

Designation of Poplar Neighbourhood Planning Forum Consultation Statement September 2018

Introduction

1. On 3 July 2018, the Poplar Regen Alliance applied to the Council to be designated as the Neighbourhood Planning Forum for the Poplar 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 9 August 2018 and 20 September 2018.
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 Poplar Regen Alliance application and consultation information were placed on the Council's website
 - The same information was made available in paper copy at the Town Hall and Idea Store Chrisp Street
 - The same information was sent directly to the elected councillor for the Poplar 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 Poplar Neighbourhood 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 and forum applications 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
9	0	1	6	0	0	16

9. A total of 16 responses were received to the consultation. One of these, from Historic England, addressed the issue of the Neighbourhood Planning Area boundary which was not being consulted on. This was brought to their attention but they chose not to submit a further representation on the Forum application. This was treated as a 'no comment' submission.

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. Transport for London indicated that they had no objection to the application in their statutory function, but noted that they have a number of assets within the Neighbourhood Planning Area, and would be keen to work with the Forum and the Council throughout the development of any Neighbourhood Plan to ensure compliance with relevant transport strategies and to discuss the various transport interventions required as part of the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Opportunity Area Planning Framework. It was stated that Transport for London's commercial property arm would also submit a representation, but no further representation was provided.
12. There were 9 responses received that supported the application – these were from the New City College, Poplar Regen Alliance itself, the Blackwall Reach Residents Board and 6 individual residents.
13. Some elements of the responses did not address the issue of the Neighbourhood Planning Forum designation. However, a number of points were raised in support of the application:
 - Residents have a right to express their views about an area which is receiving a large amount of regeneration work
 - The forum provides an outlet for a variety of perspectives
 - The forum provides an opportunity for residents of areas that have already undergone regeneration to explain their experience
 - The forum would encourage the Council to provide green spaces, healthcare provision, training and job opportunities, and other services
 - The forum will encourage the Council to provide more affordable and social housing in the area
 - The forum is led by the local community
 - The New City College in the area have been involved, sending two representatives, and with an intention to send a third representing their position as a landowner with redevelopment plans in the area
14. The response from Poplar Regen Alliance stated that Tower Hamlets Homes, New City College, two primary schools in the Poplar Ward, two of the mosques in the ward and All Saints Church all support the application. It is noted that, of these organisations, a response was only received from New City College.
15. It is noted the New City College did raise a concern in relation to the involvement of the East End Community Foundation and Transport for London, who are also landowners in the area, with redevelopment plans, but were not listed in the membership list. They suggested these organisations should be included in the work of the new Forum. As noted above, Transport for London responded to the consultation with no

objection. No response was received from the East End Community Foundation.