

## 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

Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Forum

#### Contact details of the Forum (complete as relevant)

**Email address** info@spitalfieldsforum.org.uk

**Website address** <http://www.spitalfieldsforum.org.uk>

**Facebook page** <https://www.facebook.com/Spitalfields?fref=ts>

**Twitter account** Click here to enter text.

**Other** Click here to enter text.

Public information

Confidential 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	Through consultation and community discussion we aim to improve the current situation in relation to social capital, community safety, sustainable living and community cohesion wherever possible via spatial policies within our Neighbourhood Plan as it is developed. We will ensure that social well being of the residents, businesses and organisations are fully considered with specific regard to the impact of any proposal arising out of the plan. Further to this we will foster community spirit, encourage good will and promote civic pride through the activity of developing the Neighbourhood Plan.
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Economic well-being	Through consultation and community discussion on development of the Neighbourhood Plan we would aim to improve economic well-being by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-promoting adequate provision for local jobs, training and enterprise</li> <li>-encourage existing businesses to flourish through networking, good connections and improved functionality of the public realm</li> <li>-promote sustainable development that contributes to the health of the local economy, while ensuring management of negative impacts</li> <li>-protect and promote the heritage and conservation assets of the area, to help support their contribution to the local economy</li> <li>-promote a local sustainable energy economy</li> </ul>
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Environmental well-bring	We plan to identify key areas of environmental improvements and use policy implementation to help improve the sustainability and environmental quality of public spaces, green spaces (small parks), streetscapes, buildings, conservation and heritage, ecology, air pollution and energy efficiency for the benefit of residents, organisations and businesses through community involvement and encouraging good will.
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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 supporting the Mayor's priorities.
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Core Strategy & Managing Development	Our Neighbourhood Plan will develop target driven policies relating to design, location and impact of development in the area in conformity with the strategic policies set out in Tower Hamlets' Local Plan that can
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Document	further support the policies entailed within the Core Strategy and Managing Development Document.
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Diversity and Equalities Statement	We have worked passionately to ensure that our Forum membership is inclusive and open to all people aged 18 and over and organisations likely to be affected by neighbourhood planning proposals for the area and as such in conformity with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets statement. The decision making processes set out in our constitution ensure that the Forum will be accountable to its members which includes all potential stakeholders in the neighbourhood area, including ward councillor members. We also seek to ensure representation from different and hard to reach groups promoting social inclusivity and will continue our outreach activities within different places (please refer to question 2 for equality purposes).
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**How will the Forum envisage engaging with other local forums and groups including the Local Community Ward Forums?**

Groups within the neighbourhood area will be able to directly join the Forum and be involved with the decision making process about the plan during the development stages (through our communications team). Our membership currently stands at 69 members from residents, local businesses and local organisations. Our constitution (attached as Appendix D2) 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 an ongoing 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.

In fact we have started this process as within our committee we have a Mayors Community Champion Coordinator for the Spitalfields and Banglatown Local Community Ward Forum. We also have members who serve on a joint committee with members of East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Forum as well as OPEN Shoreditch. There have been regular liaison meetings with these groups as well as having several members within the following organisations:  
SOUL Youth, Spitalfields Community Group, The Spitalfields Society, The Spitalfields Trust, St George Residents' Association, The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, Attlee Youth and Community Centre, Friends of Mallon Gardens, Spitalfields City Farm, Spitalfields Regeneration(SPIRE), Friends of Christ Church, OPRG(Older Person's Reference Group), Tower Hamlets Health Watch, Tower Hamlets Safety Neighbourhood Board and the Spitalfields, Banglatown Ward Panel, as well as representatives from key local business stakeholders.

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.

Work to set up a Spitalfields Neighbourhood Forum began in 2012 when the Committee of the Spitalfields Society (the Society) first considered the benefits of establishing a Neighbourhood Forum and other options which would increase participation by local people in issues which affected them, particularly regarding planning. Members of the Society also had extensive discussions with the prospective East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Forum (ESNPF) via OPEN Shoreditch; a co-operative of residents' and tenants' organisations and associations to which the Society is affiliated.

