

## APPENDIX C

### **BANKSIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM STATEMENT**

#### **Application to Southwark Council for designation of Bankside Neighbourhood Forum**

**a) Name of Forum**

Bankside Neighbourhood Forum

**b) Map of area**

The boundary of the neighbourhood forum area is defined in the attached map (see annex 1)

**c) Written constitution**

See annex 2

**d) Membership list**

Originally a resident-led neighbourhood forum, Bankside was awarded frontrunner status as a business-led plan in May 2011. To build on the strengths of the resident and business communities, as well as local organisations and interest groups, the neighbourhood forum encompasses representation from all of these groups, from all parts of the neighbourhood. The current membership of 21 individuals who live or work in the area is given in annex 3. New members are actively encouraged at all times.

**e) Contact details**

The following contact details will be made public:-

Named person: Tim Wood  
Email: [tim@forgearchitects.co.uk](mailto:tim@forgearchitects.co.uk)  
Tel number: 020 7378 7782

**f) A statement which explains how the neighbourhood forum meets the conditions contained in section 61F (5) of the 1990 Act**

Bankside Neighbourhood Forum was established in October 2011 (the date of our first Forum meeting) for the specific purpose of building collaborative planning in the neighbourhood, with the aim of developing a neighbourhood plan for Bankside.

Bankside Neighbourhood Forum welcomes the powers being passed to residents and businesses under the Localism Act 2011 and is capable of working with all relevant partners to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the neighbourhood.

Membership of the forum is open to individuals who live, work, or are elected to the area. This group of 21 local residents, businesses, organisations and local members is now applying for formal designation of the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum, which undertakes to produce a neighbourhood plan.

Investment and development in Bankside is having a significant impact on the residential and business communities and will continue to do so for many years. Local residents, businesses and organisations wish to be fully involved in such major change and welcome the opportunity for greater engagement in the planning process. This will require thorough research and consultation, ensuring a meaningful collaboration between local stakeholders, those who work and invest here, local members and the local authority.

The forum has attracted the commitment of a wide range of members, reflecting the strong mix of business and resident communities in the area. Forum members have met together in theme groups to discuss and establish a background understanding of the issues that face the neighbourhood. Workshops will be held, and an evidence base built up, so that principles and aspirations can be drawn out to underpin proposals for consultation with the wider communities.

The forum intends to produce the neighbourhood plan during the year 2012-13, with a target to have the plan ready for examination in March 2013. The exact timescale will depend upon the external assistance and support that is available and the feedback from the extensive consultation that will be undertaken. The forum expects the designation to be reviewed after 5 years to consider whether its aims have been achieved and the strength of support for a further designation.

Bankside Neighbourhood Forum asserts that it is a relevant body to apply for designation as the neighbourhood forum for the Bankside neighbourhood area.

#### 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](http://www.blackfriars-settlement.org.uk), [www.bost.org.uk](http://www.bost.org.uk), <http://southwarklivingstreets.org.uk/>, [www.christchurchsouthwark.org.uk](http://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 Women's 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