

Monitoring report: 16 November 2018

Overview

- A new council policy will insist 60% of all affordable homes built in Westminster are for middle-income families.
- WCC unveiled their City Plan from 2019-2040, with an emphasis on three themes. Growth, homes and community, and a healthier and greener city.
- Adam Hug, Leader of the Westminster Labour Group, calls for a balanced approach to using public land to delivery 'vitaly needed social housing'.
- Campaigning in the Lancaster Gate ward by-election reaches the final stretch.

Monitoring

Overview	Detail	Action
<p>A new council policy will insist 60% of all affordable homes built in Westminster are for middle-income families. (12 November WCC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy comes after WCC set out its ambition to build 1,495 homes every year, 50% higher than what is required under the Mayor of London's "London Plan". • WCC's house building programme has been cited as one of the most ambitious in the city. • By 2040, at least 35% of all new homes delivered will be affordable • Currently, only 1.5% of homes in Westminster are classed as 'intermediate', 20% below market rent. • Cllr Richard Beddoe, WCC Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Realm, said the council are determined to create homes for residents, especially for middle income families, ensuring Westminster provides homes for a cross section of the community. • The policy was unveiled as part of WCC's new City Plan. 	None

<p>WCC unveiled their City Plan from 2019-2040, with an emphasis on three themes. Growth, homes and community, and a healthier and greener city. (12 November, WCC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan prioritises the construction of high quality, genuinely affordable homes across the city. • There are ambitions to increase the use of bicycles alongside the river as part of the environmental ambitions of the plans. • WCC will also create the space for 75,000 new jobs by implementing widespread commercial space as part of the growth aspect of the plans. • The City Plan also has a whole suite of new policies for the Soho Special Policy Area (SPA). • Development in the SPA will reflect its unique character and enhance the existing scale of the built environment whilst respecting the unique mixture of uses present there. • The following uses will be supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SME workspace. ○ Specialist retail. ○ Housing that meets the needs of those working in the area. ○ Food, drink and entertainment uses. ○ New live music venues with low amenity impact. ○ Physical, social and green infrastructure. • New hotels of more than 2,500sqm will not be permitted. • In order to prevent the clustering of restaurants and cafes, the impact of such proposals on the character of Soho's streets and their mix of uses will be given particular attention in decision-making. • Development involving the combination of units and frontal facades will not be permitted, other than on Oxford Street, Charing Cross Road and Shaftesbury Avenue. • The scale and setting of Soho and Golden squares will be protected. The function of these squares and of St. Anne's Churchyard as green spaces will also be protected and enhanced. 	<p>None</p>
<p>Adam Hug, Leader of the Westminster Labour Group, calls for a balanced approach to using public land to delivery 'vitaly needed social housing'. (12 November, Twitter)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Hug outlines how social housing must be used to tackle overcrowding and homelessness in the city. • Intermediate homes for those on lower and median incomes must be provided through a close partnership with the private sector to maximise the range of homes that can be provided for local and key workers. 	<p>None</p>
<p>Campaigning in the Lancaster Gate ward by-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCC will see a by-election next Thursday, 22 November, in the ward of Lancaster Gate. The by-election was triggered by the 	<p>None</p>

<p>election reaches the final stretch</p>	<p>resignation of Robert Davis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conservatives have chosen Margot Bright as their candidate to defend the seat, and Labour has selected Angela Piddock. • The fact that Piddock came within almost 300 votes of winning a seat in the May elections this year have given Labour hope of further narrowing the Conservative majority on the Council. • The Tory fear is that Bright, as a Brexit supporter in a strongly pro-remain ward, could suffer a similar backlash to former Cabinet member and vocal Brexiteer Richard Holloway, who lost his seat in the neighbouring Bayswater ward in May. • The outcome next week could have a significant impact on the political balance in WCC, as a shock Labour win would be seen as a damning verdict from voters on the Robert Davis scandal. The Conservative leadership could then feel the need to distance themselves further from the business and development sectors in the City, to prove they have made a break with the approach taken under Robert Davis. 	
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Consultations

Body	Consultation	Deadline	Action
GLA	How can we improve taxi and private hire services?	30 November 2018	To be agreed
WCC	Oxford Street District strategy	16 December 2018	To be agreed
WCC	Revision to Westminster's City Plan	21 December 2018	To be agreed
MHCLG	Planning Reform: supporting the high street and increasing the delivery of new homes	14 January 2019	To be agreed
GLA	Analysing the Mayor's Healthy Streets initiative	31 January 2019	To be agreed

Events forward planner

Date	Organisation	Event	Tickets
19 November 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	Drinks Reception with the Lord Chancellor, the Rt Hon David Gauke MP CLWCA are hosting a drinks reception with the Rt Hon David Gauke MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice. Wine, soft drinks and canapes will be served from 6.30 – 8.30pm.	£30 per person (CLWCA members) or £35 (non-members)
28 November 2018	Westminster Property Association (WPA)	WPA City Plan presentation and reception with Cllr Richard Beddoe Following the imminent launch of the new WCC City Plan, Cllr Richard Beddoe will speak at an evening WPA reception, which will include a presentation on the City Plan. Venue and timings tbc.	Tbc
29 November 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	Gala Dinner with Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP CLWCA are holding their annual Gala Dinner with former Mayor of London and Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson as the special guest. This comes as Shaun Bailey launches his campaign for the 2020 London Mayoral election, and will be an opportunity to hear from London's only Conservative Mayor to date. The location will be shared with attendees 48 hours beforehand. There will be a drinks reception from 7pm,	Standard tickets £130 per person. Premium & Premium Plus tickets also available

		with a three course dinner at 8pm.	
4 December 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	Swing into Christmas with Sir Desmond Swayne MP Mayfair, Soho and West End Conservatives are hosting a Christmas party with special guest, the Rt Hon Sir Desmond Swayne. It will be held at 'Directors Lounge' Club Room (Doric Way, NW1) 7.30pm until late.	£30 per person
6 December 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	Drinks Reception with London Vice Chairman Paul Scully MP The Bryanston & Dorset Square Committee is holding a drinks reception with Paul Scully MP. Details to follow.	£30 per person, £35 for non-members