



Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

c/o Woodford Community Centre, Chester Road, Woodford, Stockport, Cheshire, SK7 1PS

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APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION EXTENSION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Application is hereby made to Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority for the continuation of the designation of the Woodford Neighbourhood Forum in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General Regulations) 2012 (as amended).

Name of the Neighbourhood Forum

The name of the neighbourhood forum is 'The Woodford Neighbourhood Forum' (WNF)

Neighbourhood Area

The name of neighbourhood area is 'Woodford Neighbourhood Area' (WNA) and a map identifying the area is shown in the constitution shown in Annex 1.

Constitution

A copy of the constitution is shown in Annex 2.

Contact Details

Honorary Secretary:

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Reasons for this renewal application

The Woodford Neighbourhood Forum was formally designated on 17th October 2013. It was subsequently renewed on 18 October 2018. The designation expired after 5 years and is due for renewal.

The Woodford Neighbourhood Plan was prepared by the Forum Management Committee and became part of the Stockport Development Plan following successful referendum on 12th September 2019.

Since then, the Forum Management Committee has been a consultee on planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area. It has monitored implementation of the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan and prepared an Annual Monitoring Report. We may need to revise the Neighbourhood Plan in the future. Therefore, we are applying for renewal of the designation for 5 years

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016

Under Regulation 9A of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016, SMBC is required to make a designation decision not later than 13 weeks after such Application is published.

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Statement that the applicant fulfils the conditions of being a ‘relevant body’ to meet the requirement of 61F(5) of the Localism Act

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum, fulfils the conditions of being a ‘relevant body’ for the following reasons:

a) Our constitution (Annex 2) clearly defines our overall objectives of improving the Woodford Neighbourhood Area for the benefit of its inhabitants, by promoting the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Neighbourhood Area, encouraging the goodwill and involvement of the wider community, and fostering community spirit.

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum has prepared the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan, which became part of the Stockport Development Plan following successful referendum on 12th September 2019. The neighbourhood plan is implemented by Stockport Council planning officers when determining planning applications in the Woodford Neighbourhood Area.

b) Membership Woodford Neighbourhood Forum is open. As can be seen from the Forum Constitution (Annex 2), in compliance with the Localism Act, we nominate as eligible members all local residents, individuals who work in the area and all persons elected to represent the area including our ward councillors and MP. We would also include any business man or woman or their representative who has a business in Woodford but who does not actually live in Woodford.

We have clearly stated in the Constitution that the Forum is to be non party political and that its business is constitutionally designed to sustain that statement in practice. There are also mechanisms to deal with vested interests.

c) Membership includes at least 21 individual members (membership currently stands at 66), each of whom lives in the proposed Woodford Neighbourhood Area, or works in the Woodford Neighbourhood Area. We have attached the names and addresses of more than twenty one qualifying persons (Annex 3). The addresses represent a spread over Woodford, as can be seen from the address list. The representation includes amongst others, residents, people who work in the area, businesses, and land owners.

d) The proposed Woodford Neighbourhood Forum has a written constitution (Annex 2).