Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your email dated 16th August 2018 regarding the CIL draft charging schedule for the London Borough of Havering.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

Our interest in such strategy documents is specifically focussed on the council’s approach to highway and transport matters in relation to regeneration and new development.
We are keen to understand how local authorities initially identify and prioritise transport improvements in order to deliver sustainable development. Specifically how local authorities set and implement policy to manage trip demands and ultimately how these might affect the safe and efficient operation of the SRN for which we are responsible. For Havering, our interests lie in the M25 and A13.

It should be noted that, in accordance with DCLG guidance, any development contributions towards SRN improvements would be secured via S278 agreements, and not via a CIL Reg123 List or S106. The use of S278s will enable multiple sites to contribute if appropriate, and also secures the Secretary of State’s position by ensuring that 100% of contributions go towards the SRN improvement.

I trust that the above comments are of assistance to you and look forward to any future consultations.

Thank you again for involving us in your consultation process. Please continue to consult us via our inbox: planningse@highwaysengland.co.uk

Sent on Behalf of Heather Archer Assistant Spatial Planning Manager

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