At about the same time in October 2012 the Spitalfields Community Group (SCG) also began considering the merit of establishing a Neighbourhood Planning Forum for Spitalfields. SCG had a meeting with officers from LBTH and while the benefits of having a neighbourhood forum were apparent the amount of work it would involve to establish one was prohibitive for its already hard pressed committee members.

Later, in June 2013, the Spitalfields Society then hosted a meeting with Justin Griggs, Head of Policy and Development at the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and as a result the Society decided to work with neighbours to establish a neighbourhood forum in Spitalfields in order to have a greater say over planning matters. The Society resolved to form a sub-group of its executive committee members who were tasked with engaging and consulting with local people, groups and businesses and gauge a diverse range of views and demographics on the principle of establishing a neighbourhood forum in Spitalfields. During this process draft maps were produced and a variety of alternative boundaries were considered.

An outreach programme was agreed by the Spitalfields Society to encompass residents' groups e.g. the Spitalfields Community Group (SCG), Saint George Residents' Association (SGRA), Cloisters Residents Association (CRA), Friends of Christ Church (FCC), Brick Lane Restaurateurs Association (BLRA), Spitalfields Small Business Association (SSBA), Woodseer & Hanbury Street Residents' Association (WHRA), Elder Street Residents' Association (ESRA), Burhan Uddin House TRA (BUHTRA) and SPIRE. In addition attempts were made to establish contact with representatives of residents and businesses elsewhere in the Spitalfields area. Further, several meetings were held with a highly experienced and long-serving Spitalfields & Banglatown ward councillor and former chair of the LBTH Strategic Development Committee. Informal meetings were also held with a number of individual residents and prominent business operators. Further additional meetings where the potential for a neighbourhood forum in Spitalfields were held with Ballymore and Hammerson who were the developers of the Old Spitalfields Market and are now the developers of the Bishopsgate Goodsynd. Both developments have and will have a major impact on the people who live and work in our neighbourhood. We have taken special care to ensure we reach out to the wide variety of different ethnic, cultural and faith groups in the area.

In November 2013 the outreach programme drew together a group of six persons, one of whom was a Mayor's Community Champion Coordinator for Spitalfields and Banglatown (and also co-chairs the Local Community Ward Forum (LCWF)). These six persons were drawn from the executive committees of the Spitalfields Community Group and the Spitalfields Society (three from each) and together they formed the *Interim Steering Group* which was

formally tasked by the Society and SCG with driving forwards the consultation, participation and community engagement programme. This group of six then expanded to eight when it was joined by the Chairman of the Spitalfields Ward [Policing] Panel and the Director of the Attlee Youth and Community Centre, a very important community asset which reaches out to young people mainly from the British Bangladeshi community.

Members of the ISG then began liaising with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), planning officers at the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, established neighbourhood forums such as the West Ealing Centre Neighbourhood Forum and Queen's Park Community Council. One of our members attended a DCLG meeting chaired by Nick Boles MP, the then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Planning. Another of our members discussed local plans to establish a neighbourhood forum in Spitalfields at an informal meeting with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the London Assembly member for City and East London, together with local councillors and discussed proposals to establish a neighbourhood forum in Spitalfields and heard their views on the matter. Further, we discussed the proposals with local architects, planning experts and British Bangladeshi community representatives. At all of these meetings our proposals were met with support and encouragement.

The ISG held frequent meetings between November 2013 and August 2014 during which it made a successful grant application to support the work from Locality. They also provided direct support by allocating a planning advisor, Lorraine Hart. The ISG established a website and a presence on social media.

The ISG stipulated tasks (according to its terms of reference) were to continue to liaise with local interests, draft the constitution, make recommendations for the neighbourhood area boundaries, draw up a list of local "stakeholders" whom it would invite to join the Forum, engage with the consultation process and expand it by recruiting members of the local communities. This list of "stakeholders" was generated through pre-existing networks of groups working with the Society, SCG and OPEN Shoreditch together with a careful analysis and comparison of a map and accompany list of "community liaison groups" that had been created by the consultants employed by the Hammerson-Ballymore joint-venture to develop the Bishopsgate Goodsyards Site (their map was compared with a 'draft neighbourhood area') as part of their planning consultations. In addition, we approached the Tower Hamlets Volunteer Centre and were given a list of local groups. We compared all these sources and came up with a list of over seventy local "stakeholders". Beyond this individual initiatives were pursued; in particular separate conversations were had with the representatives of the owners of Old Spitalfields Market and contacts by local organisations working with us such as SPIRE were utilised; this put us in contact with the owners of the Old Truman Brewery. These were our "stakeholders".

