



For immediate release

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Malmesbury residents dare to dream with £150,000 to improve public spaces

Residents on the Malmesbury Estate, Bow, will be the "architects" of a second round of improvement work to their estate.

Tower Hamlets Homes will be landscaping and building play areas on neglected public spaces around the Creswick Walk, Sheffield Square and Ambrose Walk areas - with £150,000 provided by Tower Hamlets Council.

The overall design will not be determined by officials, however, but by residents who will be telling us what they want to see when they look out into their yards.

Tower Hamlets Homes contracted company Green Dreams to do the design work for the residents. They will be talking to them over three sessions on Thursday 23 April 2009 in Sheffield and Creswick Squares - and will be looking for their ideas to feed into the final design, which is to be completed by mid-May. Work should then start in August and be completed by the end of October 2009.

Tower hamlets Homes Chief Executive Gavin Cansfield said: "Malmesbury's public spaces were in dire need of attention. This is about really putting residents at the heart of everything we do. I want to see us build on this elsewhere in Tower Hamlets."

Tower Hamlets Council's Cabinet Member for Housing and Development, Cllr Marc Francis, commented: "This work will transform these under-used areas of open space - reclaiming them for the whole community. Malmesbury residents' will be totally involved in designing the new facilities and I know they have got some great ideas. This is an excellent use of the £150,000 the council is contributing to this worthwhile project."

The first stage of the makeover finished in February, involved improving pavements, lighting and waste storage, as well as sprucing up areas around the estate with a lick of paint.

Residents will be receiving a leaflet with more details about the sessions in early April.

ENDS

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Notes to editor:

1. Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) is an arm's-length management organisation (ALMO) managing approx. 22,000 tenants and leasehold properties on behalf of the Tower Hamlets council. Tower Hamlets Homes, which went live on 7 July 2008, is a not-for-profit and 100% owned by the TH Council. www.towerhamletshomes.org.uk

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