Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on the above document. These representations are made on behalf of Atch Group and their land holdings within the Old Kent Road Opportunity Area. At this stage we have not specialist advice from a viability consultant, which may be necessary depending upon the contents of the submission version ahead of independent examination scheduled for later this year.

As a starting position Atch Group very much welcome the Council’s aspirations for transforming the Old Kent Road area and have made significant land investment in the belief that it can be the next successful regeneration area in London. Furthermore, having reviewed the infrastructure projects identified on page three of the Draft Addendum to the Section 106 Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CI) Supplementary Planning Document (June 2016), we consider them to be vital to the success of the area.

We therefore do not dispute the amount of money that needs to be raised through CI. However, what is critical is ensuring the Council has a balance in making sure its various priorities are properly balanced to enable the delivery of development in its entirety. We have read with interest the Old Kent Road Viability Study 2016 prepared by BNP Paribas which forms part of the evidence base. We would particularly like to draw the Council’s attention to the comments made in paragraph 3.6, which state:

“Clearly, however, landowners have expectations of the value of their land which often exceed the value of the current use. S106 including affordable housing and CI will be a cost to the scheme and will impact on the residual land value. Ultimately, if landowners’ expectations are not met, they will not voluntarily sell their land and (unless a Local Authority is prepared to use its compulsory purchase powers) some may simply hold on to their sites, in the hope that policy may change at some future point with reduced requirements. It is within the scope of those expectations that developers have to formulate their offers for sites. The task of formulating an offer for a site is complicated further still during buoyant land markets, where developers have to compete with other developers to secure a site, often speculating on increases in value.”

The above paragraph is a good summary of the issues facing developers and that in agreeing to purchase land they are taking significant risk that it will ultimately result in the grant of planning permission for a viable scheme, taking account of the various policy burdens/costs. The key component for the success of the Old Kent Road regeneration is the existing land owners making their sites available development. The Council have already commented upon the fragmented nature of land ownership within the draft Old Kent Road AAP and that they want to see comprehensive, rather than piecemeal regeneration.

This does rather hand the power to individual land owners who could decide to sit on a key piece of land, which doesn’t necessarily need to be large but could be of strategic significance to surrounding land parcels coming forward for development. It is widely understood that land assembly can be a difficult process and the price paid for obtaining land will vary depending upon the individual situation of the owner. This may result in higher sums of money being paid to release land for development that don’t necessarily relate to recognised planning viability benchmark land values, particularly existing use value. BNP acknowledge, for example, that the delivery of 35% affordable housing on some sites, along with other policy requirements will be challenging.

It is therefore essential that the Council take a flexible approach if they are seeking to adopt the proposed CI charging schedule which will become a fixed cost. It is the other elements that will have to be factored in if there are viability issues, which include, scheme density, affordable housing provisions, tenures mix, unit mix, sustainability requirements etc. This is entirely consistent with the comments we have written on behalf of British Land in relation to the above consultation on your Revised CI Charging Schedule.

I note that the purpose of the revision is to ensure that the Council can secure sufficient funding for infrastructure to support growth in the Old Kent Road Opportunity Area. The revisions also increase existing CI rates in line with the All-in-Tender Price Index (as provided for in the CI Regulations).

Given the nature of this consultation, I do not revisit the points raised by British Land during the previous examination in public in relation to strategic sites and their infrastructure requirements and resultant scheme viability, although those points still stand.

These representations focus on the Draft Revised CI Regulation 123 List and the associated Infrastructure Plan (December 2016).

As you will be aware, British Land is currently engaged in detailed pre-application discussions with the Council regarding their development proposals at Canada Water and intend to submit a hybrid planning application in late 2017. As part of these discussions, the infrastructure requirements for the area are being discussed with the Council, Greater London Authority and Transport for London with the following potential improvements being identified to address existing problems:

- Improvements to Canada Water Station;
- Improvements to Surrey Quays Station;
- Improvements to Lower Road, including improvements to the Junctions at Surrey Quays Station and Rotherhithe Tunnel and roundabout, road layout, pedestrian access and public realm improvements; and
- Strategic bus and cycle improvements.

These works are existing infrastructure requirements and cannot be funded through S106 planning obligations. They should therefore be specified on the Council’s Regulations 123 List.

Should you require any further information, please contact me. In the meantime, please keep me informed of progress on the Revised CI Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List.

The infrastructure improvements for Canada Water are specified in the Canada Water AAP where Section 106 funding streams are identified to deliver these schemes.

Noted. Comments are provided on TfL response.

Committee Members, Officers and other stakeholders,

I am writing on behalf of the Mayor of London with comments on the London Borough of Southwark’s Community Infrastructure Levy (CI) draft charging schedule.

The Mayor welcomes the principle of Southwark seeking to secure appropriate developer contributions in order to support the funding and delivery of improved transport infrastructure, particularly the Bakerloo Line extension. He would wish to continue to work together in developing and bringing forward transport proposals in Southwark. He would like to draw your attention to the comments TfL have made.

I would be grateful if you could note our request to be notified of submission of your draft charging schedule for examination, publication of the examiner’s recommendation and approval of the charging schedule.

Although we are not objecting, if required we can attend the public examination to address the question of compliance with CI Regulation 14(3).

Noted. Comments are provided on TfL response.
I refer to the above consultation. In relation to the student Housing categorisation I still consider that there is some misunderstanding of what actually happens in the market. There are two types of providers, Universities and the Private Sector, the latter of which either contract directly or list to students or via Nomination agreements with Universities. Equally Universities provide housing for students direct and not via Nomination Agreements. The issue for the CL is charge is surely the rent at which the homes are let. The figure of £168 was set in the summer of 2014, it was too low then and is far too low now. Even if it was correct in 2014 a minimum of 9% uplift, as per the CL increase, would take it to £183 per week.

If a student unit were let at £163 per week for 41 weeks this would produce an annual gross rent of £6,683 or a net rent of £4,683 which as a capitalised investment would be worth £93,660 - £117,075 depending on its location, which would not cover the cost of land, construction, fees, finance and profit. I would suggest that the figure needs to be at least in the region of £190 - £200 for a basic ensuite cluster unit.

The Council is of the view that the existing rent figure of £168 per week should be retained. This is in accordance with the Mayor’s latest definition of ‘affordable student accommodation’ in the Housing SPG (2016; paragraph 3.9.4-3.9.3). This document sets the rent for this type of accommodation at £155 per week for the academic year 2016/17, with the annual increase to be reported in the Annual Monitoring Report in subsequent years.

There is no evidence of the figure of relation student still what happens of SPG in accordance (3.9.13).

The Council has substantial evidence for demand for sports and leisure facilities including the Playing Pitch Strategy that is soon to be completed; New facilities such as the Castle Leisure Centre and planned facilities at Canada Water, Burgess Park and on Surrey Canal Road in Lewisham will help meet needs. Progress in delivering this significant pipeline of facilities will be monitored to ensure shortfalls are addressed. The council is in the process of preparing a borough-wide local development plan, the New Southwark Plan and is expecting to consult on a submission draft in autumn 2017. The approach across the borough to the provision of sports facilities is being reviewed as part of its process and will also inform future updates to the Infrastructure Plan. The Regulation 123 List will be updated in future if required.

Southwark CIL Charging Schedule and 123 List

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above document. Sport England is the Government agency responsible for delivering the Government’s sporting objectives. Maximising the investment into sport and recreation through the land use planning system is one of our national and regional priorities. You will also be aware that Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting playing fields.

In response to the consultation, Sport England would like to make the following comments on the consultation document:

Draft Revised CIL regulation 123 List

Sport England welcomes the recognition of sports facilities within this section, however, indoor and outdoor sports facility requirements should be adequately provided for.