It was envisaged that we would hold two separate consultative events; the first which all the aforementioned stakeholders were invited to; followed by a second to which we aimed to invite all local residents and business operators through the delivery of publicity material to individual letter boxes using volunteers.

The aim of this was to publicise the initiative, recruit a minimum of twenty-one forum members and devise and lead a process of formal public local consultations in preparation for an eventual application for area and forum designation.

In pursuance of this ISG members:

1. Met with and/or made representations to over seventy local stakeholders (being either



- local groups, organisations, businesses, residents' representatives etc. in Spitalfields) to publicise and explain the initiative, seek their views and encourage their involvement by becoming forum members and contributing towards a future Neighbourhood Plan
2. Arranged walkabouts of the boundaries with interested persons. A walkabout in the company of Jenny Frew from the DCLG occurred in April 2014
  3. In June 2014 members of the ISG held a meeting with the representative of Ashkenazy and Tribeca Holdings (who own Old Spitalfields Market) and received support for our initiative to establish a Neighbourhood Forum in Spitalfields. Regular written correspondence was maintained with local stakeholders and local people from June 2014 onwards in detailed emails which explained what neighbourhood planning is, what neighbourhood plans are and how they can join, including detailed maps of the proposed Spitalfields neighbourhood area boundaries
  4. The detailed results of the outreach programme and the later activities of the ISG were presented to and endorsed by general members at the Annual General Meetings of the Spitalfields Society (in March 2014) and later the Annual General Meeting of the Spitalfields Community Group, in July 2014. Together these two organisations are the largest community and amenity associations in the neighbourhood with a combined membership in excess of three hundred local residents and business people
  5. The ISG commissioned printed publicity materials which were then hand delivered by volunteers to all accessible local resident addresses and accessible business letter boxes. This A3 pamphlet was hand delivered to approximately 2,600 individual mailing addresses and invited them to attend an open consultation meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014. The pamphlet also invited people to give us their views on the proposals by returning a feedback sheet to a box at the Attlee Centre on Thrawl Street, or via email
  6. Held two separate consultation meetings at the Attlee Centre (both starting at 6.30pm):
    - a. Individually invited Local Stakeholders: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014 – 26 representatives attended including one LBTH ward councillor
    - b. Open public consultation meeting which all local residents and business operators were invited to: 4<sup>th</sup> August – 27 people attended including one LBTH councillor and two LBTH planning officers.

Soon after the second consultation meetings was held the ISG met to consider the feedback received at both those meetings and received in other ways and resolved to amend the proposed area boundaries upon which we had consulted so as to include the Spitalfields City Farm. The ISG then wrote to all the people who had applied to become members of the prospective Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Forum (SNPF) and invited them to attend an Inaugural General Meeting of the Forum which would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> August. This meeting was attended by thirty-three eligible persons representing a diverse range of interests; private and social tenants and property owners, landlords, representatives of local organisations and business operators.

At the Inaugural General Meeting of the SNPF the prospective forum members voted to approve and adopt the constitution, the neighbourhood area boundaries and elected a standing committee to manage the process of applying to Tower Hamlets for forum and area designation.

The new Standing Committee of the SNPF is a diverse group of thirteen members all of whom live and/or work within the bounds of the proposed Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area. The Committee members are a broadly representative mix of business, resident and local organisation interests; men and women; young and old; sexual orientation; with various degrees of physical mobility and economic status and quite justly proud to include an exceedingly diverse ethnic and religious mix representative of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Spitalfields.

Since then the newly elected committee has been meeting regularly to prepare this application. They are also working towards making a start on the Neighbourhood Plan itself and continue to consult and include the local community and enhance participation. To this end it has established several sub-committees tasked with communications, consultations and planning.

