

## **Neighbourhood Planning Forum Refusal Statement**

### **Name of proposed Neighbourhood Planning Forum:**

Network Wapping

### **Name of applicant:**

Network Wapping

### **Consultation period:**

14 October to 25 November 2013

### **Decision**

Notice is hereby given that Tower Hamlets Council, pursuant to a decision made on 5 February 2014 by the Mayor in Cabinet, has refused the designation of Network Wapping as a Neighbourhood Planning Forum.

### **Reasons for refusal**

The Council considers that the significant levels of consultation responses objecting to the submitted forum, demonstrates a diversity of community opinion within Wapping about the leadership of Neighbourhood Planning in this area. This has raised concerns about the representativeness of the forum and its ability to respond to the diversity of community views. This is a matter of concern for the Council having regard to the function of a forum to deliver a Neighbourhood Plan, which the Council would want to see delivered effectively and as efficiently as may reasonably be expected.

The Council is keen to ensure the sustainable implementation of Neighbourhood Planning within the Wapping area and are concerned that the significant level of opposition will be maintained and may result in a future Neighbourhood Plan failing to gain the necessary support in the required local referendum. The Council are only required to adopt a Neighbourhood Plan if in the applicable referendum, more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan. If a Neighbourhood Plan failed to gain the necessary support in a referendum this would result in an inefficient use of the Forum's and Council's resources that would be required to develop the Plan.

As required under The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Part 2 Regulation 10 (2), the Refusal Statement can be viewed at the following locations:

- The Council's neighbourhood planning webpages ([http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgs/451-500/494\\_th\\_planning\\_guidance/consultation\\_and\\_engagement/neighbourhood\\_planning\\_consult.aspx](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgs/451-500/494_th_planning_guidance/consultation_and_engagement/neighbourhood_planning_consult.aspx))
- Tower Hamlets Town Hall, Mulberry Place, between 9am-5pm
- Ideas Store, Watney Market (see website for opening times)

For further information please contact Strategic Planning on 020 7364 2541 or [LDF@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:LDF@towerhamlets.gov.uk).