Sport England’s Land Use Planning Policy Statement ‘Planning for Sport Aims and Objectives’ (http://www.sportengland.org/media/162442/planning-for-sport_aims-objectives-june-2013.pdf) should be taken into account. The statement details Sport England’s three objectives in its involvement in planning matters:

1. To prevent the loss of sports facilities and land along with access to natural resources used for sport.
2. To ensure that the best use is made of existing facilities in order to maintain and provide greater opportunities for participation and to ensure that facilities are sustainable.
3. To ensure that new sports facilities are planned for and provided in a positive and integrated way and that opportunities for new facilities are identified to meet current and future demands for sport.

Furthermore, OBJECTIVE – Local Plan & Evidence Base

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires each local planning authority to produce a Local Plan for its area. Local Plans should address the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change. Local Plans should be based on an adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence base. In addition, paragraph 73 of the NPPF requires that:

“Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessment should identify specific needs and quantitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area.”

We recognise the challenges identified by TfL in securing funding for infrastructure and have been very conscious of these in revising our approach to CIL charging.

With regard to the potential for site specific mitigation for development proposals to be constrained by the content of the regulation 123 list, we would highlight that a limited number of transport infrastructure items are included in this list and hence are not open to S106 funding. Cycle routes were highlighted as an example in the letter referred to, but it should be noted that the regulation 123 list explicitly excludes cycle infrastructure in the Old Kent Road opportunity area, on-site cycle infrastructure and development specific signage, so these measures can still be funded via S106.

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the London Borough of Southwark’s Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) draft charging schedule. I am responding on behalf of Transport for London and the comments here are based upon the Draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule consultation documents dated January 2017. I would wish to reiterate my comments of 25 September on the PDCS consultation in welcoming the principle of Southwark seeking to secure appropriate developer contributions in order to support the funding and delivery of improved transport infrastructure, particularly the Bakerloo Line extension. I would also highlight again the challenge faced in securing funding for infrastructure critical to unblocking growth, particularly the timing of contributions, the scope of development that should pay, and the impact of such payments on the viability of development. On a more detailed matter, concerns remain that were expressed in the earlier 2014 ROCS consultation regarding the r23 list (letter of 25 Feb 2014 attached, especially point 4). In particular, the potential for necessary site specific mitigation for development proposals being constrained by the content of the r23 list, would result in uncertainty that such infrastructure could be funded and brought forward in a timely fashion through borough CIL receipts.

I would be grateful if you could note our request to be notified of submission of your draft charging schedule for examination, publication of the examiner’s recommendation and approval of the charging schedule by the council.

We recommend the amendment of these clauses to ensure that CIL is not considered for funding infrastructure for transport projects in this way.

The revised CIL and three zones do not take into consideration the loss of benefit suffered by Camberwell as the branch of the proposed BLS serving Camberwell Town Centre has been rejected by TfL despite business case support for it. There is a sub zone 3 category to offset the effects on residents on rating residential at zero in Camberwell and a reasonable proportion of the CL ring fenced for funding the construction required to re-open Camberwell Station as per Southwarks Draft Area Plan.

The council recognise the need to tackle the housing crisis and set out ambitious regeneration and house-building targets in our local plan documents and area action plans. New housebuilding also generates the need for new facilities to accommodate the growing population and to benefit existing and new residents, such as transport infrastructure, affordable housing and schools. To facilitate the scale of growth envisaged, developers will need to contribute to the finance of new infrastructure.

The Charging Schedule should include a discounted rate for undercroft or basement car parking associated with a chargeable use. For example, LB Hounslow charges £155/m2 for larger retail uses but associated undercroft or basement car parking is charged at £20/m2 to reflect the fact that this ancillary space is not income-generating.

LB Southwark should take the same approach to ensure that CIL does not compromise development viability.

The council does not consider it necessary to include a separate rate for undercroft or basement parking. These costs have been considered within the viability assumptions.

[Continued on next page]
| 10 | Guy's and St Thomas' Charity | Richard Maung, Deloitte Real Estate | 4 | On behalf of our client, Guy's and St Thomas' Charity ("the Charity") ("Client"), we are writing to respond to the London Borough of Southwark (USB) Revision to the Southwark Community Infrastructure Levy, currently published for consultation until 13 March 2017. Guy's and St Thomas' Charity is an independent charitable foundation which supports new ideas to tackle major health and care challenges in Lambeth and Southwark, and therefore has considerable interest in planning matters in the Borough. Our client welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Revised Charging Schedule. Comments on the Revised CIL Charging Schedule The Charity's assets are located within Zone 1 at Guy's Hospital, south of St Thomas Street. The Charity notes that all of the CIL rates within Zone 1 have been increased in line with the All in Tender Price Index, as provided for in the CIL Regulations. The Charity does not object to the principle of the Council seeking to secure sufficient funding for infrastructure to support growth in the Borough; however, does wish to express its position in relation to charitable relief and to clarify the CIL position in respect of any plans which might be brought forward for major redevelopment at the London Bridge Campus (in the joint ownership of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, King's College London and the Charity). As a charitable institution, any chargeable development that will be used wholly or mainly for charitable purposes, whether occupied by, or under the control of the Charity, will qualify for mandatory charitable relief under Regulation 43 of the CIL Regulations. | Berkeley Homes' previous representation is noted. The council has responded to each of the comments made. |
| 11 | Berkeley Homes | Rufle Judd | 5 | We set out below a response prepared on behalf of Berkeley Homes (South East London) Ltd on the Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Charging Schedule (January 2017) and the Draft CIL Regulation 123 List (January 2017) and supporting evidence. We confirm that we wish to attend the Examination in Public to present our evidence to the Inspector. The Old Kent Road Opportunity Area is one of Southwark's and London's key regeneration areas for the future and will deliver tens of thousands of new homes, jobs, community and shopping facilities, infrastructure and open spaces. Berkeley Homes is committed to working with the Council and local people to contribute to this objective through the regeneration of under used industrial land on its site at Malt Street along the Old Kent Road. These latest representations on the Draft CIL Charging Schedule, Draft CIL Regulation 123 List and the background evidence which supports them reflects Berkeley Homes' desire to work with the Council to deliver a successful approach on this site. Regeneration can only be delivered by a working partnership of public and private investment into the area and this has to be predicated on development being both viable and attractive to developers and investors. If developers such as Berkeley Homes are over burdened with financial obligations related to the delivery of future infrastructure requirements, then developing key sites becomes unviable and delivery stalls. | Berkeley Homes' previous representation is noted. The council has responded to each of the comments made. |
| 12 | Berkeley Homes | Rufle Judd | 5 | We previously submitted representations to the Council on 16 March 2016 in respect of the initial Viability Assessment and CIL Reviewing which preceded the issue of the Draft Revisited SPD and the issue of the Draft Old Kent Road Area Action Plan (OKR AAP). This was followed up on 4 November 2016 with representations on the preliminary Draft CIL Charging Schedule and Preliminary CIL Regulation 123 List. We append both the March and November 2016 representations by way of reference. By way of a reminder, our comments were as follows: 1. Previous concerns regarding overestimated sales values, gross to net efficiency, contingency figures and build costs had not been fully responded to; 2. Build cost: There are unresolved issues concerning the data provided and the model BNP is using. Furthermore there is no criteria/measure or analysis of how abnormal costs, risks, site constraints and external works are assessed; 3. That the viability testing undertaken had identified that on certain sites the impact of the proposed CIL Charging Schedule (and BLE Section 106 Contributions) would mean the quantum of affordable housing being delivered will be reduced by 5% but we consider that this impact will be far greater; 4. A concern over the funding of the Bakerloo Line Stations to S106 and not as set out in the Regulation 123 List which would focus on the tunnels. Also a concern over the pooling of S106 contributions prior to CIL coming into force; and, 5. A concern regarding 'double dipping' for infrastructure requirements across the Old Kent Road. Developers will be providing facilities on site as part of their scheme but may be requested to provide S106 contributions towards other facilities in the area. The above concerns remain entirely pertinent and if unresolved, will result in a CIL Charging Schedule that could ultimately derail the objectives of the Council for the Opportunity Area. In addition to the previous representations made we set out below additional comments on the latest material published. This submission provides further commentary on previous submissions and highlights our concerns that the Council has to carefully consider the objectives of the Old Kent Road and balance competing planning and regeneration requirements. The delivery of important infrastructure such as the Bakerloo Line is essential to the regeneration of the area and this has to be part funded by new development. However there are other planning objectives which have a | Berkeley Homes' previous representation is noted. The council has responded to each of the comments made. |
| 13 | Berkeley Homes | Rufle Judd | 5 | 1. Consultation Plan December 2016 – Response to Berkeley Homes Representation The Council responded through the Consultation Plan to a number of the comments raised by Berkeley Homes in November 2016. The responses received to date have not addressed many of the significant concerns raised by Berkeley Homes within the initial response on Viability in March 2016 and the subsequent First CIL Charging Schedule response in November 2016. There are still major concerns on sales values and as noted in the responses below the Council continues to promote over optimistic upper end values (although there is sensitivity testing). In addition there are further concerns relating to build costs which remain unanswered. We provide a further response to the Council’s comments in Appendix 1. 2. Background Paper – CIL and S106 (January 2017) The Background Paper explains how the Draft CIL Charging Schedule was formalised and the general principles and methods used to arrive at the amended CIL Charging Schedule. We set out below our detailed comments on the Background Paper. This has been set out in the order that it is presented in the document. | Berkeley Homes' previous representation is noted. The council has responded to each of the comments made. |
In preparing its original CL, the council undertook a survey of all the viability appraisals submitted with planning applications and identified the the profit rate assumptions made in each. This survey was subsequently updated to inform the 2016 Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study and the results were presented to developers in a consultation workshop held in March 2016 (the presentation is copied in Appendix G of the Statement of Consultation and is available on the council’s website http://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/section-106-and-community-infrastructure-levy/revised-cil-charging-schedule-consultation). The survey covered the period between November 2011 and December 2015.

