

Neighbourhood Planning Forum and Area Application Form



This application form should be completed using the information provided in the Tower Hamlet's Neighbourhood Planning Guidance Note.

This form should be completed electronically. If you require a printed version please download the printable version from the Tower Hamlet's website or collect from the Council's Planning Reception at the Town Hall.

Contact information

Forum name

East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Forum

Contact details of the Forum (complete as relevant)

Email address	esnpf@gmail.com
Website address	www.eastshoreditchforum.org.uk
Facebook page	To Come
Twitter account	To Come
Other	-

Public information

Neighbourhood Planning Forum application information

Public information

This section needs to be completed to ensure the Council has the information needed to determine whether the Forum meets the **four conditions** stated in the Localism Act. The four conditions are numbered below.

1

The Forum is established to promote or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of its neighbourhood.

How will the Forum seek to promote or improve the neighbourhood area in terms of its social, economic and environmental well-being?

Social well-being	We cannot pre-empt the content of the Neighbourhood Plan currently since it is to be generated by community discussion and consultation. However we hope to ensure that the social well being of the people and organisations in the Neighbourhood area is considered in relation to the impact of any of its proposals. We hope to improve the current situation in relation to community safety, sustainable living, and community cohesion wherever possible and relevant to neighbourhood planning.
Economic well-being	We cannot pre-empt the content of the Neighbourhood Plan currently since it is to be generated by community involvement and consultation. However we hope to ensure that economic well being of people in the area is improved by ensuring that: There is adequate provision of space for jobs; That existing business operations are not negatively affected by issues of connectedness, the quality and functionality of the public realm; That sustainable design and planning contributes to the health of the local economy of the area.
Environmental well-being	We cannot pre-empt the content of the Neighbourhood Plan currently since it is to be generated by community involvement and consultation. However we hope to identify places for environmental improvements and policies or standards which can help improve the sustainability and environmental quality of public spaces, streetscapes and buildings in the area for the benefit of residents and businesses.
How will the Forum embed the Council's guidance and aspirations within the Community Plan, Core Strategy, Managing Development Document and Diversity and Equalities Statement in their activities?	
Mayor's Priorities and Community Plan	The Mayor's priorities and the Community Plan aspirations are strategic level intentions in relation to housing, community safety, education, jobs, health, and cleanliness. These will require integrated approaches for all service providers. In so far as neighbourhood plan policies can support these aspirations we hope to do so through relevant policies and proposals for the neighbourhood area.
Core Strategy & Managing Development	We are aware that the Neighbourhood plan must be in conformity with the strategic policies in these Local Plan documents. We hope to develop fine grain policies in the neighbourhood area relating to the design, location and

Document	impact of development in the neighbourhood area. These can give local expression to the policies in the Core strategy and Managing Development document. We wish to work closely with planning officers in both Tower Hamlets and Hackney to do this.
Diversity and Equalities Statement	We have worked intensively to ensure that our Forum membership is inclusive and open to all people and organisations likely to be affected by neighbourhood planning proposals for the area, in conformity with the LBTH statement. The decision making processes set out in our constitution will ensure that the Forum is accountable to its members which includes all potential stakeholders in the neighbourhood area, including ward members from both LBTH and LBH.

How will the Forum envisage engaging with other local forums and groups including the Local Community Ward Forums ?

Many groups will be able to directly join the Forum and be involved in decision making about the plan as it is developed. Our membership currently stands at 60 drawn from residents, local businesses and groups. Our constitution (attached) also commits us to consultation and discussion with people and organisations within the neighbourhood area whether they are members of the Forum or not. We envisage doing this through a consultation and engagement programme (using social media, meetings and workshops) that identifies issues as a first stage then develops specific proposals and policies that can be consulted upon widely. We would envisage that the Local Community Ward Forum members for Weavers ward would be a part of this process.

2 The Forum's membership is open to everyone who lives, works and represents the area as an elected member.

How have the Forum taken steps to promote the opportunity for a Forum and engage with local people prior to submitting this application? This may include evidence of discussions, meetings and consultations.

We have worked since Spring 2012 as an ad hoc working group visiting and discussing the idea with other T&RA and other groups in the area. A summary of all the activities we have undertaken pre-designation is attached but the following are an illustration of the steps we have taken on local engagement.

We have discussed the Forum and the area at 11 monthly meetings of Open Shoreditch starting from 30th July 2012 which includes most of the T&RAs in the neighbourhood as well as with some of the T&RA's individually. Minutes of these meetings can be made available on request.

