GLA’s response to Matter 3, question 2.

MATTER 3 – VISION, OBJECTIVES AND AREA-WIDE POLICIES

1. Is the AAP consistent with the policy contents of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)?

2. Are there outstanding issues in relation to the conformity of the AAP with the London Plan especially in relation to housing and transport matters?

At the submission stage the GLA raised an issue of non-conformity with the London Plan in relation to density (Report ref PDU/LDF31/LDD01/02). Following a series of meetings GLA and WF officers came to the agreement that density would no longer be an issue of non general conformity with the London Plan. However, the GLA remains of the view that Waltham Forest Council’s approach to dealing with density, particularly in relation to the need to address housing needs and population growth, should be more ambitious. GLA accepts the urban setting designation in Walthamstow Town Centre (London Plan Policy 3.4 and Table 3.2 SRQ density matrix) however Waltham Forest Council’s direction of travel should be an ambitious one, seeking to optimise public transport accessibility through promoting higher density housing and mixed use development of high quality in terms of design and place making. The GLA believe that Walthamstow Central AAP is an opportunity for Waltham Forest Council to contribute more significantly to London’s growth given the location and nature of its town centre.

Regarding transport, the issue in relation to car parking reduction in town centre developments has been addressed.

Walthamstow Town Centre draft AAP as it stands is therefore in general conformity with the London Plan.