Information on the profit rate assumed on private housing was available for a total of 19 planning application schemes. Of these, 11 assumed a profit level of 20% on private housing, 2 were in excess of 20% and 6 assumed less than 18%. The council has subsequently reviewed the profit assumptions in schemes determined between January 2016 and April 2017. Most of the assumptions included in this survey a blended profit rate. However, it was possible to identify the rate assumed on private housing in 4 schemes, with 3 assuming 20% and 1 assuming 17.5%.

The council’s evidence shows that in submitting viability appraisals for developments in the borough over the last few years, developers have assumed a range of profit levels on private housing, in the main between 15% and 20%. In the council’s view, the assumption made in the viability study of 18% on private housing is reasonable. Notwithstanding the profit level assumed on private housing, the viability study shows that CLI comprises a very small part of the overall cost of development. Of the sites tested, the study shows that proposed increase in CLI charging rates has little impact on the amount of affordable housing that can be delivered and its impact on the viability of development is nominal.

In the council’s view, the evidence demonstrates that CL is not one of the main factors in determining the viability of development. As Berkeley Homes point out, other factors, such as affordable housing, build costs and existing use value will have a far greater impact on viability and a decision about whether to progress a development than CL. The fact that many schemes are unviable irrespective of CLI underlines that fact. In his report on the council’s adopted CLI, the examiner considered that the council’s approach in disregarding those sites which are unviable irrespective of CL to be “appropriate” (paragraph 42 of the CIL Examiner’s report, March 2015).

The council’s evidence shows that CLI comprises a small part of development cost and on average within a 5% contingency that would usually be applied to development costs. The December 2014 Viability Study indicated that of the 29 developments that were appraised in CIL zone 2, the CLI charges do not account for more than 5.33% of total scheme value, with the average CLI liability being 2.32% of the development’s scheme value.

The proposed changes to the CIL charging schedule are based on current values and costs.

The reasoning behind the assumptions around profit are set out in paragraphs 4.33 to 4.35 of the Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study 2016.
Statement of Consultation: Appendix F - Representations on the Draft CIL Charging Schedule and the council’s responses

18 Berkeley Homes
11 Rufus Judd

**3.1.18 - Affordable Housing Provision** - We would strongly challenge the assertion that the Council's target of 35% affordable housing remains a reasonable requirement within the Old Kent Road.

Table 6.1.1 of the BNP Paribas Viability Study notes that on notional sites 6 and 7 viability for any provision of affordable housing only occurs where sales values and BVL are optimistic. In all other scenarios viability is low even with limited (or no) affordable housing. Similarly for Large Sites 2 and 3 Table 6.10.1 notes that the schemes are only viable or close to viability where 0% affordable housing is tested.

As noted in the section on viability, Table 6.10.1 has an error which highlights viable schemes in both columns showing 0% affordable housing. This significantly downplays the positive difference reducing the provision of affordable housing makes to the viability of a scheme.

Affordable housing is the key parameter which affects viability of the schemes in the Old Kent Road. If the Council were to allow greater flexibility in the tenure being provided and the overall percentage provision on site, this would go a significant way to establishing confidence in the delivery of future schemes.

Berkeley Homes’ valuation assessment of meeting a ‘policy compliant’ provision on site has highlighted this is not viable and that with the proposed significant increase in the CIL charge would mean other development options for Malt Street may have to be pursued.

We consider the provision of 35% affordable housing on a site to have the single largest impact on viability across the Old Kent Road. However there are other significant factors such as requirements to provide family homes, significant provision of employment space and provision of large areas of open space.

We consider that the provision of these planning requirements should be reviewed in association with the draft CIL charging schedule to assess ways of making development viable so the wider regeneration benefits can be met. This may mean a relaxation of current planning standards and a focus on the promotion of higher density of development in order to balance the competing objectives.

19 Berkeley Homes
11 Rufus Judd

**3.1.19 - OKR CIL Rate change to Zone 2** - We would strongly disagree for the reasons set out above that the Council’s proposed 330% CIL increase would not adversely affect the viability of schemes. This rate of CIL reflects a Zone 2 rate where values are achieving £1,500 per sqft.

We would agree with the Council and its advisers that CIL is not the principal factor in viability as the Council’s own evidence (and Berkeley Homes’ viability evidence) clearly demonstrates it is the imposition of 35% affordable housing on schemes. However where a developer is struggling with viability on a scheme the addition of a further 3% of cost can be a breaking point. The evidence in Tables 6.7.1 and 6.10.1 and the appendices of the BNP Paribas Viability Study highlights that CIL will adversely impact on viability and would be a factor in the decision making process of a developer whether to bring forward a scheme.

As noted above the introduction of flexibility in the imposition of 35% affordable housing with 70% of this social rented housing has a very significant impact on the viability of large schemes across the Old Kent Road. This has to be acknowledged by the Council and flexibility introduced both in the provision of affordable housing and a CIL charge that supports and incentivises developers to bring forward their schemes in this important regeneration area.

The current Southwark Plan (saved policies) identifies that the southern portion of the Old Kent Road comprises wards with very high levels of social rented housing and on this basis the policy for this area is 70/30 split towards intermediate housing. This is also the approach taken in Peckham. We consider the Council should adopt this split in association with a review of whether the increase in CIL Charging Rates to Zone 2 is appropriate. The Council has operated a different approach to affordable tenure in the Elephant and Castle for over ten years and we consider that a similar flexible approach should be given in the Old Kent Road.

We consider the Council should review the proposed rates and introduce a rate (or rates) solely for the Old Kent Road which are below Zone 2 rates. There could be differential rates for parts of the Old Kent Road. The regulations allow charging authorities to apply differential rates in a flexible way, to help ensure the viability of development is not put at risk. Differences in rates need to be justified reference to the economic viability of development.

