Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum Neighbourhood Forum Requirements under the Localism Act 2011

Name of the Neighbourhood Forum

Kennington Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum

A copy of the written constitution of the Forum

Constitution attached below

A name of the neighbourhood area and a map which identifies the area

Kennington Oval and Vauxhall.

Map to identify the area sent previously.

The contact details of one member

Marilyn Evers: emmevers@live.co.uk

Terms of Reference and Constitution of Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum 1. Purpose and Objectives

- 1.1 The name of the Association shall be Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Forum. Its purpose is to foster public involvement in policy making and service provision at community level and promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area defined in Article 2 ("the defined area").
- 1.2 In particular, in the defined Area, the Forum shall:
- i. Involve local people in shaping and strongly influencing Council and other agencies' policies and programmes having particular regard for the wide diversity of the community in the area served, including the equality categories prioritised by the local authority as follows: race, gender, gender re-assignment, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion and belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, socio-economic factors, language and health.
- ii. Understand what local people want for their area;
- iii. Demand timely consultation with the Council to raise awareness of Council initiatives at local level;
- iv. Provide a platform for local people to voice their views;
- v. Monitor and comment on the impact on local communities of Council policies, programmes and performance;
- vi. Act as a proactive voice on behalf of the local communities in the area, proposing initiatives and identifying specific priorities and problems;
- vii. Identify, where possible, opportunities for regeneration and investment, while protecting and enhancing the historic and diverse character of the area;
- viii. Use influence to help promote and market the area;
- ix. Identify ways of improving the local environment and amenity;
- x. Strengthen the role of ward councillors as elected representatives.
- xi. Seek to promote a neighbourhood plan for all or part of the area

2. Area

Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Forum shall serve the area shown on the attached map (Appendix A), that is, that part of the London Borough of Lambeth south of Lambeth Road and north of the southern boundary of Oval Ward

3. Membership

Membership of the Forum shall be open to anyone with an interest in the area as defined. There shall be a list of registered voting members. Registered members only shall be entitled to vote at Forum Meetings. Registration is by filling in a form which will be available at meetings or on request from the Secretary.

- 3.1 There shall be five categories of membership:
- 1. Representatives of residents' and tenants' associations within the defined area;
- 2. Representatives of other membership-based societies and community groups in the defined area;
- 3. Representatives of local businesses;
- 4. Representatives of public bodies and other public service providers;
- 5. Individuals who live or work in, or who are elected members of the London Borough of Lambeth for wards any part of which falls within, the defined area.

4. Annual General Meeting/Extraordinary General Meetings

- 4.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Forum shall be held not more than 15 months after the date of the previous AGM.
- 4.2 There shall be a minimum of 28 days' notice of the meeting.
- 4.3 The business of the AGM shall be:
- To receive from the Executive Committee a report on the year's activities;
- To receive the annual accounts of the previous year, independently approved;
- To elect Executive Committee members:
- To receive reports as organised by the Executive Committee.

- 4.4 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be convened at any time by the Chair on behalf of the Executive Committee or on receipt of a written request for such a meeting signed by at least 10% of the membership and specifying the business to be transacted. The Committee must convene the EGM within 35 days of receipt of a valid written request. A minimum of 21 days' notice shall be given for an EGM.
- 4.5. Voting decisions at an AGM or EGM, other than on changes to the constitution, shall be made by simple majority, the Chair having the casting vote.

5. Executive Committee and Officers

- 5.1. At its annual meeting (AGM) the Forum shall elect from its membership an Executive Committee with a maximum of 20 members. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Chair (who shall also be Chair of the Forum), Secretary, Treasurer and other honorary officers at the first Executive Committee meeting.
- 5.2 Nomination for election to the committee, with proposer and seconder, both Forum members, must be in writing and received by the Chair or Secretary 10 days before the start of the annual meeting.
- 5.3 Members of the Executive Committee holding office shall retain the office for not more than three consecutive years.
- 5.4 The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt to full any casual vacancy on the Committee.

6. Meetings

- 6.1 Forum meetings are public meetings and there shall be a minimum of 4 meetings a year. The public are welcome to attend. Non-members may speak at these meetings but only members may vote.
- 6.2 The quorum for Forum meetings shall be a minimum of 20 members.

7 Finance

- 7.1 The financial year of the Forum shall be 1 April to 31 March.
- 7.2 The Honorary Treasurer shall, on behalf of the Forum, maintain a bank account in the name of The Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Forum.
- 7.3 There shall be 5 signatories of the bank account. All cheques must be signed by two of the designated signatories.
- 7.4 The Treasurer shall prepare a written report for the AGM and also report to each Executive Committee meeting.

