

Mr. E. Thwaite, Chairman  
Lowton East Neighbourhood Dev Forum  
15 Springmount  
Lowton  
Warrington  
WA3 2QH

**Our reference:** MW/NS/  
**Your reference:**  
**Please ask for:** Mike Worden  
**Extension:** 89104  
**Direct line:** 01942 489104  
**Date:** 15 May 2013

Dear Ed

### Neighbourhood Planning

Thank you for your letter of 23 April 2013 concerning the Forum's decision to examine the feasibility of preparing a neighbourhood plan for your local area. I am aware that in other areas, groups similar to your group, are starting to prepare neighbourhood plans and their local authorities have a responsibility to assist and support wherever necessary and appropriate. The level of interest in this borough to date though has generally been fairly low.

I think that it would be useful to have a meeting to establish where you are in the process, how you see it going forward and what you would expect from us in support. It would be helpful to understand your thoughts on the type of plan you envisage; how you have or intended to gain support from the local community and the level of resources you have or could potentially draw on. Some neighbourhoods have been successful in securing funding resources to help and as you highlight, recent announcements have been made in respect of new funding opportunities. The lessons learnt by some of the pathfinder neighbourhood plans are also worth looking at.

I will ask Norah Sprung, Executive Support Officer, to make contact with you to find a mutually convenient time for an initial meeting.

Yours sincerely



**Mike Worden**  
Head of Planning and Transport

*Meeting Arranged  
June 5th 3 PM  
Gidi*

Please reply to Mike Worden

Wigan Council, Places Directorate: Economy, Waste and Infrastructure, PO Box 100 WN1 3DS.  
Phone: 01942 489104  
E-mail: [m.worden@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:m.worden@wigan.gov.uk)  
[www.wigan.gov.uk](http://www.wigan.gov.uk)