Differential rates may be appropriate in relation to:
- geographical zones within the charging authority’s boundary;
- types of development; and/or
- scale of development.

The Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study 2016 indicates that CIL does not have a significant impact on the amount of affordable housing that can be attained.

With regard to the notional sites tested, the increased CIL that would be applicable to sites within the enlargement of CIL Zone 2 either has no impact on the level of affordable housing that can be achieved or in some cases, would result in a small reduction. The reduction is no greater than a single affordable housing "interval" eg it would reduce the level of affordable housing from 40% to 35%.

With regard to the real sites tested, only 1 of the sites tested could provide 35% affordable housing with the 2015 CIL charge and the same remains the case with the increased CIL charge.

The benchmark land value will have a significant impact on the viability of a project. The council has only determined 1 major planning application in the opportunity area in CIL Zone 2. However, the existing Zone 2 CIL charge was applicable and the scheme provided 35% affordable housing (Planning application 15/AR/2474 on the Rich Estate, Crimscott Street provides 406 homes, including 35% affordable housing and 20,000m of commercial space, including affordable space).

The council notes Berkeley Homes’ view that CIL is not the principle factor in determining viability. The council’s evidence also shows that CIL has very little impact on the level of affordable housing that can be achieved (see the council’s response to representation 18).

The council considers that its evidence does not present a strong case for varying the CIL level within the opportunity area.

20 Berkeley Homes
11 Rufus Judd

**3.1.20 - Infrastructure** - We would strongly agree with the Council regarding the importance of proper funding of infrastructure across the Old Kent Road. The delivery of the Bakerloo Line Extension as the base to support the growth of the area is essential. This funding will come from a variety of sources which includes CIL and we would agree that developers have to contribute towards the delivery of this infrastructure. The concern with the CIL rates proposed and the evidence which support this is that they highlight that other aspects of Council policy will have to be modified in association with CIL to deliver viable development.

The objectives of the Opportunity Area as set out in the OKR AAP in delivering 20,000 new homes, 5,000 new jobs, community facilities and high quality open spaces have to be balanced against the Council’s own policies. As set out in Paragraph 173 of the NPPF, the sites and scale of development as set out in the Plan (in this case OKR AAP) should not be subjected to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed is threatened. The proposed scheme for Malt Street delivers over 50% publicly accessible open space and this benefit has to be weighed with the overall viability of delivering new homes, jobs etc. The provision of large areas of open space which are a result of the Council’s Place making Study and LDS process has significant viability impacts. It removes large areas of site available for development thus reducing the opportunity to maximise ground coverage and requiring those areas for development to be developed at much higher densities. This creates design challenges and means that taller denser structures need to be delivered. These are more expensive to construct.

The NPPF notes that the costs of affordable housing and infrastructure contributions have to allow competitive returns to enable development to be viable. Paragraph 175 of the NPPF states that the CIL should support and incentivise new development.

The council notes Berkeley Homes’ view that the Bakerloo Line is essential for supporting growth within the opportunity area. The council considers that the revisions to the CIL charging schedule strike an appropriate balance between the desirability of funding infrastructure from the levy and the potential impact upon the economic viability of development across the area.
Statement of Consultation: Appendix F - Representations on the Draft CIL Charging Schedule and the council’s responses

21 Berkeley Homes

3.4.3-13 - Sales Values - As noted in earlier representations by Berkeley Homes in March 2016 and November 2016 the sales values used by the Council have been generally too optimistic. In March 2016 it was noted sales values in the area were below £700/sqft (£7,534/sqm).

The market has moved forward over the past year however the impact of Brexit has yet to be fully understood and there are already reports from lenders highlighting falling house prices in the first quarter 2017. An assessment of recent prices for Bermondsey Works and The Bath House which are the two most comparable schemes in the Old Kent Road have highlighted sales values between £660 to £730/sqft. We therefore agree with the wording in Paragraph 4.12 that figures of £650-£725/sqft are a reasonable range for sales values in the Old Kent Road.

However, there is no justification for a 25% increase in sales values to £850-£980/sqft in the southern area of the Opportunity Area. The report provides no justification for these figures and our assessment of the figures from Bermondsey Works and Bath House shows that there was not a significant increase in value between March 2016 and February 2017. Furthermore, the expectation that the values will rise in the short term to £1,050 to £1,150/sqft (an increase of 58% of current values) is highly unrealistic and does not reflect current market commentary. Savills Residential Research in its market assessment in November 2016 (Appendix 2) forecast a 5 year increase for London of only 11%, with the potential for zero or even negative growth in the housing market between 2016 and 2018.

The sensitivity testing undertaken in the Appendix should therefore focus on the realistic values of £650 to £725/sqft.

Responses to the specific points are provided below.

22 Berkeley Homes

4.13 Build Costs Summary [Large Site]

Large Site 1:
- General – it has been noted allowances for remedial works, removal of ground contamination and asbestos have been excluded. It is also unclear whether an allowance for removal of any ground obstructions has been made. Based on the current allowance of £170m², this should be reviewed as this rate could be deficient and not reflective of existing site conditions.
- Residential – The current allowance of £2,700m² should be split to show the net cost before applying Main Contractor Preliminaries, Overhead and Profit and inclusions for design risk or contingency. It is currently unclear as to whether the net residential build cost allowance included.
- Basement – It is currently unclear as to the net basement build cost allowance included. Upon review the total net build cost could therefore be deficient.
- Commercial – The current build cost allowance of £1,750m² is in our opinion deficient as we assume this is complete to a CAT A specification. It is currently unclear as to what the net build cost allowance is the rate would seem to reflect a total composite rate as with the other components mentioned above.
- Hotel, Retail & Clinic – The costs should be split into net build costs before Main Contractors on costs have been applied. The on costs should also be transparent as to show the level of % for Preliminaries and Overheads and Profit. It should also be explicit if design risk and contingency allowances have been included. We are also unclear whether the Clinic will be complete to a CAT A standard, which would indicate the current build cost is deficient.
- External Works and Infrastructure – This is based on 15% of the total site build cost. There is no set % to be applied for these works and we would require further clarification as to how this % has been derived. If the cost of this component is changed to a £ m² rate, then this equates to £385 m², which could be deficient given this may only cover the soft and hard landscaping elements + Main contractor on costs.

Upon review of the costs included for Large Sites 2 – 5 and Small Site 1 - 5, our comments are still applicable to all sites with the exception of the following differences;
- Large Site 2:
  - Residential – The build cost rate used differs from Large Site 1 and has been reduced by £100 m². There should be no difference in the £ m² rate due to a reduction of 6 stores for site 2. We believe this cost has been incorrectly applied and should be reviewed to reflect site 1 at the very minimum.
  - Basement – As per the residential we do not agree the build cost rate should be lowered to the extent of reducing the build cost by £200 m² reflect a larger basement. The basement cost over the OKR achieving £900 and excess £900 is a significant step change to the figures used in the report which are comprised of a wide range for sales values (i.e. £700 + £100/sqft). We consider this to be optimistic.

In this regard we highlight that the appraisals of the notional sites test a range of sales values for each site. The outcomes of this testing show that while sales values have some impact on the level of affordable housing that can be delivered, the impact of CIL on viability and the level of affordable housing is nominal.

BNEPRE’s research identified a range of sales values across the OKR area and this included schemes in the north of the OKR area achieving values of up to and in excess of £900 per sq ft, e.g. Arden Court and the Alaska Buildings, E1 Grange Road. We note that all the Molier London database identifies values in the Bath House scheme to achieve between £664 and £760 per sq ft, with an average of £711 per sq ft. It is reasonable to assume that schemes in the north of the OKR OA/RAP area will achieve values of £900 and in excess of this based on the tone of other schemes in this location. Further, given that there is limited build development in the OKR area currently that when development comes forward and regenerates the area that such development will set its own tone, but at present values of £650 to £725 per sq ft the mid to south of the OKR area are currently being achieved.

