

7 Environmental Challenges

Supporting Text

7.0.51 The NPPF states that planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impact of air quality from individual sites. Planning policies should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.

7.0.52 The London Plan requires that boroughs should have policies that seek reductions in pollutants and take account of the findings of air quality reviews and assessments, particularly where Air Quality Management Areas have been designated. The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy and the Sustainable Design and Construction SPG set out that developments are to be at least "air quality neutral", aiming to meet the benchmark standards in the Air Quality Neutral report.

7.0.53 The Borough periodically reviews and assessed air quality within its area. National air quality objectives (AQOs) have been designated for:

- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- Particulates
- Carbon monoxide
- Benzene
- 1,3-Butadiene
- Sulphur dioxide
- Lead
- Ozone

7.0.54 Following extensive air quality modelling Bromley, like many other local authorities, declared an air quality management area (AQMA) in 2007. The AQMA covers the North and North West of the borough and is in response of predicted exceedance in nitrogen dioxide levels. In 2010 Bromley subsequently published an Air Quality Action Plan detailing actions to tackle the air quality exceedances. The Action Plan has been reviewed and an Updated Screening Assessment published.

7.0.55 The main cause of air pollution problems in Bromley arise from traffic, domestic heating and cooking (boilers, gas cookers, stoves), restaurants and commercial cooking and heating, industrial emissions and construction.

Policy 121

Ventilation and Odour Control

Proposals for restaurants and cafes (Class A3), drinking establishments (Class A4) and hot food takeaways (Class A5) should include details of an adequate ventilation system to prevent the escape of fumes to the outside whilst minimising noise, vibration and visual impact.

Supporting Text

7.0.56 Fumes and smells from food and drink premises can create a nuisance to neighbours and should be controlled through effective ventilation systems. Conditions will be applied to any permission involving potential emissions to ensure that adequate standards may be achieved.

7.0.57 DEFRA '*Guidance on the Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems*' (January 2005) provides further information on appropriate design and odour abatement plant in kitchen ventilation systems.

Policy 122

Light Pollution

Lighting in new development, including flood lighting, should be at an appropriate level so as to minimise impact on amenity whilst ensuring safe and secure places. Lighting should:

- i. have no adverse effect on residential amenity through glare or hours of operation,
- ii. not be visible from the wider area, and
- iii. have no adverse impact on road safety, landscape or nature conservation.

Supporting Text

7.0.58 Light pollution – artificial light which intrudes on areas not intended to be lit – can be a nuisance and a public health issue. From street lighting to floodlighting, a range of measures can reduce problems of glare and light spillage without compromising safety. The NPPF states that, through good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

Policy 123

Sustainable Design and Construction

All applications for development should demonstrate how the principles of sustainable design and construction have been taken into account alongside the principles set out in the general design policy.