

**Press release**

**Date: 14 November 2012**

**Title: New Chair for Tower Hamlets Homes**

Barry Simons has been appointed the new Chair of the Tower Hamlets Homes Board, replacing Cllr Kabir Ahmed who has acted as Chair since February 2012.

Barry has extensive experience working in public housing, having worked as Director of Housing at three London boroughs; Brent, Newham and Hammersmith & Fulham; and more recently as Interim Chief Executive at Redbridge Homes.

Barry Simons said: “This role feels like coming home. My mother was born and brought up in Stepney and my father worked on the London docks so I am delighted to be able to make a difference to people in the East End. I am looking forward to working with the Mayor, THH staff and – of course – residents to help Tower Hamlets Homes deliver the best possible housing services in the borough.”

Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, said “I am delighted we have got someone of Barry’s calibre to lead the THH Board. This is an exciting time for housing in Tower Hamlets, with £165m being invested in improving tenants’ homes, Tower Hamlets Homes delivering an improving service, as well as long-awaited improvements on Ocean and Blackwall Reach.”

In addition, Ann Lucas has been appointed as an Independent Board Member, and Margaret Cox and Shamsul Hoque appointed as Resident Board Members.

ENDS

**Notes to editor:**

1. Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) is an arm’s-length management organisation (ALMO) managing approximately 22,000 tenants and leasehold properties on behalf of Tower Hamlets council. [www.towerhamletshomes.org.uk](http://www.towerhamletshomes.org.uk/)

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