The sensitivity testing undertaken in the Appendix should therefore focus on the realistic values of £650 to £725/sqft.
Continued from above...

The details of the assumptions for each commercial item are identified in the cost plan for each scheme.

Retail - this is shell and core

Hotel is fitted out and healthcare clinic is fitted out and rate used is advised by WTP's Healthcare division who have knowledge of these types of building.

External works and infrastructure - The percentages are based on recent benchmark exercises in Central London of similar density and these showed external works, drainage and external services was around 7-8% and to this you need to add infrastructure so in WTP's professional opinion if anything this percentage is high. The slight difference in percentages is because there is a slightly higher proportion or lower proportion of external works area to GIA on different sites. The rate indicated in the response is based on taking the cost and dividing by the GIA; if you were to take site area after taking into account the building footprint and you take into account drainage, external services connections and the like, preliminaries and overheads and profit the cost in WTP's professional opinion is more than adequate.

Large site 2 - The costs for the buildings are a high level assessment based on benchmarks and the range of heights. For large site 1 the range is 7-30 storeys (average 19 storeys) and for large site 2 is 1-24 storeys (average 12 storeys) and therefore a slightly lower cost for large site 2 would be anticipated. We would expect the building height to be higher on large site 1 as on large site 2 the overall building plot ratio is 3.59 and on large site 1 it is 4.84. In addition the size of building for large site 2 is nearly twice the size of the building on large site 1 and therefore we would anticipate potential economies on wall to floor ratios and core to area ratios. In WTP’s professional opinion the difference is reasonable.

Basement - The basement on large site 2 is 3.4 times the size of the basement on large site 1 so in our opinion due the scale and to a potentially better wall to floor ratio and less core to area ratio the costs per m² will be lower.

The council has undertaken a review of efficiencies used in viability appraisals submitted to the council between November 2012 and December 2015 (the presentation is copied in Appendix G of the Statement of Consultation and is available on the council’s website http://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/section-106-and-community-infrastructure-key-revised-cil-charging-schedule-consultation). The assumptions used in the Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study 2016 are consistent with this evidence base. This evidence was accepted by the examiner in his 2015 CIL report (see paragraph 51 of the Examiner’s report, March 2015).

The GIA to NIA rates are for the notional residential schemes tested. The Gross to net assumptions for the large and small sites are set out in Appendix 2 and are identified as being 72% for the residential element. Given that Berkeley Homes suggest that this is inefficient then it is considered to be a very conservative and cautious assumption. We agree that buildings can and should be more efficiently designed but note that this is an assumption that other developers often raise as not being high enough.

The WI Partnership assessed build costs for the real sites tested. These are set out in appendix 4 of the Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study 2016. The council considers that the level of detail provided is proportionate to the task of setting CIL rates.

See the council’s comment in response to Representation 14.
The principle of EUV is understood and it is accepted that this value relates to the current or existing uses on the land and not a ‘market value’ if land were sold. It is also understood that the Council accepts a premium of 20% be added to EUV to reflect the higher price that an owner may seek in order to sell land.

However at present the price of land in the Old Kent Road Opportunity Area bears little relation to EUV or even an EUV+ but instead reflects the future opportunity for major redevelopment in the area and the aspirations of owners of land in the area to secure best price. The Benchmark Land Value has to reflect Market Value as Current Use Values represent historic land values as Industrial Land. This approach would be consistent with the PPG which states at ID: 10-015-20140306 and 10-024-20140306:

“A competitive return for the land owner is the price at which a reasonable land owner would be willing to sell their land for the development. The price will need to provide an incentive for the land owner to sell in comparison with the other options available. Those options may include the current use value of the land or its value for a realistic alternative use that complies with planning policy.”

Our concern regarding the BLV is amplified by recent transactions in the area. We have assessed recent transactions in the area and equated these to £/ha as noted in Table 4.48.1. Only one of these transactions related to a price paid around the upper mid value range of £17 million with 6 others all above or around the highest value range. The lower mid-range value of £13 million and lower range value of £4.5 million are in our view therefore unrealistic and little weight can be given to the these in the BNP Paribas Viability Study Appendixes. The Council’s assessment for the Real Sites 2 and 3 highlights an average value of £27.5 million/ha for BLV.

We consider for the purposes of testing a robust set of viability figures that the Highest value and Upper Mid Value Range form the appropriate BLV’s to undertake sensitivity testing and the lower values are unrealistic as land value is too low.

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### Table 6.7.1 - Notional Schemes 6 and 7 - Appraisal Outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price/Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.10 - Specific Sites 2 and 3</td>
<td>28 Berkeley Homes</td>
<td>£17.2 million / £650/sqft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Table 6.10.1 - Specific Sites 2 and 3

- 28 Berkeley Homes: £17.2 million / £650/sqft
- 29 Berkeley Homes: £28.6 million / £725/sqft

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The council notes the transactional data provided by Berkeley Homes. Paragraphs 3.16-3.18 of the Viability Study outline the difficulties in relying upon historic transactions.

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The rational for the approach to BMLV is described in the Old Kent Road - CIL Viability Study 2016, paragraphs 3.8-3.19.

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Paragraph 19 of the NPPG notes that there are a variety of valuation methodologies and models available and there is no requirement to use any one of these. Charging authorities must use appropriate available evidence. The council considers the EUV+ methodology to be appropriate. It is consistent with the guidance in the Council’s adopted Viability SPO (Section 5.3) and the GLA’s Draft Affordable Housing and Viability SPO (2016) (paragraph 3.46).

The council notes the transactional data provided by Berkeley Homes. Paragraphs 3.16-3.18 of the Viability Study outline the difficulties in relying upon historic transactions.
30 Berkeley Homes 11 Ruffe Judd 5 Summary
Berkeley Homes is committed to working with the Council and local people to deliver an exemplary mixed-use project at Malt Street. Given the need to kick start development in the Old Kent Road is it vital that schemes such as Malt Street do come forward early and we consider that the Council will need to reconsider its approach to the provision of CIL/SDF and affordable housing across the Old Kent Road to deliver its target of 20,000 new homes. Developer investment within the Borough should be welcomed and the Council should do everything in its powers to provide the best platform to encourage this investment. If development is shown to be unviable then developers will inevitably look to other Boroughs in the short-to-medium term.

Berkeley Homes’ scheme will be one of the first and certainly the largest project in the first phase of development in the area. As supported by NPPF paragraph 173 it is imperative that the regeneration objectives set out in the Old Kent Road Area Action Plan are strived for and the infrastructure projects identified in the Draft Revised SDF are delivered to achieve a successful regeneration of the area. The Council has demonstrated through its own evidence that there is a viability crisis at the heart of the major schemes in the Old Kent Road. The Viability Assessment demonstrates that even at optimistic sales values a number of large schemes are not viable. If the objectives of the Opportunity Area are to be met we consider that the Council has to look holistically at CIL in association with key planning considerations and seek to balance the increases in the CIL Charging Schedule with planning requirements such as 35% affordable housing and 20% three bed units. The Council has to come to a view on what are the most important requirements in the Old Kent Road, and whether other changes such as allowing much greater density of development will allow them to achieve much of what is needed and still provides viable schemes.

It cannot do this in isolation just looking at the CIL Charging Schedule. It has to be a comprehensive review in association with the OKR AAP. The current Southwark Plan (saved policies) identifies that the southern portion of the Old Kent Road is in wards with very high social rented housing and on this basis the policy for this area is 70/30 split towards intermediate housing. This is also the approach in Peckham and the Elephant and Castle where the Council has accepted that in order to deliver regeneration there has to be a bespoke approach which incentivises investment.

We consider the Council should review the proposed rates and introduce a rate (or rates) solely for the Old Kent Road which are below Zone 2 rates. There could be differential rates for parts of the Old Kent Road. The regulations allow charging authorities to apply differential rates in a flexible way, to help ensure the viability of development is not put at risk. Differences in rates need to be justified by reference to the economic viability of development.

