

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Neighbourhood Planning (General)
Regulations 2012

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

Application for Designation
of a Neighbourhood Area

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| LETTER of APPLICATION | 3 |
| ANNEX 1 – PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA..... | 5 |
| ANNEX 2 – SUPPORTING STATMENTS FOR PROPOSED AREA | 7 |

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

LETTER of APPLICATION

City Planning, Westminster City Council

11th Floor East, Westminster City Hall,

64 Victoria Street,

London SW1E 6QP

3rd July 2014

For the Attention of: Stuart Reilly, Head of Commissioning (Development and City Planning)

Dear Mr Reilly

Application for Designation of Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

I am writing to apply for the designation of a Neighbourhood Forum under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and in accordance with Part 2(5) of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The name of the proposed Neighbourhood is **Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area**.

The following are included in support of the Designating Vincent Square Neighbourhood area:

- A map which identifies the area to which the area application relates (annex 1)
- A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area (Annex 2)
- A statement that the body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (Annex 2)

This application is being submitted in parallel with a separate application seeking the designation of the Vincent Square Neighbourhood forum. Together, these designations will empower the local community to plan positively and creatively for the future development of Vincent Square through the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

On behalf of the Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum, I look forward to the Council's designation of the Neighbourhood Forum once statutory consultation procedures have been met.