We organised two workshops delivered by Locality consultant Dave Chetwyn, available to OPEN Shoreditch members and any other interested locals. We fielded three participants at a DCLG workshop, to share knowledge and experience of the process and coordinated a walkabout of our proposed area with the NPF officers of both Tower Hamlets and Hackney

We successfully applied for funded consultancy support, to assist with our application for designation which has helped us complete our constitution and organise a drop in consultation event to gauge local opinion about the area proposed for the Neighbourhood Forum.

Our constitution was adopted and an election of an interim management committee held at an inaugural meeting of the Forum on July 30th 2013 attended by local residents and businesses and a Hackney ward councillor John Pierce. The meeting agreed to hold a full Annual General Meeting in September, to enable the constitution and area to be discussed further locally before final adoption and a wider group of members to be considered for election to the Management Committee of the Forum. As a result of this activity the Forum membership grew from 21 to 60.

We successfully applied for grant funding of £7000, to fund the steps to designation and a local plan, including a website, posters and leaflets for future community engagement activity.

On 23rd September an inaugural Annual General Meeting of the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Forum was attended by 35 people (including two of our Tower Hamlets ward councillors, representatives of local T&RAs and Shoreditch Mosque as well as residents and businesses) who formally adopted the constitution, elected a management committee of 9 people and agreed to apply for designation of the Forum and the neighbourhood area.

Going forward we have prepared an analysis of census data (data table and map attached) which shows a demographic breakdown (by super output area) of the whole proposed neighbourhood plan area in relation to gender, ethnicity, religion and so on. We will use this to monitor the inclusivity of our community engagement activities on developing the neighbourhood plan.

3

The Forum's membership includes a minimum of 21 people, each of whom lives, works or represents the area as an elected member.

Does it have a membership of at least 21 people?

Yes No

How have the Forum secured (or taken reasonable steps to attempt to secure) at least one person from those who live, work or represent the area as an elected member in its membership? This may include evidence of discussions, meetings and consultations.

As outlined in 2 above we have been diligent in our attempts to include everyone as members and let them know about plans for the Neighbourhood Area boundary and the Forum to create a Neighbourhood Plan and to ensure that we can monitor our inclusivity going forward.

Do members come from different places within the neighbourhood and do they reflect the diversity of the people within the neighbourhood? Please provide the name, postcode and interests & relevant background of **each** member.

#	Name	Postcode	Interests & relevant background
1	Rebecca Collings	E2 7DJ	Resident and community group representative (CGR)
2	Amanda Reynolds	E2 7NJ	Resident and local business (B)
3	Naseem Khan	E2 7LY	Resident and CGR
4	Will Nutland	E2 7JB	Resident and Business

5	Brendon Pinch	E2 7DF	Resident
6	Jane Earl	E1 7LA	Rich Mix Centre
7	Ghislaine Boddington	E2 7NJ	Resident and Business
8	Armand Terruli	E2 7NJ	Resident
9	Pamela Haluwa	E2 7LT	Resident
10	Farud Djebrouni	E2 7NN	Hackney Business, Maison Dellys
11	Muhammed Ashraf Mujuhid	E2 7HR	Resident and shop business
12	Rupert Williams	E2 7EY	St Hilda's East CGR
13	Shanaz Khan	E2 7DP	Chaat Restaurant Business
14	Hassan Abdullah	E1 6JX	Maison Trois Garcon Business
15	Jean Locker	E2 7JH	Resident and CGR
16	Kate Metcalf	E2 7EY	Women's Environment Network CGR
17	Fiona Lawrence	E2 7ET	Resident and CGR
18	Mohammed Anas Malik	E2 7HH	Resident and Mosque
19	Hatty Buchanan	E2 7ES	Rochelle School
20	Peter Prescott	E2 7DD	The Albion Business
21	Tunu Miah	E2 7DJ	Mosque

The members show here is only about one third of our current membership of 60 people.

4

The Forum has a written constitution.

Has the Forum completed and attached a written constitution?

Yes

No

Neighbourhood Planning Area application information

Has a clear map of the proposed Neighbourhood Planning Area been attached?

Yes

No

Why is the boundary of the Neighbourhood Planning Area considered to be appropriate?

How does the boundary taken into account the physical, economic and social characteristics of the area?

The Neighbourhood Planning area shown on the attached map is considered to be appropriate in planning terms as it addresses the physical, economic and social characteristics of the area. We have considered ways in which predominantly business areas (whether retail, office or other employment uses) are included in the area

and their orientation within the proposed neighbourhood area overall. We have also addressed the social and organisational networks that exist where communities of interest and geography come together to consider local issues (i.e. via Tenants and Residents Associations, local open space friends groups, groups concerned with development and environmental quality and so on). Currently the proposed Neighbourhood area is almost completely covered by the following T&RA and other interest groups:

- Columbia Road T&RA
- Columbia Neighbourhood Action Group
- Boundary Neighbourhood Group
- Friends of Arnold Circus
- South Shoreditch Community Association
- Jago Action Group
- Gascoigne Neighbourhood Association
- North Brick Lane Residents Association
- Virginia School

In addition to discussing the proposed area with these organisations, we have tested the area boundary at a publicly advertised drop in event held at St Hilda's on 19th September 2013 where there was a consensus that the area was one which resonated with their view of their neighbourhood in terms of the facilities that it offers for their use and the main routes they use into and out of the area.

