

Security & Safety

Overview of issue

The current Local Plan policy brings together a range of issues including designing out crime, managing night-time entertainment, implementing collective security and resilience measures and designing transport systems to resolve conflicts between pedestrians and other road users.

As the world's leading financial and business centre, addressing potential risks from terrorism is of critical importance. New development will result in an increasing number of workers, visitors and servicing vehicle movements being concentrated within a small area, particularly in the Eastern Cluster. Transport interchanges and certain streets are already crowded at peak times and activities are spilling out of offices onto the street. The transport network and the public realm need to be designed to safely accommodate the projected increase in the numbers of people using them. The perceived nature of terrorist and other security threats will influence the design of future developments in the City. It will also impact on the City's streets and provide challenges for the City in encouraging greater access to new buildings. A key challenge is to minimise the risk of attack while providing a safe and attractive environment with ease of movement.

The City of London Road Danger Reduction Plan seeks to reduce accidents and the risk of accidents in the City. Options include making areas of the City traffic free and considering pedestrianisation. Anti-social behaviour in the public realm needs to be kept to a minimum, addressing the impact of activities such as skateboarding. We need to consider to what extent anti-social behaviour can be addressed through planning policy.

A greater mix of businesses, along with more retail and leisure facilities and the changing demographic of the City's workforce, means that the City operates on a 24 hour basis, 7 days a week, with growing demand for night-time entertainment uses. Current Local Plan policy aims to strike a balance between providing vibrant but well managed night-time uses while minimising the impact on residential amenity. The impact of the Night Tube and the Cultural Hub could be significant in the near future, increasing the number of visitors and extending visits until later in the evening. Issues that need to be considered include how to manage dispersal from night-time venues to transport networks and the impact of any emerging clusters of night-time venues on residential amenity.

Questions

Question 1

Should the Local Plan include further measures to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour? If so, what measures?

Question 2

How can buildings and spaces be designed to create a safe and permeable public realm while protecting against security threats?

Question 3

What are the key issues concerning night-time entertainment? Where are the main areas of concern in the City for noise and disturbance? Would clear dispersal routes help to minimise the impact of night-time venues?