

## **Chelsea Barracks Neighbourhood Forum Application Statement**

We are submitting this statement to confirm that we are capable of becoming a neighbourhood forum in the Chelsea barracks triangle, formerly the South Belgrave Ward.

Having consulted locally, across the proposed neighbourhood area and the different sections of the community therein, we have established the required minimum of 21 representatives from a broad mix of residents and local businesses and other key stakeholders.

We have met with the largest local land owner Qatari Diar and they are happy to get involved if we are successful. We have invited our Churchill Ward councillors to join us - as they are an important part of our relationship with Westminster City Council. We have also extended an invitation to Grosvenor Estate, St James Homes and Peabody as land owners should they feel inclined to participate.

### **Why this area is appropriate for designation?**

#### **Mentally**

Those who live around the borders of the former Chelsea Barracks found themselves exposed to a controversial development on the old barracks site. As a result the residents united to object and this has formed a very strong sense of community locally. It has also made us very sensitive to being overruled by adjacent resident associations who contrary to local opinion took an opposing stance at that time.

Subsequently we heartily welcomed the Localism Bill 2011 to be able to translate local concerns on local issues to shape our own forum, involving all participants in our unique neighbourhood and actively work to the “protection and improvement of the people living, working in or visiting (our) area of Greater London”

We have the full support of all those within the designated neighbourhood area and of the majority of the landowners

#### **Physically**

Our neighbourhood is clearly definable being encircled by Pimlico Road, Chelsea Bridge Road and the Victoria Railway line. We have all the makings of a “village”– a church, pubs, hospital, canal, shops and restaurants; there is a diverse mix of housing and demographics and with one of the most significant developments in Greater London the Chelsea Barracks construction, as well as the proposed redevelopment of the Ebury Bridge Estate and the recently demolished building and the Travis Perkins Woodyard development on the horizon, this will be a very important time for our Chelsea Barracks area as marked on the map. It is important that we embrace the ethos of the Localism Bill to ensure that locals will have a local say to ensure “civic pride and community involvement”

## **Our Pimlico Road Border**

Our area has also been submitted for inclusion into the Belgravia Forum application map - which was historically orchestrated by the Belgravia Residents Association (BRA) and Grosvenor Estates without inclusive consultation. At the time we spoke directly to the chairman of the BRA who told us that if we want to have our own forum “he has no problem with it” and that as far as he is aware none of the estates and residences around Ebury Bridge Road are Belgravia anyway. We have suggested that their jurisdiction map will end at the Pimlico Road - which as outlined in Wikipedia is technically the end of Belgravia.

The Pimlico Road Traders Association are logically forging a link with the Belgravia Traders Association of Elizabeth Street as they have goods and services of a similar ilk and similar issues. They will be joining the Belgravia Forum. This means that the shops and businesses in the Chelsea Barracks Forum are predominantly in and around Ebury Bridge Road and any new shops coming through future developments.

## **Segregated from Pimlico and not really Belgravia**

We would like to state that historically our area was called Pimlico the line being south of Pimlico Road, hence St Barnabas of Pimlico. In recent memory we were called the South Belgrave Ward but now we are part of the Churchill Ward which stretches to Churchill Gardens in the furthest part of Pimlico. However, we are cut off from the rest of Pimlico by the railway line and we are evolving at a much more rapid rate. We appear to have fallen between two stools and yet have forged our own identity with our Chelsea Barracks campaign. We are amenable to discuss the detailed division of Pimlico Road with the Belgravia Forum if necessary ie divided down the middle or we can leave it up to the residents which forum they would rather join.

Unlike the adjoining Belgravia Forum area, (north of Pimlico Road), the Chelsea Barracks neighbourhood has a large social potpourri of residents, housing mix and businesses and subsequently it has own unique issues. The local building and future development issues of the are even more pertinent as the current residents absorb a new demographic. It's important to local residents and businesses that we are able under the Localism Bill to represent ourselves and our interests.

At 13.5 acres the Chelsea Barracks development both by itself, and in addition to the surrounding streets, shops and flats church pub and medical centres is a wholly contained neighbourhood as shown in the map with the proposed boundary. As an estimated 26 acres in total, this is a reasonably large area and will ensure that “power (should) be exercised at the lowest practical level close to people who are affected by decisions” Localism Act 2011

On page two of this statement you will see a map highlighting the proposed boundaries of the Chelsea Barracks Neighbourhood Forum. It is felt very strongly that this area has very specific issues in relation to its development and present and future demographic that warrants the creation of a neighbourhood forum independent from the Belgravia Forum and the Pimlico Forum.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

**Map of Boundaries for Chelsea Barracks Ward (proposed)**



**Belgravia** is a district of [central London](#) in the [City of Westminster](#) and the [Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea](#). Noted for its immensely expensive residential properties, it is one of the wealthiest districts in the world.<sup>[1]</sup> Much of it, known as the [Grosvenor Estate](#), is still owned by a family property company, the [Grosvenor Group](#), owned by the [Duke of Westminster](#), although the estate has recently been forced to sell many of its freeholds to their tenants at much below market value due to the [Leasehold Reform Act 1967](#). The district lies mostly to the south-west of [Buckingham Palace](#), and is approximately bounded by [Knightsbridge](#) to the north (the street of that name, not the district), [Grosvenor Place](#) and Buckingham Palace Road to the east, [Pimlico](#) Road to the south,<sup>[2]</sup> and [Sloane Street](#) to the west.

**Pimlico** is a small area of [central London](#) in the [City of Westminster](#). Like [Belgravia](#), to which it was built as a southern extension, Pimlico is known for its grand garden squares and impressive [Regency architecture](#).

The area is separated from Belgravia to the north by [Victoria Railway Station](#), and bounded by the [River Thames](#) to the south, [Vauxhall Bridge Road](#) to the east and the former [Grosvenor Canal](#) to the west.