

The Plan should also recognise the importance of neighbourhood-based approaches that bring communities together, strengthen social connections and support community resilience, as these are key contributors to population health and wellbeing.

Climate resilience

ADPH London is encouraged by the continued support for healthy streets, sustainable transport and inclusive design. These policies have considerable potential to improve physical activity, air quality, access to services and social connectedness. As the Plan

¹ [Draft London Plan consultation | London City Hall](#)

² [ADPHL-London-Plan-Position-Statement-072025.pdf](#)



develops, we would welcome further emphasis on climate resilience, equitable access to green and blue spaces and the health impacts of climate change, particularly for communities already experiencing poorer health outcomes.

The Plan should recognise that health and health equity are central to climate adaptation and resilience. This is reflected in the Greater London Authority's recent work, including the [London Climate Resilience Review](#)³ and [Heat Ready London](#)⁴, which highlight the need to protect Londoners from the increasing health risks associated with extreme heat and other climate hazards.

More climate-resilient infrastructure, including homes, public buildings, healthcare facilities, public spaces and the wider urban environment, will be critical to preventing and mitigating the health harms of climate change. Planning is one of the most important levers available to ensure new development and regeneration improve resilience to overheating, flooding and other climate-related risks while supporting health and wellbeing.

The impacts of climate change are not experienced equally. Heat vulnerability and other climate-related health risks are often greatest in areas experiencing higher levels of deprivation and can be compounded by characteristics of the built environment such as housing quality, density and limited access to green space. The London Plan should therefore support a targeted approach that prioritises investment, adaptation measures and resilience-building interventions in communities facing the greatest risks, helping to reduce both climate vulnerability and health inequalities.

Healthy food environments and gambling harms

ADPH London supports the retention and strengthening of planning measures that protect children and communities from commercial determinants of poor health. Existing restrictions on hot food takeaways near schools should be retained and expanded where local evidence indicates a need. The London Plan should also recognise gambling-related harm as a public health issue and support boroughs in considering the location and concentration of gambling premises within their areas.

While national policy developments may provide further opportunities to address gambling harms, planning should continue to support local action where appropriate, particularly in areas experiencing higher levels of deprivation and vulnerability to harm.

Public toilets, safety and civic participation

ADPH London specifically identifies public toilets, women's safety, accessibility after dark and inclusive town centres as health-promoting infrastructure. These very practical determinants of participation and wellbeing are not prominent within the consultation's headline growth agenda.

The existing London Plan has demonstrated the important role that planning can play in shaping healthier environments. As the Draft Plan progresses, we encourage continued and enhanced use of planning powers to prevent ill health, reduce health inequalities and address the wider commercial determinants of health. The Plan should continue to support healthy high streets, thriving neighbourhoods and inclusive community spaces that promote wellbeing, social connection and economic resilience, while helping to create environments that make healthier choices easier for all Londoners.

³ [The London Climate Resilience Review – July 2024](#)

⁴ [Heat Ready London](#)



Overall, ADPH London believes the Draft London Plan provides a strong foundation for delivering sustainable growth across the capital. We support many of its key directions of travel and welcome the greater emphasis on delivery, infrastructure and inclusive growth. As the Plan is finalised, we encourage a stronger and more explicit focus on health equity, community wellbeing and the infrastructure needed to support healthy, connected neighbourhoods. By embedding health considerations throughout planning policy, London can maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits of growth and create a fairer, healthier and more resilient city for current and future generations.