We would seek an early meeting with officers to review the evidence produced here and the supporting evidence that is being relied upon to support the CIL Charging Schedule.

We confirm that we wish to attend the Examination in Public for the CIL Charging Schedule later this year to present to the Inspector our evidence on the matters raised above.

31 Berkeley Homes 11 Ruffe Judd 5 The Council’s Own Viability Assessment evidence demonstrates that in most scenarios which were tested schemes were unviable at differing levels. The evidence highlights that a major factor in this viability crisis is the provision of affordable housing. We consider it essential that a comprehensive review of the impact of delivering a borough wide target of 35% affordable housing (as well as other planning standards such as the provision of family housing and open space) in the Old Kent Road and whether a balanced position can be found which delivers a bespoke CIL rate for the Old Kent Road to support the new infrastructure required for the area and allows flexibility in planning standards to deliver viable schemes. This should be done in association with changes to the AAP and cannot be achieved in isolation. Nor can it be left to individual viability assessments on projects as this provides no clarity of direction to support wider regeneration goals.

See the council’s comment in response to Representation 18.

32 Berkeley Homes 11 Ruffe Judd 5 As highlighted in the main response the viability of the data and allowances used by the Council’s consultant raises significant concerns and there are continuing question marks over the accuracy of the cost figures presented. By using benchmark data the accuracy and validity of the data used and the findings of the Assessment is further called into question. The Build costs have all based upon £0.9m rates but it is unclear as to what these rates include or exclude. The net build cost for each use should be clearly identified with all other cost items clearly scheduled as within Section 4.29.

See the council’s comment in response to Representations 22 and 24.

33 Berkeley Homes 11 Ruffe Judd 5 Berkeley believe the impact of CIL on affordable housing delivery will be far greater than the 5% indicated in the Cabinet Report. This is clearly not 5% as the viability Assessment prepared by BNP Paribas demonstrate significant issues with CIL being a major factor where schemes have marginal viability.

See the council’s comment in response to Representation 18.

34 Berkeley Homes 11 Ruffe Judd 5 As noted above we consider the Council should take a step back and review the CIL in relation to the application of Planning policy requirements and standards in the Old Kent Road and see if a bespoke approach to CIL, affordable housing, unit mix, employment provision and density can ensure deliver of the widest possible benefits to support the regeneration.

The council considers that the revisions to the CIL charging schedule strike an appropriate balance between the desirability of funding infrastructure from the levy and the potential impact upon the economic viability of development across the area.

35 GreyStar 12 DCL LLP 6 These representations on the draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (’CIL’) are made by GreyStar. GreyStar is currently considering the acquisition of several sites within the Charging Authority area for both MultiFamily (Build to Rent) and Student Accommodation projects. Several of the sites being considered are located within the Old Kent Regeneration Opportunity Area (‘OKROA’) albeit there are opportunities being pursued outside the Opportunity Area. GreyStar is seeking to make a significant contribution to London’s housing supply and aspires to be one of the UK’s largest operators of rental housing. GreyStar is a leading, fully-integrated, real estate company that specialises in the investment management, development and property management of rental housing, managing approximately 410,000 rental homes and associated amenities in over 130 markets worldwide. Since entering the UK market in 2013, GreyStar has built up a rental portfolio worth £2.8 billion by investing in new housing and student accommodation. Currently the business has two multifamily developments underway in the UK – Greenford in West London (1,439 rental homes and 526 homes for sale) and Salfords in Canary Wharf (327 multifamily apartments and 15,000 sq ft of amenities) with a target to increase its UK multifamily portfolio to 10,000 rental units within four years. GreyStar also owns and operates a boutique student accommodation brand – Castle – which provides premium student living in the best London locations. Castle has 4,456 student beds across eight sites (Aligata, Highbury, Islington, King’s Cross, Lewisham, Portobello, Spitalfields and Southbank). Each Castle community is located in London fare zones 1 or 2 and near top universities and excellent transport links. The London Borough of Southwark is a charging authority (‘the Charging Authority’) for the purposes of Part II of the Planning Act 2008 and may therefore charge the Community Infrastructure Levy in respect of development in the London Borough of Southwark. Following consultation, the CILs may be scrutinised through an Examination in Public (‘EiP’) in the second half of 2017, and subject to the outcome, the DCS will be adopted shortly after.

Noted.

36 GreyStar 12 DCL LLP 6 GreyStar recognises the need for appropriate infrastructure provision, as identified in the Regulation 123 list, in the OKROA and across the wider Charging Authority area. However, the delivery of the major sites particularly in the Opportunity Areas is constrained by a range of factors, and placing too high a reliance on the funding of infrastructure projects through the capture of CIL, on these challenging projects, without flexibility on planning gain, puts the delivery of the strategic objectives at risk. It is GreyStar’s current experience that the delivery of a residual land value that is significantly above site’s existing use value, with a reasonable margin to incentivise the landowner to sell, is problematic when the full range of planning policies are considered, including the delivery of indicative gas and CF.

Noted. The council considers that the revisions to the CIL charging schedule strike an appropriate balance between the desirability of funding infrastructure from the levy and the potential impact upon the economic viability of development across the area.

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Southwark is not proposing to change the CIL rates which apply to student housing developments. The increases which have been made reflect inflation rates identified in the All-in-tender price index, as established through the CIL Regulations. The rates for student housing developments reflect the CIL a developer would need to pay in 2018, irrespective of whether the council introduces a revised charging schedule or not. In preparing its adopted CIL, the Viability Study (2014) assessed the viability of private rented sector development on 6 sites. It also tested provision of “for sale” housing on the same 6 sites (refer to paragraphs 5.14 - 5.22 of the 2014 Viability Study. The assessment concluded that there was insufficient evidence to treatPRS housing differently from for sale housing in establishing a CIL charge (para 5.22). Among the reasons are the fact that developers are already deliveringPRS housing in a flexible way, with schemes switching from “for sale” to PRS and in some cases back again depending on circumstances and without the need to alter planning permissions or vary SDS agreements. The council has not approved any schemes which explicitly providePRS housing. However, to-date, the Mayor London BTR Report February 2017 reports that 465PRS units have been completed in Southwark, with a further 7 schemes containing PRS in the pipeline. The council’s policies allow for site by site viability and should there be a case for a reduced policy requirements of AH due to viability the Council would consider it - however this would necessitate the developer signing an agreement that the development was to remain as PRS and were it to be “flipped” to market sale it would need to vary the legal agreement and viability testing would need to be undertaken to ensure that the maximum reasonable quantum of affordable housing contributions are secured.

6. These representations on the draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (CIL) are made by OKR Regeneration ("the Landowner"). The Landowner is making representations regarding the Ruby Triangle and Sandigate Street ("the Site") located within the Old Kent Regeneration Opportunity Area ("OKROA"). The location was incorporated as an Opportunity Area in 2015 through Further Alterations to the London Plan. The Landowner recognises that the need for appropriate infrastructure provision in the OKROA, and it is this provision in part, that will in turn unlock development value. However, the delivery of the major sites particularly in the Opportunity Areas is constrained by a range of factors, and placing too high a reliance on the funding of infrastructure projects through the capture of CIL, on these challenging sites, without flexibility on planning gain, puts the delivery of the strategic objectives at risk. The requirement for obligations and CIL should seek to strike the right balance between meeting the infrastructure gap funding challenge and ensuring that new development remains deliverable in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.
The London Borough of Southwark is a charging authority ('the Charging Authority') for the purposes of Part 11 of the Planning Act 2008 and may therefore charge the Community Infrastructure Levy in respect of development in the London Borough of Southwark. The Charging Authority have an adopted Charging Schedule dated March 2015. In summary, the revised DCS proposes an increase of circa 10% in the CIL rates across the Charging Authority area. Following consultation, the DCS will be scrutinised through an Examination in Public ('EIP') in the second half of 2017, and subject to the outcome, the DCS will be adopted shortly after. In the interim, prior to the DCS being adopted, the council will seek to negotiate section 106 planning obligations in the OKROA to contribute towards transport infrastructure, including two new Bakerloo Line extension stations. Preparation of the revised DCS has been undertaken in the context of the policies and proposed levels of growth and development set out in the Core Strategy (April 2011), emerging New Southwark Plan and particularly the Draft Old Kent Road Area Action Plan (AAP) and Opportunity Area Planning Framework (June 2016), prepared with the GLA.