List of Appendices A:

1. Minutes of relevant Spitalfield Society meetings
2. Minutes of relevant Spitalfields Community Group meetings
3. List of Stakeholders which were written to and invited to participate in consultations
4. Letters and correspondence sent to Stakeholders (example given, Old Truman Brewery)
5. Copy of the Your Spitalfields: Your Future leaflet
6. List of attendees at Stakeholder Consultation Meeting
7. List of attendees at the open Public Consultation Meeting
8. List of attendees at the Inaugural General Meeting of the SNPF
9. List of Members of the Standing Committee of the SNPF and short biographies
10. List of General Members of the SNPF

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**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 x

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 inclusion going forward. From an early stage (in January 2014) we asked LBTH to provide appropriate demographic data for the Spitalfields area which we kept firmly in mind as we sought to make people aware of the project and get their involvement. This data strongly influenced our desire to make sure our stakeholder list included as many British-Bangladeshi and other ethnic groups in it as well as compelling us to ensure our Interim Steering Group (ISG) had persons on it across the communities. In addition, at every stage we have actively sought cross community involvement at our consultative events through the stakeholder list as well as a determination to comprehensibly deliver our information and invitation leaflets (Your Spitalfields Your Future) to areas of the proposed neighbourhood area where we know hard to reach communities live (for example the Holland Estate) and have actively sought the involvement of faith groups. Our membership application form collates all information relevant to equalities issues which we shall monitor and take steps to address when the Forum thinks that groups are under-represented. We include in our appendices a sample of the correspondence we have undertaken with one local stakeholder (the owners of the Old Truman Brewery) as an example of the efforts we have made with local 'stakeholders' to get their involvement, keep them informed and seek their becoming members of the forum. Further to this, two local consultation meetings were held to which local stakeholders were invited (the first such meeting, in July 2014) and the general public, all local residents and business operators were invited to a second public consultation meeting in August 2014 via a leaflet delivered to each

accessible letter box in the neighbourhood area.

At both these consultation meetings persons present were invited to become members of the forum and tell others about it to encourage ever wider involvement. Also, stakeholders and local residents, business persons and elected members were either personally written to or otherwise communicated with and encouraged to become members even if they were unable to attend our consultation meetings. Twenty six persons came to our first (stakeholder) consultation event from a total of seventy-four invited. Twenty-seven local residents and business operators attended the second (public) consultation whom had each been made aware of our proposals through either a hand delivered leaflet to each accessible letter box or via word of mouth. We consider the turnout at these meetings to have been very good especially when compared to similar public consultation initiatives undertaken for other planning purposes whereat it is not uncommon for very much smaller numbers of local persons to be in attendance.

We have established a Communications Working Group to continue the work of reaching out and engaging with the community. We have significant expertise in the field of online social media and are confident in building up a proactive campaign to attract more forum members and to encourage in depth engagement with area residents, organisations and businesses.

In particular we will use Youtube, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and encourage our members to share our output. We will investigate other forms of social media including phone applications as we move forward. We will post relevant material on the various timelines and encourage responses and participation. The aim will be to work together by using our personal accounts to share and encourage other forum members to do the same.

We will network with professional bodies, other groups and contributors on NPF issues. We will seek to co-operate and reach agreement with business estate owners, e.g. Spitalfields Estate and ask them to distribute material to their tenants.

In the case of hard to reach and gated communities we will seek out landlords and seek agreement for them to provide access or use their own notification systems.

We will use existing networks of residents associations and business operators to promulgate further and increase awareness.

Subject to budget we will further develop hard copy leafleting within our proposed designated area. We will continue the media programme with local press, ethnic press and local community radio.

