

## Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Information Statement under Regulation 4 of the Neighbourhood Planning (Referendum) Regulations 2012

On 9 August 2021 the Mayor agreed a resolution, in accordance with Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to hold a referendum on the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan.

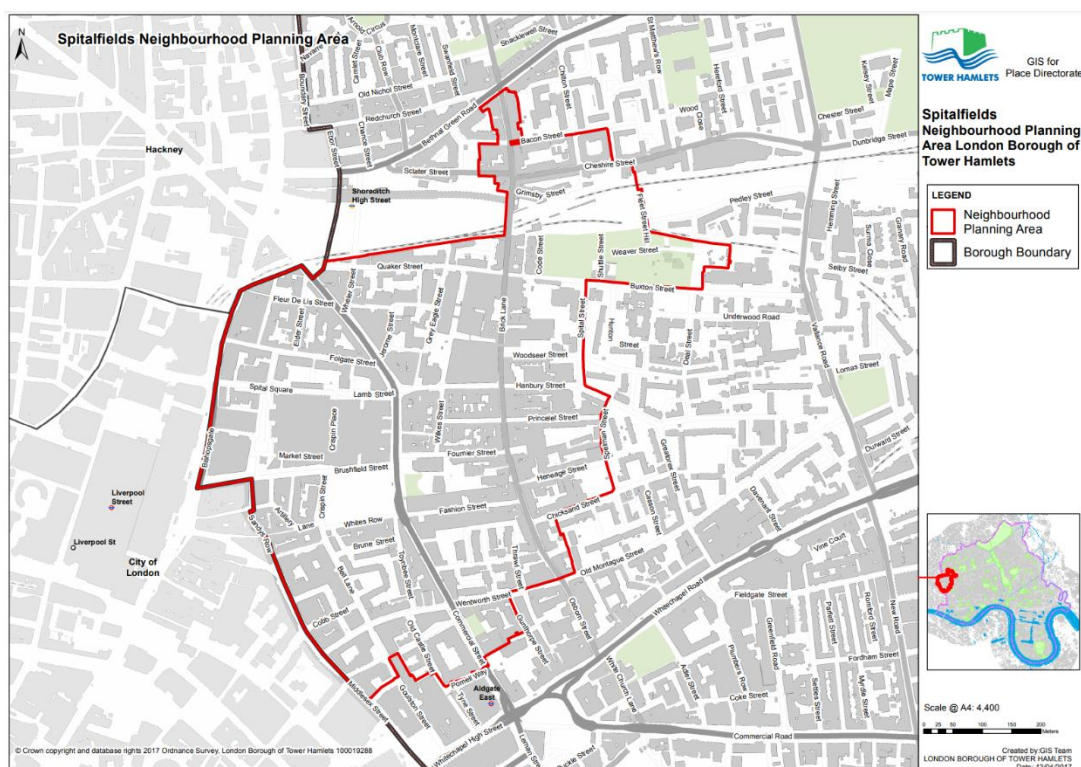
As the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Area is designated as a business planning area, two referendums will be held on the same date. One will be a referendum of residents of the area, and one will be a referendum for businesses based in the area.

Both referendums will be held on Thursday 11 November 2021.

Both referendums will ask:

*Do you want the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to use the neighbourhood plan for the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*

A map of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Area is shown below, and can also be seen at [https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Planning-and-building-control/Strategic-Planning/Neighbourhood-Planning/Spitalfields\\_block\\_map.pdf](https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Planning-and-building-control/Strategic-Planning/Neighbourhood-Planning/Spitalfields_block_map.pdf). The referendum area is the same as the neighbourhood planning area.



## The Referendum Details

The polls for the referendums will be held on Thursday 11 November 2021 between the hours of 7.00am and 10.00pm.

For the residential referendum, anyone who lives within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Planning Area and who is eligible to vote in local elections will be entitled to vote in the referendum.

For the business referendum, anyone who is a non-domestic ratepayer within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Planning Area will be entitled to vote in the referendum.

The referendum expenses limit for campaign organisers promoting a particular outcome is the aggregate of £2,362 plus the amount found by multiplying by 5.9 pence the sum of the number of entries in the relevant local government electoral register in effect on the day on which the referendum period begins, and the number of rate-payers on the initial registration list.

The referendum poll will be conducted in accordance with the rules for local authority referenda and are similar to the rules used for local elections.

The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendum) Regulations 2012 provide a list of specified documents that must be made available. These are:

- (i) The draft neighbourhood plan
- (ii) The report made by the independent examiner
- (iii) A summary of any representations submitted to the independent examiner
- (iv) A statement that the local planning authority are satisfied the draft plan meets those basic conditions and complies with provision made by or under sections 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- (v) A statement that sets out general information as to town and country planning (including neighbourhood planning) and the referendum

A copy of these documents may be inspected at the Tower Hamlets Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG, during normal working hours of 9am to 5pm, and will also be available on the Council's website at

[https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/planning\\_and\\_building\\_control/planning\\_policy\\_guidance/neighbourhood\\_planning/Spitalfields.aspx](https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/planning_and_building_control/planning_policy_guidance/neighbourhood_planning/Spitalfields.aspx).

## What happens after the referendum?

If the neighbourhood plan is successful at both referendums, the Council is required to formally adopt the neighbourhood plan. This will be done at the first possible full Council meeting, which is likely to be in January 2021.

If the neighbourhood plan fails at both referendums, the plan will be withdrawn and have no further weight in the planning process.

If the two referendums produce different results, with the neighbourhood plan succeeding in one referendum and failing in the other, the Council may make its own decision as to whether to adopt the neighbourhood plan or withdraw it (under section 61E of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990).