



**Gemeente Rotterdam**

**Burgemeester**

Ing. A. Aboutaleb

*Burgemeester*

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**To the students of the Tarwewijk Atelier**

Dear students,

The Tarwewijk is a neighbourhood in Rotterdam, that has come a long way. Ten years ago it was one of the worst neighbourhoods in the city having a high rate of criminality. Today the neighbourhood has improved significantly but it remains one of the five low scoring neighbourhoods in Rotterdam due to criminality, the deteriorated physical state of housing and the poor social cohesion.

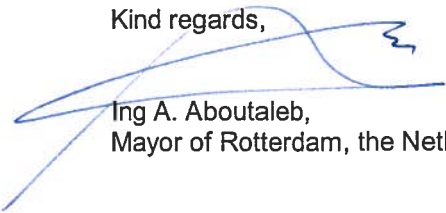
For that reason I am glad the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) chose the Tarwewijk as a neighbourhood to work in for the Atelier Rotterdam project and with the Atelier wanted to contribute to the enhancement of the Tarwewijk as I am deeply committed to Tarwewijk and its inhabitants.

As a student of the IHS you have participated in the Tarwewijk Atelier organised by IHS. I understand that the Atelier Tarwewijk has been a success. Not only have you participated in the study of the neighbourhood to understand the problems from different stakeholders, you have also come up with good strategies that are aimed at improving Tarwewijk in the short and long term.

You have also been able to engage and commit the inhabitants and professionals working in the Tarwewijk to the strategies and ideas developed and in addition achieving the first steps to the realisation of these ideas. This could not have happened without deep perseverance and passion for the neighbourhood.

Also on behalf of the inhabitants of the Tarwewijk I would like to thank you for your contribution.

Kind regards,



Ing A. Aboutaleb,  
Mayor of Rotterdam, the Netherlands