

Appendix C

Summary of responses to consultation – proposed St John’s Wood Neighbourhood Forum

The City Council undertook the formal period for representations between the 17th February and 1st April 2016. As required by the legislation, the proposed neighbourhood forum application for St John’s Wood was formally published on the City Council’s website.

The City Council’s internal consultation database for planning policy was used to identify a total of 259 consultees comprising:

- contacts located within, or in close proximity, to the St John’s Wood Neighbourhood Area;
- contacts who have expressed an interest in neighbourhood planning;
- members of the proposed St John’s Wood Neighbourhood Forum; and
- adjacent London boroughs.

Consultees and councillors were formally notified of the consultation on the 17th February 2016. Officers arranged for a poster promoting the consultation to be published in the local press and to be on display in St John’s Wood Library. In addition, the City Council’s social media notifications encouraged the public to respond to the consultation.

A total of 19 representations were received (see Table 1). Of these, 14 representations of support were received from residents and the following organisations: Marylebone Cricket Club, St John’s Hospice and the developers of the St John’s Wood Square development. These supportive responses recognised the opportunity to undertake neighbourhood planning in St John’s Wood. It should be noted however that some comments suggest all respondents may not fully understand the role and scope of the proposed neighbourhood forum, which will not provide the same generic platform as the City Council’s ‘Open Forum’.

No objections were received during the period for representations. There were five ‘neutral’ representations, of which two relate to the boundary of the St John’s Wood Neighbourhood Area, designated in April 2013.

Table 1 – A summary of the consultation response to the proposal to designate the St John’s Wood neighbourhood Forum.

Respondent number	Respondent name	Date (2016)	Support/Object	Response (extracts)	WCC comment and proposed action
1	Clive Beecham	9 February	Support	<i>Something that is welcome for St John's Wood.</i>	Noted
2	Robert Ebdon, Marylebone Cricket Club	9 February	Support	<i>... delighted to support the Neighbourhood Forum application for St John's Wood. ... stands ready to play an active role in the Neighbourhood Forum in helping to shape the future of St John's Wood for residents, businesses, schools, institutions and the local economy.</i>	Noted
3	Patrick Matthiesen	10 February	Support	<i>The proposal to create a local Forum which might repatriate some powers to the local community is admirable and has my full support in the hope that it will prove effective in promoting the concept of the Conservation Area.</i>	Noted.
4	Rose Yip	10 February	Support	<i>Very important to keep people who reside and work in St Johns wood of any changes and events that are happening like the proposed franchising of St John's Wood post office. It is a platform where we can voice our concern.</i>	Noted.
5	Paul Strong	11 February	Support	<i>St John's Wood is a discrete area in planning terms, with its two important and large conservation areas and number of listed houses and other buildings. The forum would have an important role not only in expressing the feel of the local residents but contributing constructively to the the planning policies and future for the area.</i>	Noted.
6	Louise Brodie	12 February	Support	<i>Excellent idea to involve the community at every stage with matters which concern us.</i>	Noted.
7	Sir Hugh Cortazzi	14 February	Support	<i>St John's Wood has suffered from a plague of basement excavations and inadequate supervision of builders.</i>	Noted.
8	Mark Thomas, Fundraising Director of St John's Hospice	17 February	Support	<i>... I write to support the formation of the SJW forum which we will be an active part of.</i>	Noted
9	Colin Buttery, Director of Parks and Deputy Chief Executive, The Royal Parks	18 February	Neither support nor object to designation of forum	<i>... no Royal Parks land should be included within the boundary of any of the Forum boundaries. I would therefore suggest that the southern boundary of the proposed St John's Wood Neighbourhood Forum should not follow the Regent's Canal as this would then technically place part of Regent's Park within the Forum boundary. Please could you write to confirm that the southern boundary of the proposed Forum will be updated to reflect this (the use of Prince Albert Road as the southern boundary of the Forum would be more appropriate).</i>	Noted. This is not a matter for consideration in the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum as the representative body for the Neighbourhood Area that was already designated in 2013. The City Council will prepare a formal response to this matter, which has also been raised in relation to the Knightsbridge Neighbourhood Area.
10	Bronya Hallett, Craigewan Consulting Limited (on behalf of the developers of the St John's Wood Square development)	18 February	Support	<i>The proposed forum is well considered and we feel encapsulates the needs of the area and encourages wide ranging involvement from all aspects of the community, from those who live and work in the area. We believe that the proposed plan highlights steps needed for promoting and improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of St John's Wood, whilst encouraging developments which respect the historical and architectural character of the area, through demanding high standards of architecture and sustainability. We welcome the conservation and enhancement of the outdoor areas and public realm for the enjoyment of the public, and encourage improvements to the street environment and community facilities.</i>	Noted.
11	Judith Harwood	20 February	Support	<i>I would like to add my support for the application. The Forum is a really good idea involving local residents and I certainly hope it receives approval.</i>	Noted.
12	Jane Cooper	24 February	Support	<i>Excellent. This is the best way to engage the local neighbourhood to work together to influence and build a better environment for all.</i>	Noted.
13	Bhavna Kerai, Planner, Transport for London	10 March	See response	<i>TfL has no objection to the designation of this forum which is being promoted by the St John's Wood Society. ... TfL therefore encourages the organisation to contact TfL and the Council through the development of their plan should their proposals affect transport operations in the area. This will assist in the development of policies. Information on TfL's assets operations and proposals can be shared through this process.</i>	Noted. The City Council intends to publish all internal datasets to facilitate the production of neighbourhood plans.
14	Abi England, Abi England Reflexology	15 March	Neither support nor object	<i>I am interested in Neighbourhood Planning.</i>	Noted. The respondent will be added to the internal consultation database.
15	Michael Neeb	17 March	Support	<i>... the future success of the area is very important to me. That success, be it social; building on strong community ties; economic, in boosting thriving businesses in the area or environmental or ensuring that development works for the area, can be driven through neighbourhood forum and the establishment of a neighbourhood plan. Giving local people and businesses a genuine say in the decisions that will impact has enormous</i>	Noted

