

Modification of East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area Consultation Statement April 2019

Introduction

1. On 7 March 2019, the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Forum applied to the Council for the modification of the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area. The application was assessed to be in keeping with the relevant regulations, and in accordance with Regulation 9 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 a six week public consultation period was held between 14 March 2019 and 24 April 2019.
2. This document provides a summary at the level of representation of matters raised during the consultation period. The report takes account of relevant planning matters in representations submitted to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. This paper has been prepared for public information and to inform the Council's decision making process – it is not intended to address any of the issues raised during the consultation period.

Consultation activities undertaken by the Council

3. Consultation activities undertaken by the Council were carried out in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations and the principles expressed in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. The activities undertaken were as follows:
 - The East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area application form and map were placed on the Council's website
 - The same information was made available in paper copy at the Town Hall and at Bethnal Green Library and Idea Store Whitechapel
 - The same information was sent directly to the elected councillors for the Weavers ward
 - An email announcing the consultation and explaining where the relevant information could be found was sent to everyone on the Plan Making Team's consultation database
 - A public notice was published in the Docklands & East London Advertiser
4. All consultation material made clear that although it was expected that representations would primarily be received from residents, businesspeople, and organisations based within the proposed East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area, representations from those outside of this area would also be welcome.

Approach to categorising representations made

5. During the public consultation period, the public are able to make representations on the contents of the area application submitted to the

Council. Typically, representations are made by local residents, local councillors, landowners, businesses, interests groups, statutory consultees and neighbouring local authorities. Representations were not made by all parties directly consulted.

6. This document presents representations in no particular order. Representation figures calculate submitted responses and as such do not limit representations to one per household or one per business. The following categories have been used to categorise representations:

Support	Have stated explicit support, or support has been inferred from the contents of the representation
Object	Have stated explicit objection, or objection has been inferred from the contents of the representation
Neutral	Have offered comments but not determined if they object or support the application
Petition	A written objection signed by multiple signatories
No comment	Where no comment has been made and no position on the matter can be inferred
Concerned	Do not state they object but highlight areas of concern

7. The following summaries have been derived from an analysis of the consultation responses. Please note, representations did not always specify support or objection to the area and Forum. The summary of responses paraphrases comments made by representors and, to avoid repetition, makes reference to the same matter once only.
8. When analysing the representations, regard is given to legislative requirements related to the Forum and Area proposals.

Summary of representations

Number of representations received

Support	Objection	Neutral	No comment	Petition	Concerned	Total
2	0	3	5	0	0	10

9. A total of 10 responses were received to the consultation.
10. The following organisations responded to state that they had no comment to make on the application: The Canal and River Trust, Environment Agency, National Grid, Natural England, and the Port of London Authority.
11. There were 2 responses received that supported the application – these were from a resident of the borough and Cllr John Pierce.

12. A response from the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Forum, whose neighbourhood planning area is adjacent to the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area, stated that there was no objection to the proposal, and was classed as 'neutral'.
13. A neutral response from Historic England stated that they have no specific concerns about the proposed boundaries, but notes that the area contains "significant designated heritage assets and a number of designated heritage assets at risk", and they will therefore expect to comment further as a neighbourhood plan is developed in the area.
14. A response from the London Borough of Hackney was also classified as neutral. This response set out the context of the application, explaining why the current East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Area is so truncated in Hackney and why the Forum has not been recognised in Hackney. Detail on this issue has also been provided in the Tower Hamlets Cabinet report for this modification.
15. The response states that "Hackney did not want to see a Neighbourhood Plan come forward which dissects Shoreditch High Street down the middle", and therefore reduced the proposed neighbourhood area down to a small area around St. Leonard's Church, on the basis that "these areas were considered to read as part of the Boundary Estate which is mainly residential in character". Following this truncation of the neighbourhood area, "the group were advised that the Forum application would need to be resubmitted based on the designated Neighbourhood Area [...] No such application has come forward and the Council proposes to take no further action in relation to the area designated within the Hackney boundary". The response then states that Hackney will soon be consulting on an Area Action Plan for Shoreditch that includes all of the current neighbourhood planning area within the Hackney border, and all of the area originally applied for.
16. Officers asked Hackney for further comment, to make clear whether or not they supported the proposed modification, but no further response was received. The response from Hackney has therefore been classified as neutral.