The draft Area Action Plan (AAP) illustrates that there is potential for significant growth of 20,000 new homes and 5,000 additional jobs. The AAP will guide growth in the area over the next 20 years.

The DCS is published in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). The DCS presents the new proposed CIL charges on a per sq m (m² GLA) basis for all new chargeable development. The DCS also provides a visual representation of the three CIL zones within the Charging Authority area. The Charging Authority comprises three zones, broadly a higher value one incorporating the Bankside / riverside area to the north of the borough, a lower value zone three located centrally and a mid value area encompassing the rest of the borough. There have been several changes to the zone areas incorporated in the new DCS. The Site has subsequently been relocated from zone three to the high value zone two. It is proposed that developments in the southern part of the OA pay the same rate as those in the north to maximise the funding which can be generated for new infrastructure (while also ensuring that other policies objectives, such as provision of affordable housing, can continue to be met). The council considers that the revisions to the CIL charging schedule strike an appropriate balance between the desirability of maintaining CIL as a levy and the potential impact upon the economic viability of development across the area. The council also considers that relevant evidence has been used to inform preparation of the charging schedule. In the council's view, the evidence demonstrates that CIL is not one of the main factors in determining the viability of development. Other factors, such as affordable housing, build costs and existing use value will have a far greater impact on viability and a decision about whether to progress a development than CIL. The fact that many schemes are unviable irrespective of CIL underlines that fact. In his report on the council's adopted CIL, the examiner considered that the council's approach in disregarding those sites which are unviable irrespective of CIL to be "appropriate" (paragraph 42 of the CIL Examiner's report, March 2015).

The council's evidence shows that CIL comprises a small part of development cost and on average within a 5% contingency that would usually be applied to development costs. The December 2014 Viability Study indicated that of the 29 developments that were appraised in CIL zone 2, the CIL charges do not account for more than 5.39% of total scheme value, with the average CIL liability being 2.32% of the developments' scheme value.

The OKROA Viability Study has been prepared by BNP Paribas and is dated April 2016. The Viability Study notes on page 14 references to the NPPF and NPPG and requires to ensure that viability is considered in context of the cumulative effect of policy requirements. Paragraph 177 of the NPPF notes that the impact of policy should be 'kept under review'.
Statement of Consultation: Appendix F - Representations on the Draft CLC Charging Schedule and the council’s responses

40. OKR Regeneration

6. Land Value

Section 2.40 of the Viability Study refers to a Local Housing Delivery Group report entitled ‘Viability Testing Local Plans’, and states that the report ‘concluded that the use value of a site (or a credible alternative use value as an appropriate uplift) represents a competitive return to a landowner’. This approach to land does not deviate from other CLC Viability Studies that have been reviewed by DS2, however the Viability Study does not mention that the Local Housing Delivery Group report also states on page 29 that a reference to market values can ‘still provide a useful “sense check” on the threshold values that are being used in the model but it is not recommended that these are used for the basis to a model’. The reason being that ‘using a market value approach as the starting point carries the risk of building-in assumptions of current policy costs rather than helping to inform the potential for future policy’. Landowner expectations will be formed by the scale of development proposed within the AAP and on their specific sites and therefore an arbitrary 20% margin applied to an UV, without reference to evidence, carries with it the significant risk of non-delivery. It is particularly relative in the ORKRA where much of the existing land base is in relatively low density and low value industrial use. Land is clearly a fundamental component in the delivery of planning objectives as acknowledged in the NPPF. The NPPF also recognises the need to “sense check”.

The methodology employed in the CLC study follows that described in the guidance published by the Local Housing Delivery Group, chaired by Sir John Harman, ‘Viability Testing of Local Plan: advice for planning practitioners’ (2012). The methodology used is consistent with the methodologies used in preparing the viability evidence underpinning the original CLC charging schedule as well as the Core Strategy, Canada Water AAP and Arkleybury AAP which have all been found “sound” and adopted. It is also consistent with the methodology used to prepare the evidence base for the Mayoral CLC.

6. Affordable Housing Definitions & Value

The affordable housing definitions contained within section two of the report, and the corresponding values contained within the Viability Study require reviewing given the publication of the draft GLA Affordable Housing & Viability SPD in November 2016 and the Housing White Paper in February 2017. Section 4.15 notes that at the request of the local authority grant-funded scenarios have been tested. The Mayor’s Investment Prospectus published at the end of 2016, and the Affordable Housing SPD state that a ‘Developer Route’ now exists for planning gain affordable housing to be grant-funded under certain circumstances.

With the exception to the change in the CLC zone 2 boundary in the ORKRA, the only other change to the charging schedule is to increase all rates in accordance with inflation rates identified in the All-in-tiered-price-index, as established through the CLC Regulations.

6. Residential Sales Values

The Viability Study contains commentary in relation to sales values with an underlying them relating to the potential upside in values. The highest residential values included in the BNP Paribas are not currently achievable, as an average achieved value on a large scale scheme (the Viability Study refers to £850 to £900 per sq ft being achievable in the ‘short term’, albeit this statement is not quantified. There is little doubt that there is the propensity for upside, albeit this upside may be some way off and early schemes may not benefit from significant upside, and any examination of risk in relation to policy making should consider the potential for downside given current market headwinds.

The council’s comment in response to Representation 14.

6. Development Risk

The general tone of the commentary regarding risk is reasonable. However, it should be noted that in assessing what constitutes ‘the market’, regard should be had to funders’ requirements and target returns for the larger house builders and property companies. Profit margins are on the increase in an uncertain market and many of the housebuilders will not compete on sites for a weighted return on capital of less than 20%. This is particularly relevant to the larger sites in the sample, where the borrowing requirements are likely to be significant and the range of risks varied. In relation to section 4.18 and reference to the District Valuation Service undertaking most assessments in the borough, this is not factually correct and the DVS reference to profit was made in 2014 therefore the appropriate level of profit margin for the market place.

The approach to exceptional costs is set out in sections 4.44 to 4.45 of the viability report.

6. Development & Sales Periods

Given current market uncertainties, 75% off-plan sales should be accompanied by sensitivity analysis. If the proposed sales values are to be achieved, developers may require longer to achieve these sales. In general developers are taking longer to achieve their off-plan sales, with exchanges closer to practical completion and the number of points of contact between seller and buyer is increasing. Certainly, assumption of off-plan sales, in formal Red Book valuations, have been downgraded in recent months with banks factoring in no more than one-off third-hand sales.

The approach to exceptional costs is set out in sections 4.44 to 4.45 of the viability report.

6. Exceptional Costs

Given the location and historic nature of these sites it would seem pertinent to add an additional contingency to cover likely exceptional costs. This is not a borough wide study, and the nature of the sites is known.

The approach to exceptional costs is set out in sections 4.44 to 4.45 of the viability report.

