

Item No:	Classification: OPEN	Date: 20 October 2014	Meeting Name: Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Call-in: Neighbourhood Planning - Designation of a Neighbourhood Area in Bermondsey (Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning & Transport 28 August 2014)		
Ward(s) or Group affected:	Cathedrals, Chaucer, Riverside, Grange		
From:	Head of Overview & Scrutiny		

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. On 28 August 2014 the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning & Transport considered a report on the Designation of a Neighbourhood Area in Bermondsey (attached as an Appendix).
2. The Cabinet Member agreed:
 1. That the consultation responses received from the public, Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council, and the Planning Committee in respect of the application from the Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area and for the designation of its proposed area as a Neighbourhood Area (shown outlined in blue in Appendix B) be noted.
 2. That the consultation responses received from the public, Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council, and the Planning Committee in respect of the application from Bermondsey Village Action Group to be designated as a Neighbourhood Forum and for the designation of its proposed area as a Neighbourhood Area (shown outlined in purple in Appendix B) be noted.
 3. That the area shown edged blue on the map in Appendix B, proposed by the Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum as a Neighbourhood Area be NOT designated for the reasons set out in paragraphs 23 of the report.
 4. That the area shown edged purple on the map in Appendix B, proposed by Bermondsey Village Action Group as a Neighbourhood Area, be NOT designated for the reasons set out in paragraphs 24 of the report.
 5. That the area shown edged in blue on the map in Appendix C (referred to in this report as Area A) as the appropriate Neighbourhood Area, be designated for the reasons set out in paragraphs 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 of the report.
 6. That the Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum be NOT designated as a Neighbourhood Forum, for the reasons set out in paragraph 25 of the report.

7. That the Bermondsey Village Action Group be NOT designated as a Neighbourhood Forum, for the reasons set out in paragraph 25 of the report.
8. That applications for designation as the Neighbourhood Forum for Area A shown edged blue on the map in Appendix C be invited.

REASONS FOR CALL-IN

3. On 5 September 2014 three members of the committee (Councillor Rosie Shimell, the Vice-Chair, and Councillors Anood Al-Samerai and Adele Morris) requested a call-in of the decisions on the following grounds:
 - the decision is not proportionate as it decides boundaries which have not been suggested by the community in response to consultation
 - the policy framework is localism but this decision does not sit in line with that framework
 - it does not respect the human rights of either group as it suggests that the areas people believe are neighbourhoods are not coherent
 - paragraph 25 does not explain why neither plan can be implemented which breaks the link between strategy and implementation
 - the aim of localism is in conflict with the outcome of the decision
 - the council could have made one of the plans work but has chosen not to pursue openness
 - also there is insufficient justification for why neither Neighbourhood Forum has been designated. This is not explained in paragraph 25, contrary to the statements in paragraphs 6 and 7

CALL-IN MEETING

4. The committee will consider the call-in request and whether or not the decision might be contrary to the policy framework or not wholly in accordance with the budget.
5. If, having considered the decision and all relevant advice, the committee is still concerned about it then it may either:
 - a) refer it back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns, or
 - b) refer the matter to council assembly if the decision is deemed to be outside the policy and budget framework.
6. If the committee does not refer the matter back to the decision making person or body, the decision shall take effect on the date of the scrutiny meeting.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held at	Contact
Report to Cabinet Member 20 August 2014	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2TZ	Kenny Uzodike Constitutional Team 020 7525 7236

APPENDICES
Cabinet Member Report and Appendices

Audit Trail

Lead Officer	Shelley Burke, Head of Overview & Scrutiny	
Report Author	Peter Roberts, Scrutiny Project Manager	
Version	Final	
Dated	10 October 2014	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included