Draft Design Code Units 1-14 Latimer Road

Background

Government is now keen on the use of design codes to improve the quality of new development

RBKC agreed to prepare a code for Units 1-14 following many objections last summer to redevelopment proposals for Unit 10

Latimer Preservation Society was formed

Unit 10 proposals were withdrawn

Unit 11 proposals were refused by RBKC earlier this year

Redevelopment of Unit 1 is now under construction

StQW Neighbourhood Plan sets policies for the street – in force today



Key:

- 1 Latimer Road proposed for de-designation as an Employment Zone
- 8 More housing above commercial uses on west side of street Road
- Proposed underpass to Imperial West
- O Proposed site for 'Western Circus' Overground station

The purple sections on the map are the sections of Latimer Road classed as an Employment Zone.

The map also shows the planned underpass to Wood lane (in blue) and our proposal for a new Overground station at 'Westway Circus'

The StQW Policy on building heights in the street reads 8e) In order to restore the original urban form of the street, to allow increased building heights on the western side of Latimer Road subject to:

i) Consideration of heights of nearby buildings which range from four storey at the southern end to two storey at the northern end, and taking account of building heights in LBHF
ii) Meeting RBKC and national requirements on standards of daylight, sunlight, and visual privacy for occupants of new development and for occupants of existing properties affected by development

iii) No harmful increase in the sense of enclosure to existing buildings and spaces and neighbouring gardens



Back in February 2016 we agreed at an open meeting at St Helens Church Hall on amended wording for a policy on building heights at Units 1-14. This image was used at that time, showing the Morelli building with its top floor studio at approx 14m height



Redevelopment of Unit 1 was discussed at ant open meeting in February 2019 and granted planning permission in May 2019.

Now under construction.



Proposals for Unit 10 submitted to RBKC summer 2020 and later withdrawn

Applicants continuing to consider a revised application



Proposed redevelopment of Unit 11 December 2020

Refused by RBKC on grounds of design and choice of materials (not on building height)

LATIMER ROAD DESIGN CODE

DRAFT

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA Prepared by RBKC planning and urban design officers with input from

- StQW Forum committee
- Latimer Road
 Preservation Group
- Building owners

This version remains a Draft. StQW/SHRA has not signed up to it.

3.2 Building heights

3.2.1 All units should be no taller than one of the following total number of storeys:

a) Three storeys with a set back fourth storey* (four storeys in total (this is preferred).

OR

b) Four storeys with a set back fifth storey (five storeys in total), provided that applications are supplemented with a detailed sunlight/daylight study, evidencing there would be no adverse impact on neighbouring properties. Applicants should also evidence how adverse impacts to the sunlight and daylight of neighbouring residential properties have been mitigated.

Refer to section 4.1 for further detailed guidance on building heights and floor to ceiling heights.

*Note that 3rd floor set backs may be required to some units to respond appropriately to context. Refer to Section 6 for more detailed guidance.



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Diagram 3.1: Building height option a)



Diagram 3.2: Building height option b)

Building height was from the start one of the most contentious issues

This is what the Draft now says

- a) Three storeys with setback preferred
- b) Four storeys with a setback fifth, with a detailed daylight/sunlight study

Building owners argue that even b) is only marginally viable for redevelopment

Primary frontage

- 3.3.8 The primary frontages should be in accordance with Diagram 3.3.
- 3.3.9 Primary frontages should be active and have a relationship with the street. Service access should be avoided on primary frontages.
- 3.3.10 To ensure that the primary frontages are uncluttered, projecting balconies canopies or brise soleil should not be used. Anti-glare glazing and/or deep window reveals should be used to mitigate glare and overheating.
- 3.3.11 Balconies of any kind should not be located on the primary frontage to avoid overlooking of neighbouring properties.



Primary and secondary frontages

Primary frontages (shown in blue) to be 'active' and 'uncluttered'.

No balconies facing the street

Diagram 3.3: Frontages



The Design Code seeks 'tripartite' design of frontages onto Latimer Road

With brick as the predominant material to be used

Diagram 4.2: Tripartite design viewed from Latimer Road elevation

- 3.6.6 Units 1 to 6 may build up to the edges of their north and south boundary lines to ensure efficiency and high functionality of the internal layouts are achievable.
- 3.6.7 Units 7 to 14 should allow gaps of 3 metres between units as illustrated in Diagram 3.8. Where gaps are located between units, the gap should be divided equally on either side of the boundary line
- 3.6.8 A increased gap of 4 metres between roof level units should be incorporated



Gaps between buildings

Units 7-14 should have 3m gaps (to let extra light into the street)

Diagram 3.11: Gaps between units

2.7 Unit Types



^{2.7.1} The RBKC Design Code explains that there are three different plot sizes for Units 1-14.

Model options for each are illustrated

5 MODEL PLOTS



KEY

·---· Site boundary

 Set back roof level. See paragraph 4.1.2 for guidance on roofscape

Roofspace for greening and/or MEP plant. See Section 4.6 and paragraph 4.7.13 for guidance

- ③ Base Zone
- ④ Middle Zone
- I Top Zone

Model plot for three storey building with fourth storey setback

Diagram 5.1: Example of plot without service bay