

**Planning and Borough Development**

Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX

**Director for Planning and Place**

Amanda Reid

**Head of Spatial Planning**

Jonathan Wade

Planning for the Future Consultation  
Planning Directorate  
3rd Floor, Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

29 October 2020

Please ask for: Ms Preeti Gulati Tyagi

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea – Response to the Planning for the Future White Paper consultation**

Whilst the Council and its amenity societies and residents' associations recognise the need to build more social and 'community' housing – with the highest fire-safety, design and environmental standards – and actively want to pilot digital Local Plans, alongside continued traditional engagement, we ask for a fundamental rethink of:

- housing targets, resultant from the proposed Standard Method, which would be undeliverable in our borough;
- community involvement, which should form part of every stage of an application's life – from vision to decision; and,
- development management policies, including protections against mega-basements, which are vital to protecting the unique character of a local area.

We urge the Government to address these and other significant issues set out in our detailed response in taking its proposals for planning reforms forward.

Yours faithfully,

Councillor Johnny Thalassites  
**Lead Member for Planning and Transport**

Co-signed by:  
The Kensington Society  
The Chelsea Society

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