#### List of Appendices B:

1. Minutes of meetings of the Interim Steering Group (November 2013-August 2014)
2. Minutes of the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting (21 July 2014)
4. Minutes of the Public Consultation Meeting (4 August 2014)
5. Minutes of the Inaugural General Meeting of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Forum (18 August 2014)
6. Minutes of the Committee of the SNPF (September – November 2014)
7. Photographs from the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting (21 July 2014)
8. Photographs from the Public Consultation Meeting (4 August 2014)
9. Photographs from the Inaugural General Meeting of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood



Planning Forum (18 August 2014)

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	David Donoghue	E1 6QL	Spitalfields Society and SPIRE Committee Member, long term local resident
2	Siân Phillips CBE	E1 5LJ	Local Resident and former actress
3	Nick Morse	E1 6QA	Chairman of the Spitalfields Society
4	Tarik Khan	E1 7RW	SOUL Youth Football Club Director, life-long resident and community activist
5	Mhairi Weir	E1 5AR	General Manager, Spitalfields City Farm
6	Santokh Kaulder	E1 5LP	Life-long local resident and Town Planner
7	Jon Shapiro	E1 6DX	Spitalfields Community Group Vice Chairman, Chairman of Spitalfields Ward Panel and SPIRE, long term local resident
8	Cllr. John Pierce	E14 2BG	Ward Councillor
9	Philip Vracas	E1 6QR	Parish Clerk, Christ Church Spitalfields, long term local resident and licensed business operator
10	James Frankcom	E1 6BT	LBTH Mayor's Community Champion Coordinator, Co-Chair of Spitalfields & Banglatown Local Community Ward Forum, Spitalfields Society Committee Member, school teacher and long term local resident.
11	Jeremy Freedman	E2 6DY	East End Trades Guild member and former manager of Sandy's Lane Synagogue with five generations of connection to local area
12	Iqbal Hussain	E1 6QE	Local Resident, football coach and community organiser
13	Jason Zeloof	E1 6QL	Designated member in Zeloof LLP (Owner of part of the Old Truman Brewery site)
14	Matthew Piper	E1 6QE	Chairman of Spitalfields Community Group
15	Maria Bather	E1 6NU	Publican, Commercial Tavern P.H.
16	Jarelle Francis	E1 5JL	Director of London Lifestyle Lounge, Hanbury St., fashion and clothing retailer
17	Sara Crofts	E1 6LP	Deputy Director of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings
18	Mike Myers	E1 6EA	Chairman of Spitalfields Market Residents Association, life-long resident for 85 years
19	Cllr. Abdul Chunu Mukit MBE	E2 6DZ	Elected Ward Councillor
20	Paul Johnston	E2 6EH	Architect and Committee Member of SCG and member of the East End Trades Guild
21	Tania Shaikh	E1 6RT	Director of Attlee Youth & Community Centre and Chairwoman of Play Association Tower Hamlets

**4****The Forum has a written constitution.**

Has the Forum completed and attached a written constitution?

Yes **Neighbourhood Planning Area application information****Has a clear map of the proposed Neighbourhood Planning Area been attached?**Yes **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 Plan Area proposed for designation is the result of a number of iterations about the most appropriate boundary which would reflect what both local people and businesses regarded as the heart of “Spitalfields”; the planning policies currently in force (conservation areas, London Plan policy, Tower Hamlets Local Plan documents and so on) and the presence of an adjacent proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area at East Shoreditch. These were considered alongside such issues as where historic and contemporary cultural and commercial boundaries were situated. In addition the proposed boundary has benefited from discussions with LBTH planning officers and discussions at wider consultative events held with local stakeholders and the public, described elsewhere in this application. The Interim Steering Group which initiated local discussions about a Neighbourhood Plan considered maps of the area in November 2013 and concluded that the Electoral Ward Boundary for Spitalfields & Banglatown was not the most appropriate area to be designated as the Neighbourhood Planning Forum Area (Neighbourhood Area) because it was much too large and the planning issues and concerns across the ward were too divergent for a single Neighbourhood Planning Forum or Neighbourhood Plan to be practicable. Further, following recent boundary changes, the ward includes areas far outside those which a majority of local people would regard as being within an identifiable Spitalfields neighbourhood. For example, the north side of Whitechapel High Street and Whitechapel Road which contains Whitechapel Underground Station and Whitechapel Market and other places more broadly to the east - are considered by local people to be quite clearly in “Whitechapel” but are presently included within the Spitalfields & Banglatown local government ward boundaries.

