



LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

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Cllr Roger Ramsey
London Borough of Havering
Town Hall
Main Rd
Romford
RM1 3BD

17 April 2015

Dear Cllr Ramsey,

Formal establishment of NELSA

Following a number of informal meetings of the Leaders and Mayors of the North East London Strategic Alliance (NELSA) over the past ten months, including the great success of the joint conference with the Growth Boroughs on 13 February, I am now writing to you and the other boroughs to formally invite you to join NELSA.

It is clear to me that we need to continue to work together across council boundaries. Like all boroughs we have similar challenges in providing new homes, creating the right conditions for employment growth and supporting our residents into work. While these are clear London-wide agendas, the Mayor of London has agreed with London Councils to work more closely together with 'groupings of boroughs' as part of any future devolution deal for the capital.

The north east London boroughs in this grouping all contain significant areas of opportunity for housing and economic growth and are all in a position to benefit from the growth of London's economy and the legacy of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. But I believe that we need to work together to ensure we get the investment in infrastructure and other support needed to deliver on these opportunities.

The attached Partnership Protocol and Inter Authority Agreement were agreed at the Leaders and Mayors meeting on 9 April 2015. It was agreed at this meeting that the work of NELSA would begin on 30 April 2015. While I recognise that authorities may have internal processes to complete before signing the formal documents, I would like to move forward with the work of NELSA from 30 April onwards to enable us to ensure an effective launch in early summer and to commence discussions with the Growth Boroughs around future partnership working.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Robbins'.

Chris Robbins
Leader of Waltham Forest Council