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

Yours Sincerely,

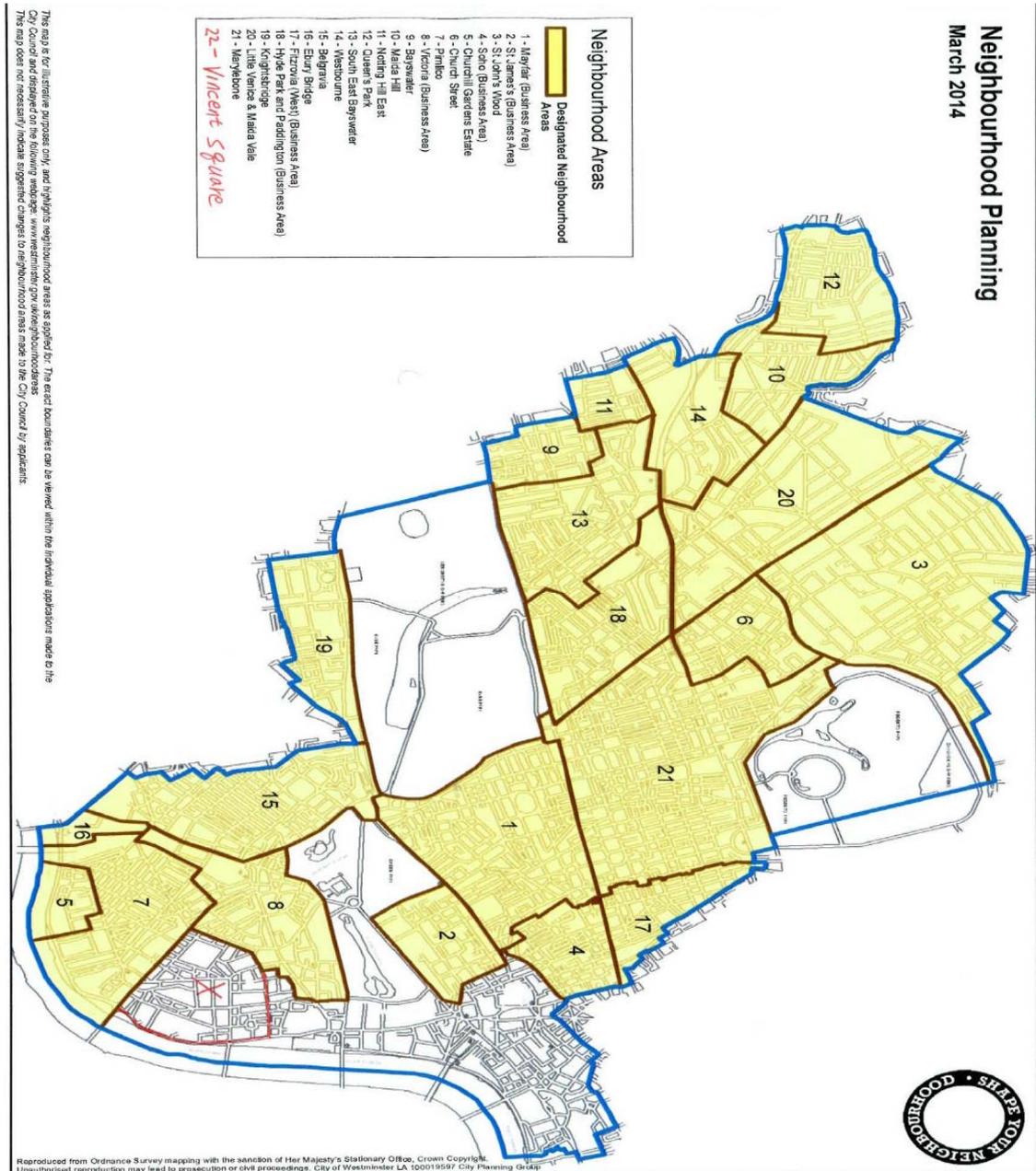
Ayida Ali

Chair, Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

ANNEX 1 – PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

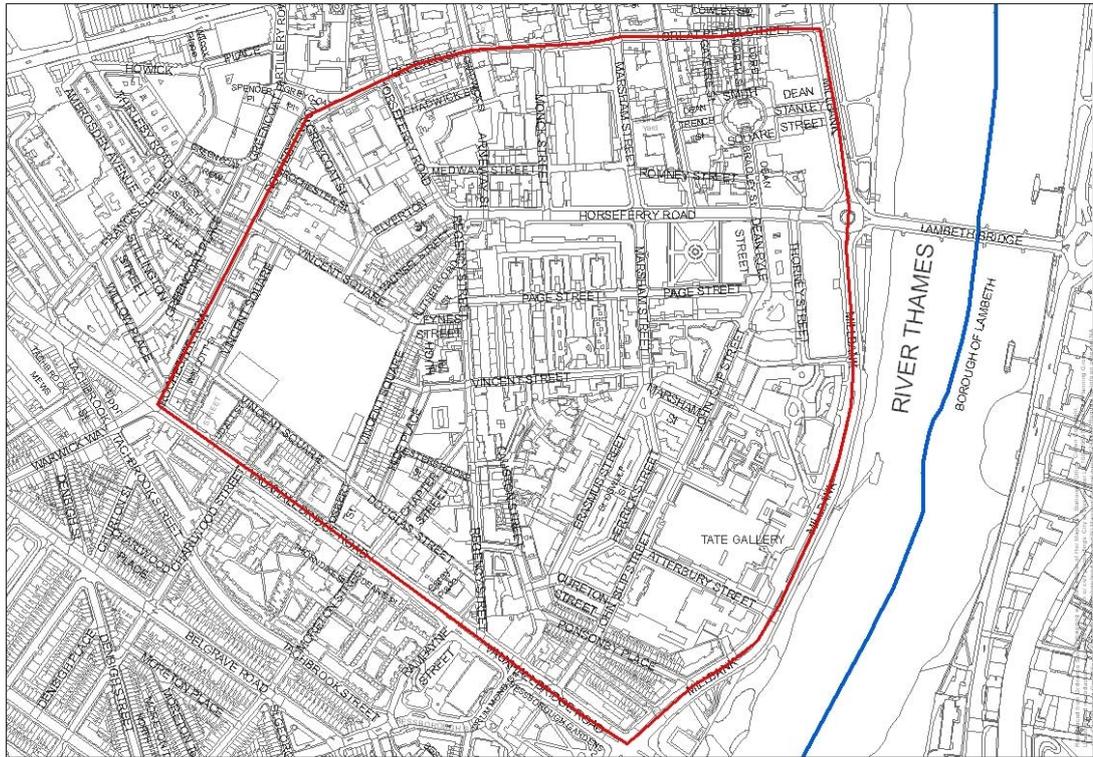
The proposed Vincent Square neighbourhood area is located within Westminster City Council of St James's ward and Vincent Square Ward as shown in map 1 below marked X.



As can be seen from the above map, the proposed area does not overlap with the already designated neighbouring area of Victoria & Pimlico.

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

The map below shows an exploded view of the proposed Vincent Square Neighbourhood area.