The final proposed Neighbourhood Area boundary is based upon a smaller area with a more harmonious planning landscape. Typically the area is centred on the core of historic Spitalfields and included within it are areas that share residential, commercial, tourist, heritage and conservation features in common. The area includes, for the sake of efficacy and relevance to both businesses and residents, most of the two main thoroughfares in the area - Commercial Street and Brick Lane.

The western bounds of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area correspond with the western bounds of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and do not include any adjacent or adjoining parts of the City of London or the London Borough of Hackney. The western end of Artillery Lane which lies within the City of London was considered for inclusion within the Neighbourhood Area. However the Local Plan of the City of London and Listed Buildings’

statuses regarding this small area appear to be sufficiently robust to provide adequate protection.

The northern boundary meets, but does not include any part of, the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Area - of the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Forum (ESNPF) which was already specified in an application for designation as an area for Neighbourhood Planning purposes at the time the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning boundary was being considered and has since been designated by Tower Hamlets. This was decided based on knowledge of the prior discussions representatives of the prospective ESNPF had had with representatives of the Spitalfields Society (a local amenity association) when they were in the process of delineating their southern borders.

The northern boundaries of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area also exclude the Bishopsgate Goodsyards because the Local Planning Authority has allocated it as a 'Strategic Site' so it could not be included within a Neighbourhood Area for Neighbourhood Planning purposes. The Interim Steering Group would have preferred to include some or the entire Bishopsgate Goodsyards site within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets but given the views of the LPA, it was concluded that this would not be practically possible.

It was agreed, following detailed discussions with planning officers at Tower Hamlets in April 2014, that 100-106 Sclater Street (a small group of occupied shops and flats on the south side of Sclater Street at its junction with Brick Lane) and nearby 110-123 Brick Lane should also be included within the Neighbourhood Area even though they are formally part of the Bishopsgate Goodsyards Strategic Site - so we are told. It is acknowledged that these properties sit within the Bishopsgate Goodsyards site allocation however due to their proximity to Brick Lane we consider that their inclusion within the area boundary is required to ensure they contribute to the character of Brick Lane. The Forum would seek to work with the council to deliver strategic policies. During the same conversation the precise course of our southern boundary was determined which was amended to include Attlee House and College East (along Wentworth Street) and then to continue along Frostic Walk to Chicksand Street and to remove numbers 26 to 42 Chilton Street.

A map was provided by Tower Hamlets (called LBTH Suggested Amendments 140414) showing the optimum course of the boundary behind and, in some cases, between individual properties along the south side of Wentworth Street and suggested changes to our eastern boundaries.

The eastern and southern boundaries of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area are based upon our recognition of a 'core' area in Spitalfields which is dominated by a parallel pair of communicative thoroughfares; Commercial Street and Brick Lane and the inter-connecting streets between them. The outside edges of the eastern and southern peripheral areas were determined by an examination of the residential, business, conservation and heritage landscape.

The bounds of the Neighbourhood Area that are identified contain all the main business and residential areas of Spitalfields, and, apart from the Bishopsgate Goodsyards, no other areas are excluded. The process by which this conclusion was reached was, in the east, based upon an analysis of the heritage, touristic and business landscape and where these features considered typical of the Spitalfields neighbourhood ended and, beyond the bounds, where a large, modern and almost wholly residential zone once known as 'Mile End New Town' began. As part of this process we also considered the contemporary cultural landscape of Brick Lane and its environs and compared our initial ideas with contemporary locally produced maps of

the area; in particular the map drawn by Adam Dant (in association with Spitalfields Life) titled 'The Map of Spitalfields Life' which depicts "the people, culture and industry of this historic place" on a street plan of contemporary Spitalfields. It is this clearly defined, compact, historic and cultural area around Commercial Street and Brick Lane known as Spitalfields which strongly influenced our considerations.

The area we have defined is already identified by the LPA as the 'Brick Lane Activity Zone' which is regarded as further evidence in favour of the optimum boundaries that have been determined in the east. With the exception of the Spitalfields City Farm, our proposed bounds are also wholly within the 'Core Growth Area' of the City Fringe. In addition the open space called Allen Gardens has been included within the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area because the planning issues pertaining to that park and its intensive use by visitors to Brick Lane make it a planning issue of principal concern to the communities and businesses that live and operate on and immediately adjacent to Brick Lane and, as such, it was agreed that Allen Gardens be included within the bounds of the Neighbourhood Area.

