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To: PlanningPolicy
Subject: Wandsworth Land Use Policy Consultation Response

- The Arts Council welcomes the inclusion of culture within local plans. Cultural well-being, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (page 3) is a key component of the dimension of sustainable development that it is the purpose of the planning system to achieve. The NPPF further states as one of the core principles that planning should take account that it should: “support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.”
- The planning system can support this in a number of ways:
 - Considering the specific local contribution of culture to sustainable development as defined in the NPPF
 - Considering how best to provide opportunities for local people and visitors to engage with arts and culture
 - To secure developers contributions to support the development and delivery of cultural infrastructure
- There are a number of challenges and opportunities which considering how culture can contribute to sustainable development through the planning system can add value to a local area
 - Increasing economic prosperity and employment – DCMS’s Creative Industries Statistics indicate that the creative industries have higher levels of productivity, growth and job creation than the economy as a whole. However, this contribution can be restricted if there is a lack of workspace and studios.
 - Increasing social wellbeing – the planning system can support the value to social wellbeing of arts and culture through considering the spatial nature of engagement with cultural opportunity – and how planning can help tackle barriers to engagement
- The Arts Council encourages local planning authorities to consider these issues as part of the development of local plans, and within the context of the NPPF

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*I think **#culturematters** – do you?*

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