

Committee(s) Planning and Transportation	Dated: 12/12/2017
Planning and Transportation – For Decision	12/12/2017
Subject: Freight and Servicing Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation and Adoption	Public
Report of: Steve Presland, Director of Transportation and Public Realm	For Decision
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Summary

This report presents the outcomes of the consultation on the draft Freight and Servicing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and recommended revisions to the document.

The Freight and Servicing SPD has been produced to provide additional guidance on policies in relation to deliveries and servicing of new developments. The SPD aims to reduce the negative environmental impact of freight and servicing on the City, while allowing the City to flourish and avoiding negative impacts beyond the City's boundaries.

The draft SPD was subject to a period of public consultation ending in September 2017. The consultation led to several minor changes to the document, which have been incorporated into the final document. The draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which accompanied the draft document has been updated to reflect the outcomes of the consultation.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Subject to comments received from your committee agree the adoption of the Freight and Servicing SPD.

Main Report

Background

1. The volume of freight traffic on City streets is closely linked to land use. Estimates suggest that nearly 50% of freight traffic on City streets is destined for the Square Mile, so there is a significant opportunity to manage freight generated by City businesses through the planning process.

2. As agreed by the Planning and Transportation Committee in December 2015, one of the ways to manage freight movement in the City is through the introduction of a Supplementary Planning Document on Freight and Servicing.

Consultation Process

3. The draft Freight and Servicing SPD and draft SEA were approved by Committee on 25 July 2017 and published for consultation between 7 August 2017 and 30 September 2017. The draft documents were published on the City Corporation website, with hard copies provided in all City libraries and at the DBE Planning Enquiry Counter at Guildhall.
4. The consultation was emailed directly to all Local Plan stakeholders and members of the City Freight Forum. The consultation was also promoted through the City Freight Forum meeting on 19 September, the Freight Newsletter and an item was included in the July Member Briefing. A short news item on the consultation appeared in Local Transport Today – a leading transport industry publication.
5. Internally, an officer workshop was held on 23 August and was attended by 14 officers from the Departments of the Built Environment and Markets and Consumer Protection.
6. Responses to the consultation were received from 15 organisations or individuals – in line with expectations for a technical planning document of this type. Responses were received from a diverse range of stakeholders, including several residents.

Consultation Outcomes

7. The consultation responses received were broadly supportive of the City Corporation's efforts to proactively manage freight and servicing in the City. Several respondents expressed a wish to see more ambition in the document, with more stringent restrictions on freight movements in the City during the day and greater use of alternative modes of transport. Some respondents expressed concern at the deliverability of the ambition, and the potential for additional costs from providing consolidation centres and taking deliveries out of normal working hours.
8. All responses to the external consultation are included in Appendix 1, and outcomes of the officer workshop are included in Appendix 2. The responses include the City Corporation responses to each comment.
9. Several minor changes have been made to the draft document in response to the comments received. The Adoption Statement (Appendix 3) sets out all changes made to the draft document, cross-referenced to the relevant comment.

Proposals

10. It is proposed that, subject to comments received from the Planning and Transportation Committee that the revised Freight and Servicing SPD is adopted and published.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

11. The SPD provides further guidance on the implementation of policies in the City of London Local Plan. It supports other policies and SPDs adopted by the City Corporation, particularly on Air Quality.
12. The SPD aligns with the Mayor of London's policies on the management of freight, as set out in the draft Mayor's Transport Strategy. It also support Key Policy Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan; "Engaging with London and national government on key issues of concern to our communities such as transport, housing and public health".

Health Implications

13. The draft SPD will contribute to improved air quality and reduced road danger in the City, providing potential health benefits for the City population.

Conclusion

14. The Freight and Servicing SPD provides additional guidance on Local Plan policies on delivering to, and servicing new development in the City. The document aims to reduce the negative impact on the City of freight and servicing traffic, while allowing the City to flourish.
15. Subject to the recommendation from the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee and approval from the Planning and Transportation Committee, the SPD will be adopted and made available on the City Corporation website.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Consultation Report
- Appendix 2 – Officer Workshop Report
- Appendix 3 – Adoption Statement

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