8. Code of Conduct

9. Amendments to this Constitution

The Constitution may only be amended at an AGM or EGM, if two-thirds of members present and voting are in favour, provided 21 days' notice of the proposed amendment has been posted or delivered to all members at their last known address.

10. Winding up

The Forum may be dissolved by resolution at an AGM or EGM, if two-thirds of members present and voting are in favour, provided that 21 days' notice of the proposed resolution has been posted or delivered to all members at their last known address. In the event of dissolution, any surplus funds shall be transferred to one or more organisation having objects similar to the Association, chosen by the Executive Committee and approved at the meeting when the decision to dissolve the Forum is taken.

Statement to demonstrate the Forum meets the conditions of the 1990 Act as applied by Section 38A of the 2004 Act

The Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum was established many years ago to bring together local residents and local businesses to promote the interests of the area and was designated by the local authority, (the Council of the London Borough of Lambeth) in July 2015.

Membership is open to all who live or work in the area or are local elected officials.

In 2020, there are currently more than 750 members, all of whom live or work in the neighbourhood, plus a Ward Councillor. The clear commitment to diversity and inclusivity is reflected in the constitution of the Forum and in its practice. Members are drawn from across the area, the socio-economic spectrum, and the range of ethnicities, ages, faith groups etc, in this particularly diverse area of inner London.

The membership includes more than 21 individuals. The tests are met with members in all categories, including ward councillor and representatives of local businesses. A postcode analysis of members providing full postcodes shows a wide distribution of membership across the KOV Forum, designated area.

Representativeness and inclusiveness can be demonstrated in outreach activities and the range of meetings, consultations and engagement events held and the publicity material distributed across the area, ensuring a focus on the social housing within the Forum area.

Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum has a website. http://forumkov.wix.com/kov-forum. Meetings and other events are promoted widely. On several occasions stalls at the Oval Farmers' Market have been used to engage local residents in the work of the Forum, specifically in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. Meetings have been held every 6 to 8 weeks on thematic and pertinent issues of the day for the local area

including planning issues with presentations from developers on forthcoming proposals. To ensure that the Forum is representative of the demographic mix of the area and inclusive of all there has been a Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum presence at Pride Picnic, Vauxhall Trust Festival, St George's Festival, Vauxhall Park Summer Fair, events at Pedlar's Acre, Wyvil Estate and Vauxhall Gardens Estate, plus presentations and consultations at local churches, for example, St Marks' and St Anne's as listed in the Consultation Statement. Meetings have been held in the Carmelita Centre, the Wheatsheaf Hall, the Foundry and Kennington Park Estate Community Centre. Some meetings have had in excess of 100 people present to discuss local issues.

Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum, as described above, reflects in its practice and constitution, its commitment to diversity and inclusion, Membership from across the socio economic spectrum is encouraged and the list of some 750 members demonstrates the diversity with individuals drawn from the full range of residential types represented in the KOV area. As described above, information and consultation leaflets were delivered to individual households in the social housing estates in the area, as well as street properties including the many multi-occupied dwellings which are a feature of this densely populated, inner city area.

The KOV Forum Planning Group, which worked on the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, featured members with relevant professional experience, and was guided by opinions gathered from surveys of local people and businesses and discussions at public meetings.

KOV was established as a forum primarily to encourage local participation in consultation and engagement with issues affecting the area. As part of this work, KOV is involved in commenting on local development in an area subject to heavy development pressures, ever increasing population density and increasing demands on local infrastructure. Invitations to join and a welcome to new members are discussed and publicised in public meetings, and at consultation events across the KOV area to maintain the openness, accountability, objectivity and inclusiveness of the Forum, promoting social cohesion and offering encouragement to everyone with an interest in the KOV area and a welcome for all in this dynamic and diverse area of a typically culturally diverse metropolitan city.

The Forum wishes to play its part in making and keeping the Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall area a good place to live, work and visit, and has developed a Neighbourhood Plan to this end

Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum: 21 Members



Appendix 1: Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum Members' Postcodes

The postcodes below are in a random order.

Member Postcode
SE11 5AD
SE11 4AQ
SE11 5RP
SE11 5AX
SE11 4LD
SW8 1NZ
SE11 4NL
SW8 1TB
SW8 1AX
SE11 4LD
SE11 1AU
SE11 5EZ
SW9 ONA
SE11 6HU
SE11 5DA
SE11 4AA
SW8 1TJ
SE11 5TW
SE11 5JA
SE11 5AX

Appendix 2: Map of Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Area