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				<i>value, after all these are the true experts of the area. People who have lived and worked in the area, those who have set up business all have a genuine stake in seeing St John's Wood prosper. A neighbourhood forum with input from local businesses will help to ensure that development and changes in the area also promote a thriving local economy, with the creation of jobs and further positive impacts on local business. The establishment of a neighbourhood forum in St John's would be an exciting and important step change in the local community having a say in making St John's wood an even better place to live, work, visit and set up a business.</i>	
16	Patricia Hawkes	28 March	Support	<i>As a long term resident of St John's Wood with an interest in community matters I think this is an excellent proposal as we have many community minded residents and business owners who would work well together for the benefit of the area.</i>	Noted
17	Giulia Filippelli Loewy	30 March	Support	<i>I am fully supportive and in favour of a Forum for St John's Wood. There are many aspects of the life in our neighbourhood that could be improved if we had a forum, especially after our Police Station has been closed and Westminster City Hall on Marylebone is under refurbishment.</i>	Noted.
18	Claire McLean, Area Planner, Canal & River Trust	1 April	Neither support nor object to designation of forum	<i>The south-eastern boundary line for the Neighbourhood Forum area appears to be the Regent's Canal. It is not clear from the plan exactly where this boundary falls, and whether it includes the towpath or waterspace. We would like to understand what impact this may have on the canal and its towpath, and whether it would be better to amend the plan area, so that the canal can be properly incorporated in an area, or be outside of it, and not just form its boundary.</i>	Noted. This issue has also been raised by The Royal Parks (response no. 9). This is not a matter for consideration in the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum as the representative body for the Neighbourhood Area that was already designated in 2013. The City Council will prepare a formal response to this matter.