

Angelus Sumesar-Rai, Prosper Rich, John Xuereb at 62 Bruce Rd E3 3HL and John Hayes at 34 Mount Terrace E1 2BB with 2300 signatures showing local support, We

**PETITION THE MAYOR, CABINET and COUNCILLORS OF TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL TO KEEP TUSH CO-OP HOUSE SHARING at 62 Bruce Rd family-like community for 35 years.**



82 years old Indian gentleman Mr Angelus Sumesar-Rai for 30 years in Bruce Rd co-operative family with British citizens Mr Xuereb and Mr Rich together with our pets are threatened with eviction by Tower-Hamlets council wanting to destroy our family-like way of living.

A court hearing to evict us stemming from the Rahman Administration is scheduled for 17 August. In view of 22 July our petition hearing day, we did ask that the court hearing be postponed to allow us to make our case without an imminent threat hanging over us. This was refused.

**WE DESERVE TO SHARE HOUSE WE PERSONALLY CARED FOR 17 YEARS BECAUSE:  
THEN WE CAN FULLY FOCUS ON SERVING COMMUNITY**

**1) 34 years of self-management in Bruce Rd.**

TUSH housing co-operative was formed 35 years ago in January 1981.

For the last 34 years co-operative has maintained and self-managed houses in Bruce Road E3 3HL. Mr Sumesar-Rai has lived in Bruce Rd for the last 30 years.

**2) Invested self-effort + new start in life= Co-operative adds great value to society.**

Mr Xuereb and Mr Rich having practical skills invested 1000's of hours of voluntary labour to make empty derelict houses habitable and then to maintain them to provide affordable homes to local single people. Having roof over their heads provided those people with an opportunity for a new start in life by learning new skills to positively contribute to society.

**3) Local links and benefits to the local community.**

Petitioners for many years contributed to their local community with voluntary activities in: Kingsley Hall like organising fund-risers, painting and decorating, garden care/landscaping, logistics and free weekly meditation classes.

**Streets of Growth** - participated in youth activities and donated Streets of Growth theme song.

**Solidarity with Palestine Campaign** - we participated in Twin Jenin since the beginning.

We offered song celebrating Tower-Hamlets -Jenin connection and contributed to meetings in St Barnabas church in Roman Rd.

**4) Council saves 3 separate flats of its stock that that would have to find to rehouse us**

**5) £150.000 saved by Tower Hamlets council on refurbishment of 62 Bruce Rd.**

**6) Our garden fosters wildlife, bees, birds, domesticated pigeons and hedgehog.**

**7) Co-op offered council better value a 30 year development plan - Community Land Trust  
Co-op proposal offered council following major benefits:**

- to preserve our community in shared houses.
- Co-op to pay for refurbishment of all the houses
- co-op to provide rental income to council
- no expenses to council
- council nomination rights for 3 family houses under Community Land Trust management.
- council saves having to provide rehousing from its stock to co-op members
- council saves resources and costs of legal actions to evict people

Instead previous administration led by Mr. Lutfur Rahman and his cabinet decided to destroy our house sharing community and spend £1.7 million to refurbish 10-11 houses themselves.

Politically motivated decision? Houses for votes? Council may wish to enquire into 58 Bruce Rd:



We note in 58 Bruce Rd back garden brick walls were erected by council paid for builders before the house refurbishment was completed. Later we found this became a side walls for huge bird rearing house. This shows that Tower Hamlets council knew that birds rearing people are going to be allocated the 58 Bruce Rd before even house refurbishment was completed months later.

**8) We live together supporting each other like family. Our purpose is to serve community.**

Angelus Sumesar-Rai 82 years old Indian gentleman, one of founding performers of Notting Hill Carnival has been living in Bruce Rd about 30 years and the other 2 men nearly 20 years.

Mr Sumesar-Rai feels happy here being well cared for by other residents of 62 Bruce Rd.

Mr John Xuereb has been living and working in East London as driver and carpenter all of his life. Keen gardener, proud to live without housing benefits he would be forced to claim elsewhere.

Mr Prosper Rich is a handy man, songwriter and meditation teacher. His Bruce Rd home had a fire 5 years ago. Tower Hamlets council former administration led by Mr. Lutfur Rahman purposely delayed fire repairs for 4 years and kept the property empty for 5 years just to prevent Mr Rich to return to his home. As result of prolonged stress caused by decisions of Mr. Lutfur Rahman previous administration and 4 years of constant legal proceedings to get justice, Mr Rich suffers from physical and mental health problems.

Sharing home with Angelus, John and beloved pets with awareness that we are safe long term in 62 Bruce Rd would have definite positive healing effect on Mr Rich as well as his house-mates.

We deserve to live in the house we personally cared for 17 years no less than any other people.

We support Mr. Biggs the new Mayors' aim to rebuild trust and make great Tower Hamlets better. Therefore, we respectfully ask the new Mayor and Mr Biggs cabinet administration to reverse the decision of the Rahman administration and to instruct officers accordingly to allow this important housing community to continue its co-operative home sharing in the present house indefinitely.

We have gathered 2300 signatures showing support of local people. Thank You for your support.