In considering the proposed area for Neighbourhood Planning we have adopted the following principles to address its physical characteristics:

- To include compatible and coherent communities within generally understood physical boundaries within a 5 minute walk from Arnold Circus on the Boundary Estate,
- To establish boundaries at major streets or estate edges within a clearly local area,
- To include both sides and the full extent of local 'community' streets, including crossing Borough boundaries if the street also does this,
- Where whole streets are included, to also include all buildings fronting those streets,
- Where whole streets provide the boundary edge and are outside the area, to generally exclude buildings which face the boundary street,
- To enable larger, bounding streets to be either 'shared' with an adjacent potential neighbourhood or to be clearly defined as in or out of the Forum area through boundary location,
- To provide for and respect potential adjacent neighbourhoods and their natural communities.

Summary description of proposed boundary:

An area bounded by Columbia Rd to the north; Hackney Rd to the north-west; Shoreditch High St to the west; Bethnal Green Rd and Sclater St to the south; and, Gibraltar Walk, the Bethnal Green Academy School and Gosset St to the east.

The area includes all of the Boundary Estate, all of the Gascoigne community which is a part of the larger Columbia Estates (represented by the CTRA), approximately half of which is within the proposed boundary, all of an area known as the JAG (Jago Action Group) community around Redchurch St and all of the North Brick Lane community.

Public open space includes the St Leonard's Churchyard (LBH), Arnold Circus (which has an active Friends Group) Virginia Park, a small park between north Brick Lane and Swanfield St, play space between north Brick Lane and Shacklewell Street (all in LBTH), as well as several incidental green spaces, which generally are a part of adjacent estates but which are available for public use by the main residential core in the Neighbourhood area.

North Boundary:

This starts at the Hackney Rd/Columbia Rd intersection, runs east along the street boundaries of the buildings on the south side of Columbia Rd up to the junction with Virginia Rd. Columbia Rd itself is not in the Forum area but the buildings along this section of its southern edge are accessed from and face into the Gascoigne estate (part of the Forum area) or Virginia Rd, therefore are identified with this location rather than north over Columbia Rd. The boundary then crosses Virginia Rd and continues east behind the next two groups of houses as they all address and are entered from Columbia Rd, until meeting the intersection with Gosset St. This also identifies the beginning of the Sunday Market area, which is outside this neighbourhood.

East Boundary:

This starts in the north at the intersection with a small disjointed piece of the original Virginia Rd which meets Gosset St almost at Columbia Rd. The boundary runs south along the western edge of Gosset St until meeting the Bethnal Green Academy School where it runs down the school's western boundary to Gibraltar Walk where it includes all of Gibraltar Walk itself and all the buildings on its western side and runs down the boundary with the Turin Estate (which is mainly oriented towards Turin Street which is outside the area) to meet Bethnal Green Rd.

South Boundary:

From the junction between Gibraltar Walk, Bethnal Green Rd and Shacklewell Street, the boundary turns west and runs along the back boundaries of the properties facing Bethnal Green Rd, between these and the existing play spaces until it meets north Brick Lane where it turns south briefly to meet BG Rd, crosses BG Rd and continues behind the properties on the western side of Brick Lane until meeting Sclater St, then turning west and running along the boundary with The Bishopsgate Goodsyrd Site on both Sclater St and Bethnal Green Rd until meeting the junction with Shoreditch High St.

West Boundary:

From the south this starts at the junction with Bethnal Green Rd and runs northward on the east side of the street including all the buildings on this side. This accommodates a number of the Shoreditch High Street St buildings which have fronts facing both ways and the proposed boundary location is consistent with their 'identity location' as the major route acts as a barrier to connection across it. The boundary continues to the corner with Hackney Rd then travels north-east along the south side of Hackney Rd to meet the north boundary at its intersection with Columbia Rd.

We have ensured that this boundary does not overlap with any other proposed neighbourhood planning area. The Spitalfields Society in particular has confirmed that the southern boundary is acceptable.

Applicant name	Rebecca Collings
Date	1 st October 2013

Attached:

1. Forum Constitution
2. Census data table and map (2 documents)
3. Proposed Neighbourhood Area Map
4. Summary of pre designation activities
5. List of 21 members