

Neighbourhood Planning Forum Refusal Statement

Name of designated neighbourhood planning area: Limehouse Neighbourhood Planning Area

Name of applicant: Limehouse Community Forum

Consultation period: 3 December 2020 to 27 January 2021

Decision

Notice is hereby given that Tower Hamlets Council, pursuant to a decision made on 3 March 2021 by the Mayor in Cabinet, has refused the application to designate the Limehouse Community Forum as the neighbourhood forum for the Limehouse Neighbourhood Planning Area.

In accordance with Section 61F(7)(d) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, a local authority must give reasons for refusing an application to be designated as a neighbourhood planning forum. These reasons are stated below.

Reasons

A clear majority of the consultation responses received on the proposed forum designation objected or raised concerns about the application – these included concerns about the conduct of members of the forum, about a lack of neighbourhood planning activity from the forum during their previous five-year designation, and about how well the forum represented the wider community of Limehouse.

Given the clear lack of consensus within the community on the designation of the proposed forum, the Council has concluded that:

- Designating the proposed forum would not promote or improve the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the neighbourhood planning area (under section 61F(5)(a) of the TCPA 1990); and
- The proposed forum's purpose does not reflect in general terms the character of the neighbourhood planning area (under section 61F(7)(a)(iii) of the TCPA 1990).

Inspection

This refusal statement can be inspected on the Council's neighbourhood planning webpages at https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/planning_and_building_control/planning_policy_guidance/neighbourhood_planning/neighbourhood_planning.aspx. Due to restrictions related to the coronavirus pandemic, a hard copy will not be made available at the Town Hall or in any Idea Stores or libraries in the borough.

For further information, please contact the Strategic Planning team at neighbourhoodplanning@towerhamlets.gov.uk or 020 7364 5009.