

APPENDIX F

BANKSIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM STATEMENT

How does Bankside Neighbourhood Forum 'reflect the community' of Bankside?

The BN Forum currently consists of a minimum of 21 members made up of at least 7 residents, 7 businesses, and 7 community interest groups. This unique set up was felt vital to ensure that the forum was able to reflect all issues of relevance to the local business and resident community. We were very aware that unlike a local council vote, voters in the Neighbourhood Plan referendum will not be voting for the forum members to represent them but rather will vote on the issues raised in the Plan and whether they best reflect the communities' needs and requirements going forward.

Reflecting the Business Community

As Bankside Neighbourhood Plan will be voted on by both businesses and residents it was vital that we had a large number of businesses on the Forum. This was to ensure that we were able to capture all the issues of relevance to local businesses. The people who attended on behalf of the local businesses did so not in their individual capacity but were treated as a voice for the local business. As a consequence their ethnicity bears no relevance to their ability to represent business interests.

Reflecting the Resident Community

In order to capture all possible resident views and experiences it was felt that it was important that not only should individual residents be in attendance at the Forum but also that grassroots community groups should also be represented.

This area has a strong history of grassroots community interest groups representing and taking up issues of relevance to local people – a key requirement of any NP. These community groups have a long history of working with ethnic minorities, diversity and under-privilege in this area for many years. Again as with the business community representation, the people who attended the meeting did so not as individuals but rather as a voice for their community group so that local issues and concerns were fully covered and understood. Their ethnicity bears no relevance in such a situation to their ability reflect the issues of relevance to their community group.

The community groups, including www.blackfriars-settlement.org.uk, www.bost.org.uk, <http://southwarklivingstreets.org.uk/>, www.christchurchsouthwark.org.uk represent a unique point of access into our local community. Playing to their strengths of experience BOST has lead the Open Spaces theme group of the NP and Blackfriars Settlement the Social Facilities theme group of the NP – both have long term invaluable

experience in this area and access to large sections of the local community through their work (see attached example from Blackfriars Settlement). Tim Scott, the Pastor at Christ Church, has been in regular attendance at NP meetings and provides unique insights into the diversity of our local community (see attached statement).

In terms of local resident involvement in the forum it was made clear to all residents who offered their time to attend the forum that their attendance was never one of being an individual but rather as a conduit for raising issues of community interest. Each resident represents a unique viewpoint into our local community and has made an invaluable contribution to the NP. They live across the Bankside NP area and represent people young and old, those with children and those without and they have all volunteered extensively within their local community.

The legislation does not call for representation of BME or any other group but rather that the forum's "membership is drawn from different places in the neighbourhood area concerned and from different sections of the community in that area, and whose purpose reflects (in general terms) the character of that area".

On an individual basis there are BME individuals on the Forum, but we have never felt the need to focus on such aspects but rather on the individual's experience of and ability to raise important local community issues.

In short, the Forum took the view that representatives of grassroots community groups and local community resident volunteers that have been working in this ethnically diverse area for many years would offer a far better reflection of this diverse community than following a policy of requiring participation of individual BME residents or workers with narrow agendas. We are very conscious about getting this right.

It should also be remembered that prior to the referendum there will be an extensive community consultation that we hope will attract more and more active community volunteers to get involved with the Forum. As part of this process of community consultation, we have started to prepare a draft list of neighbourhood organisations and groups that will be consulted. If we have missed any please let us know.

Bankside Neighbourhood Plan – key business, community and voluntary groups active in the neighbourhood.

Bankside Open Spaces Trust
Blackfriars Settlement
Bankside Residents Forum
Better Bankside's Board and Theme Groups
Southwark Living Streets
Southwark Cyclists
Mini Mints

Borough Babies
Cathedral School
St Joseph School
Precious Blood Church
Southwark Cathedral
St George's Cathedral
Mint Street Adventure Playground
Welsh Church
Peabody Housing Association
London and Quadrant Housing Association
Octavia Hill Housing Association
Borough and Bankside Community Council
Borough and Bankside Safer Neighbourhood Team
Falcon Point Tenant Management Organization
Anchor Trust Hopton Gardens
Anchor Terrace Residents Group
Clink Street Residents Group
Montague Close Residents Group
Benbow House
Corporation of London – Sumner Buildings
New Globe Walk – Bear Pit
Neo Bankside
Bankside Lofts
Ability Media Centre Leonard Cheshire
Southwark and Lambeth Archaeology Society
Jerwood Space
Christ Church Blackfriars
Nelson Square Community Association
Applegarth Tenant Management Organization
Borough Market Trustees
Southwark Street Peabody Association
Rose Theatre
City of London Housing Services
Borough and Bankside Area Housing Office
Southwark Disability Association
Southwark Heritage Association
Southwark Conservation Areas Advisory Group
Maple Buildings
Bankside Lofts
Maidstone Mansions
Community Action Southwark
Queensborough Community Centre
Blackfriars Road Peabody Association
Kirkaldy Testing Museum
The Golden Hind Trust
Clink Prison Museum
Waterloo Community Development Group
South Bank Employers Group
Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum
Southbank Forum

John Harvard Library
Simon Hughes MP
Val Shawcross MLA
Corporation of London Planning Officers
Transport for London
English Heritage
GLA
River Thames Forum
London Wildlife Trust

BROAD (Bankside Residents for Appropriate Development is part of Bankside Lofts)

Blackfriars Action for Responsible Development
Blackfriars Preservation Society
Coin Street Community Builders
Charles Dickens School
Bankside STEWARDS
Redwood Cooperative
WaCoCo
Styles House TRA
Empire Square Residents Management Company
Friends of Crossbones
North Tabard Tenants & Residents Association
Southwark Planning Network
Swan Court Residents Group
Waterloo Business Quarter
SE1 United
Friars Primary School
Riverside Housing Association
Kings Reach Flats Management Limited
Bankside Gallery
Webber and Quintin Tenants and Residents Association
Colombo Street Sports Centre
Blackfriars Medical Centre
Union Street Theatre
St Mungo's
Winchester, Farnham, Waynflete, Tomline, Thorold House TRA
Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation
Southwark Chamber of Commerce
Southwark Race and Equalities Forum
Southwark LGBT Network
Southwark Pensioners Action Group
Victorian Society
Georgian Society
London Borough of Lambeth Planning Department
Southwark College
Diocese
Police
Black Business Initiative

Southwark Multi Faith Network
Southwark Equalities and Human Rights Group
St George the Martyr
Robes Project
Southwark College
St Saviours Trust
Charterhouse in Southwark Trust
Blackfriars Doctors Surgery
Bengali Womens Group

Additional consultees (not constituted, but active locally and have a known contactable person that information can be distributed to)

Save All Hallows
Park Street Residents
Sumner Building Residents
Rochester Estate Residents Association
Quadrant House Residents
Old Theatre Court Residents
Bankside Residents
Bankside Opens Spaces Trust – Community Garden Committees
Rushworth Street Residents
Great Suffolk Street Traders
Bear Lane Residents
Greenhouse Residents
18 Great Suffolk Street Residents
Lant Street Residents