

Appendix 4

Role of the Council for managing and monitoring the legal compliance of Neighbourhood Planning Forums

TOWER HAMLETS



**Planning
& Building
Control**

This Appendix sets out the powers which the Council can utilise to ensure Neighbourhood Planning Forums are open and representative.

1. Legislative provisions enabling the Council to withdraw the designation of Neighbourhood Planning Forums

The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Section 61F (9) authorises the Council to withdraw the designation of a Forum if the Council considers that the Forum no longer meets the conditions of the Localism Act.

As such, this provides the Council with strong powers to remove a Forum at any time if they do not meet any of the following conditions:

- A. Promote or improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the Neighbourhood Area.
- B. Has an open membership to anyone who lives in, works in or represents the Neighbourhood Area as an elected Councillor.
- C. Has a membership of at least 21 people who live in, work in or represent the area.
- D. Continued so far as necessary (such as where membership has changed) to secure or taken reasonable steps to secure its membership includes people who live, work or represent the area.
- E. Has a membership drawn from different areas and sections of the community of the Neighbourhood Area.
- F. Its purpose reflects the character of the area.
- G. Has a written constitution.

2. Automatic designation removal

The designation of a Forum is automatically removed after 5 years as pursuant to Section 61F(8) of the Act.

3. Monitoring the Membership of Neighbourhood Planning Forums

To ensure the above conditions are continually met, planning officers will monitor the activities of the Forums. Forums will be required to inform planning officers of any change to the original content and intentions detailed in its application form. The Council will review any changes to the Membership of the Forum. Any amendments to the written constitution will require immediate notification.