6. Benchmark Land Value

Comments are made above in respect of the risks of undervaluing the return to the landowner. This may not always be the case in the scenarios tested, but a sense check should be undertaken. Section 4.47 states ‘A blanket premium assumption of 20% has been applied to each of the existing use values taking a cautious approach and reflecting that the sites identified in the study are currently occupied commercial floorspaces’. DS2 would reflect that this is not a ‘cautious’ approach but simply ones that applies an arbitrary margin without reference to any evidence. This is not consistent with the policy or guidance. It may be that 20% is too high, too low or about right, but a failure to sense check against market evidence for similar assets puts delivery at significant risk as it assumes that land will be delivered within a reasonable tolerance of the figures assumed. The Viability Study approach to land value is singular in that it only considers what is on the site and not what might be possible. The latter is a key consideration for a landowner considering a disposal. A planning consent is required to capture additional land value and in that regard a planning authority may seek to create greater certainty around the policy position i.e. as the GLA Affordable Housing and Viability SPD seeks to do. However, the clear implication of an inflexible approach to policy application is that land may simply not come forward for housing. The land cost in the viability equation should reflect, on a risk adjusted basis, an equitable balance with consideration of the level of planning obligations being delivered and the development profit. DS2 acknowledges that this is a ‘high-level’ policy based approach and there are limitations on what can be modelled however the current approach is in no-way stress tested and therefore carries inherent risks.

Section 6.2 of the Viability Study reflects the reality of the land market. The Viability Study states ‘In the judgement of local quality industrial sites, existing use values will be lower and they will clearly have greater scope to secure an uplift in land value through the planning process. Such sites are also more vulnerable to speculative purchases with purchasers seeing far more than existing use value in the hope of securing a change of use’. This fact is derived through several reasons. Firstly, there are purchasers who include unrealistic expectations, including low affordable housing percentages, to inflate land value and secure sites. DS2 are clear that the mitigation of poor commercial decisions through the reduction in planning obligations is not acceptable. Secondly, some of the sites will have very low existing site values reflecting the building on site and often the relatively low income. However, the owner’s consideration on whether to sell will reflect a series of variables including the scale of development proposed, and uses, that can be secured on the site with a consideration of the community benefits that are being secured including planning gain and the developer’s profit. An arbitrary 20% increase on the UV is too simplistic an approach, even for headline policy making. From a plan or CLC-making perspective, a more reasonable approach might be to assess market evidence to get a view on the margin required to secure sites based on the existing uses and the proposed density increase.

Please see the council’s comment in response to Representation 26.
52.1 DKK Regeneration

52.2 DLJ LLP

52.3 Conclusions & Recommendations

The recommendations acknowledge the difficulty, particularly at the southern end of the OKROA of generating viable schemes with all policy objectives being met. Existing policy flexibility is encouraged and is a welcomed recommendation. The recommendations note that the impact on residual land values through 10% incremental changes to CIL is unsurprisingly comparatively lower than the same changes to build costs and sales values. This analysis is not unsurprising and is of limited value. The recommendations further state that CIL is no more than an additional 4.72% of costs (6.27% of development value) and a average of 2.86% (4.33% of development value), which is considered to have a ‘minimal impact’. However, on a cost budget of several hundred million pounds, 4.72% is significant and should not be dismissed. Landowner’s acknowledgement that the potential CIL receipts will have a significant impact on the ability to fund infrastructure, as the recommendations conclude. What is important is, the ability of schemes to be commenced and pay these liabilities and this depends on the viability of the schemes and the availability of various sources of funding.

52.4 Evaluation Uncertainty Following EU Referendum

The comments reflecting the June 2016 referendum and the decision of the UK to trigger an exit from the European Union are acknowledged. This event certainly reflects a headwind for the development sector and one that increases risks in the short to medium term. The long-term macroeconomic uncertainty in the UK and property markets for property development. SDLT changes introduced by central Government in 2015 are also causing risk issues at the sort of e per sq ft values being considered in the scenario testing within the Viability Study. Those delivering housing in central London are reporting slower sales rates and higher costs to achieve these values and rates primarily through additional contracts between the buyer and seller prior to the point of exchange.

52.5 Summary

The evidence base clearly demonstrates the tensions of seeking to deliver 35% affordable housing and an increased CIL rate. The landowner however supports Southwark in their proposed delivery of the draft Charging Schedule given the recognition of the costs of delivering important infrastructure and the accompanying benefits for all stakeholders. The Council must also recognise the difficulty of delivering 35% affordable housing in the Opportunity Area. Accordingly, there should be flexibility in both the CIL rate and the headline policy affordable housing percentage and/or tenure mix within the Opportunity Area. The landowner would very much welcome a discussion on this important matter with the Council and other landowners who are faced with the same issue.

53.1 DKK Regeneration

53.2 DLJ LLP

53.3 Report includes an analysis on the impact of the EU referendum (paragraphs 7.9- 7.10)

56.1 Shaw Corporate & R. Barkew Ltd

56.2 These representations on the draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule are made by Barkew Limited ("the landowner") and Shaw Corporate acting as Barkew's client representative in respect of 747 to 775 Old Kent Road, London ("the Site"). The Site is located at the southern end of the Old Kent Regeneration Opportunity Area ("OKROA") and the landowner is considering a comprehensive redevelopment of the Site. The landowner recognises that the OKROA, and it is this provision most notably in the form of the Barkers Lane extension, that will in turn unlock the development potential. However, the delivery of the major sites particularly in the Opportunity Areas is constrained by a range of factors, and placing too high a reliance on the funding of infrastructure projects through the capture of CIL on these challenging site puts the delivery of the site and the strategic objectives at risk.

The draft Charging Schedule is published in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). The draft Charging Schedule presents the new proposed CIL charges on a per square metre (GIA) basis for all new chargeable development. The National Planning Policy Framework is clear that a requirement for obligations and CIL, should seek to strike the right balance between meeting the infrastructure gap funding challenge and ensuring that new development remains deliverable. The Charging Authority comprises three zones, broadly a higher value zone one incorporating the Bankside / river area located centrally and a real-value area zone two encompassing the rest of the borough. There have been several changes to the zones incorporated in the new draft Charging Schedule. The Site in question has been relocated from the lower zone three to the higher zone three. It should be clearly recognised that residual values in the southern part of the OKROA are not comparable to the northern part, and as such, the movement of sites from CIL zone three to zone two and the subsequent increased CIL liability is a major concern for landowners. The Charging Authority should consider as a very minimum requirement the ceation of the residual areas as currently adopted. There is no evidence based justification to support higher CIL rates in the lower value areas.

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57.2 The recommendations contained within the BNP Paribas evidence supporting the draft Charging Schedule acknowledge the difficulty, particularly at the southern end of the OKROA, of generating viable schemes with 35% affordable housing. Existing policy flexibility is a welcomed recommendation and essential. Landowners acknowledge that the potential CIL receipts will have a significant impact on the ability to fund infrastructure. What is important though, is that the ability for schemes to get off the ground and pay these CIL liabilities depends on the viability of the individual schemes and the availability of various sources of funding. The clear risks of ignoring such facts are contrary to the requirements of the NPPF and NPPG. The evidence base clearly demonstrates the tensions of seeking to deliver 35% affordable housing and an increased CIL rate. The landowner therefore supports Southwark in their proposed delivery of the draft Charging Schedule given the recognition of the costs of delivering important infrastructure and the accompanying benefits for all stakeholders but the Council must also recognise the difficulty of delivering delivering 35% affordable housing in the Opportunity Area. Alternatively, if the Council seeks to mandate 35% affordable housing delivery there will be a need to reduce the CIL charges. The former provides existing flexibility as the viability of one site will differ from another and the broad-brush approach of fixed CIL and affordable housing obligations can militate against sites coming forward for delivery. Such an action is contrary to current Central Government, Mayor of London and the Council’s own policies. Accordingly, there should be flexibility in either the CIL rate or the headline policy affordable housing percentage and/or tenure mix within the Opportunity Area. This could mean a differential headline affordable housing target in the OKROA in order to accommodate CIL and maintain the delivery of sites. The landowner would very much welcome a discussion on this important matter with the Council and other landowners who are faced with the same issue.