The small play area known as "the Ghat" locally (or "Chicksand Street Play Ground") was subject to discussion at ISG level and at our consultation meetings. It was the opinion of the Attlee Youth and Community Centre that this playground was used far more widely than just by the young people residing in the streets nearest to it. It was also their view that this playground would benefit from the additional protection a neighbourhood plan might give it. The ISG adopted it as an area they would like to see included within the neighbourhood area bounds but determined to discuss it during the consultation with local people and gauge wider views. This issue was raised at both our consultation meetings and the position of the ISG on the matter (for it to be within the neighbourhood area) was not challenged.

Further public consultations on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area in fact widened the originally proposed area at this point to include the whole of the Spitalfields City Farm site, given its active use of Allen Gardens and the complementary and ancillary nature of the Farm to the use of this important local open space.

Discussions were held with the farm operators (who supported the initiative and have since become prospective forum members) as well as LBTH planning officers (in August) regarding the merit of incorporating the farm in the neighbourhood area bounds, which they considered sensible.

Our southern boundary was set at the properties facing on to the south side of Wentworth Street and from the junction with that street and Middlesex Street eastwards in that fashion as far as Gunthorpe Street where our boundary became the middle of the rest of the road, easterly, continuing to Brick Lane. From Brick Lane the southerly edge of the Neighbourhood area drops south to include the Toynbee Hall facility. Initially we had excluded the Toynbee Hall facility but after discussion with LBTH planning officers and with Toynbee Hall itself we determined to extend our boundary south to include the whole Toynbee Hall facility. Our southern boundary then returns north up Gunthorpe Street, rejoining Wentworth street where it runs along the centre of that street for its remainder and crossing Brick lane into the middle of Old Montague Street a little way before turning northwards to follow the route of Frostic Walk. The southern boundary was placed at the rear of the properties facing on to the south side of Wentworth Street, for the most part, and elsewhere along the centre of that street so as to keep the whole market which operates on that street within the bounds of the Neighbourhood Area. We regarded any places further south to be the prerogative of residents of Whitechapel and beyond the area usually identified as Spitalfields.

At our Inaugural General Meeting held on 18th August the proposals the ISG had formulated for the bounds of a Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan Area were discussed in detail. The only aspect of the proposed boundary that was raised as contentious was the inclusion of the Old Truman Brewery site.

At this meeting there was a presentation by Jason Zeloof of Zeloof LLP which owns part of the Old Truman Brewery site arguing the case to exclude the site from the Neighbourhood Area. He stated that the Old Truman Brewery estate was completely different in character to the rest of Brick Lane and the wider Spitalfields area and as such it should be excluded from the neighbourhood. In addition concerns were expressed about the extent and effectiveness of consultation with the businesses in the area and that further discussions were necessary. Some attendees (11) supported these views. Others (19 attendees) disagreed with the proposal to exclude the Old Truman Brewery, which they considered to be integral to the neighbourhood area as proposed and also disagreed regarding the extent of the consultation process. However, the forum considered these arguments, there was a considered debate and eventually a vote was held which rejected the exclusion proposition and adopted the ISG-proposed boundary.

#### List of Appendices C:

1. Our first proposal map which we forwarded to planning officers in February 2014 with their suggested changes sent to us in April 2014.
2. Our second proposal (before inclusion of the farm) upon which we consulted in July and August.
3. The Map of Spitalfields Life which influenced our early thoughts on the 'cultural sphere'.
4. PowerPoint presentation on the proposed NPA boundaries shown at both consultation Meetings (electronic copy only)
5. Correspondence between the ISG and LBTH planning officers (January –August 2014)
6. Correspondence between the ISG and the Old Truman Brewery (June – August 2014)

#### List of Appendices D:

1. Constitution of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Forum
2. High Resolution Map of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Area

<b>Applicant name</b>	Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Forum
<b>Date</b>	24 November 2014