ANNEX 2 – SUPPORTING STATEMENTS FOR PROPOSED AREA

Background

At a meeting organised by Kazuri for Westminster City Council residences & businesses in January 2014, a decision was made to set up neighbourhood forum that focuses on promoting and improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area. Since then, representatives from the forum have:

- 1) Sought support from Locality Consultants to ensure both the forum & proposed area are acceptable in anticipation of making simultaneous applications for their designations
- 2) Decided by majority vote to name the name of the proposed forum as “Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum”.
- 3) Wrote the constitution

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

- 4) Widened membership. The membership consists of people that are able, willing and representative of Vincent Square Neighbourhood area
- 5) Reviewed the designated neighbourhood areas of Westminster City Council and established the proposed Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area is not designated & has no Parish council.

The extent of the Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area is shown on the Map in Annex 1.

Membership

Membership is open to:

- individuals who live in area
- individuals who work in area (whether for businesses carried out there or otherwise);
- Local Ward Councillors or MPS.

The total membership of the proposed Forum currently stands at thirty members, as listed in Annex 4.

Why the Proposed Area is Considered Appropriate for Designation

It is considered that the area combining that of south St James' ward and Vincent Square ward is an appropriate area to be designated as a neighbourhood area for planning purposes. It is already a clearly defined administrative area and established as two community areas for electoral purposes. The area has a distinct identity within the context of the City and has a strong sense of local community. Whilst predominately residential, the area is varied and contains local businesses, retail, educational and recreational facilities and open spaces.

The proposed area is consistent with the concept of a neighbourhood area as intended by the Act and is considered to be an appropriate area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

The area does not have a designated neighbourhood area plan and the local residents and business community want to get the right type of development for their community that reflects their values in accordance with creating a happy place to live work and play.

Further the proposed neighbourhood area does not have a parish and it is the wish of the local people and business to take this responsibility and develop a neighbourhood plan.

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

In summary the Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area for the following reasons:

- The Vincent Square Neighbourhood area Neighbourhood Plan is being developed to help deliver the local community's ambitions and needs for the plan period.
- The Plan will provide a vehicle to guide, promote and enable balanced and sustainable change and growth within the designated area.
- The chosen boundaries encompass a strong and coherent spatial entity, within which there are opportunities, aims and objectives which a Neighbourhood Plan can help tackle.

Statements in fulfilment of Section 61G of the Act

No part of the proposed Neighbourhood Area overlaps any part of any other Neighbourhood Area (in fulfilment of Section 61G(7) of the Act).

No part of the proposed Neighbourhood Area consists of or includes the whole or any part of the area of a parish (in fulfilment of Section 61G(3)(b) of the Act).

Supporting Statement for Relevant Body (Regulation 5[1c] of Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning [General] Regulations 2012)

The application is made by the prospective Vincent Square Neighbourhood forum, which is capable of being a qualifying body within the terms of Section 61. The prospective Vincent Square Neighbourhood forum comprises 21 or more people (actual 30) living or working in the area. Membership is open to people living, working or acting as elected members in the area. The membership is drawn from different places in the area and different sections of the community.

There is a written constitution which includes the express purpose of promoting or improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of an area that consists of or includes the Neighbourhood Area concerned.

The members of the prospective Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum are committed to formulating and producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the proposed Vincent Square Neighbourhood area that will reflect as far as is practicable the aspirations of the wider neighbourhood community, whilst also conforming with national and local planning policy frameworks.

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Area

By establishing constructive working relationships with officers of Westminster City Council, the proposed forum will have a strong foundation to taking forward the neighbourhood planning in the proposed Vincent Square Neighbourhood area. The designation of the Neighbourhood Forum (and corresponding designation of the Neighbourhood Area) will also provide the formal platform for the community to work together, in partnership with the Council, to plan positively and creatively for the future development of proposed Vincent Square Neighbourhood area through preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The prospective Vincent Square Neighbourhood forum is committed to ensuring that future planning within this area reflects the community's wishes and wishes to work co-operatively with Westminster City Council and other statutory bodies and to fully engage with other organisations and interests. Forum members have met together in theme groups to discuss and establish a background understanding of the issues that face the neighbourhood. Workshops will be held, and an evidence base built up, so that principles and aspirations can be drawn out to underpin proposals for consultation with the wider communities.

Vincent Square Neighbourhood Forum welcomes the powers being passed to residents and businesses under the Localism Act 2011 and is capable of working with all relevant partners to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the neighbourhood and asserts that it is a relevant body to apply for designation as the neighbourhood forum for the Vincent Square neighbourhood area.