



## **Gresham (City Side) Committee**

**Date:** FRIDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2015  
**Time:** 12.00 pm  
**Venue:** COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

**Members:** Simon Duckworth (Chairman)  
Tom Hoffman (Deputy Chairman)  
Deputy Ken Ayers  
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi  
George Gillon  
Brian Harris  
Alderman Ian Luder  
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli  
Wendy Mead  
Ian Seaton  
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson  
The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor, Alderman Alan Yarrow (Ex-Officio Member)

**Enquiries:** Philippa Sewell  
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[philippa.sewell@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:philippa.sewell@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**Lunch will be served in the Guildhall Club at 1pm**  
**NB: Part of this meeting could be the subject of audio or video recording**

**John Barradell**  
**Town Clerk and Chief Executive**

# **AGENDA**

## **Part 1 - Public Agenda**

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**  
To agree the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 10 October 2014.  
  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 1 - 4)
4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
Report of the Town Clerk.  
  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 5 - 8)
5. **CITY OF LONDON GRESHAM ALMSHOUSES UPDATE**  
Report of the Director of Community & Children's Services.  
  
**For Information**  
(Pages 9 - 16)
6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
7. **ANY BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**
8. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**  
MOTION - That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

## **Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda**

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**  
To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2014.  
  
**For Decision**  
(Pages 17 - 18)
10. **DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**  
Report of the Town Clerk.  
  
**For Information**  
(Pages 19 - 20)

11. **JOINT GRAND GRESHAM COMMITTEE MATTERS - CITY SIDE  
CONSIDERATION**
12. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE  
COMMITTEE**
13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND  
WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE  
PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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## **GRESHAM (CITY SIDE) COMMITTEE** **Friday, 10 October 2014**

Minutes of the meeting of the Gresham (City Side) Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 10 October 2014 at 12.00 pm

### **Present**

#### **Members:**

Simon Duckworth (Chairman)  
Tom Hoffman (Deputy Chairman)  
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi  
George Gillon  
Brian Harris  
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli  
Wendy Mead  
Ian Seaton

#### **In Attendance:**

Deputy John Bennett (Chief Commoner)

#### **Officers:**

Philippa Sewell	Town Clerk's Department
Alistair MacLellan	Town Clerk's Department
Steve Telling	Chamberlain's Department
Alan Bennetts	Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
Nicholas Gill	City Surveyor's Department
Elizabeth Donnelly	Community & Children's Services

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from the Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Deputy Ken Ayers, Alderman Ian Luder and Deputy Giles Shilson.

#### **2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 16 May 2014 be approved as a correct record.

#### **4. CITY OF LONDON GRESHAM ALMSHOUSES UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Community & Children's Services providing an update on the City of London Gresham Almshouses in Lambeth.

Officers reported that the completion date for the community hall and office had been delayed from the end of October to the second week in November. Members noted that the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee had resolved that Christmas Hampers would continue to be

purchased as in previous years, and it was noted that the annual visit to distribute them would take place on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

In response to Members' questions, officers advised that estimates regarding the road repairs and lighting had been requested but not yet received. Members noted that the Almshouses were in a conservation area but the buildings themselves weren't listed. Members requested a list of Livery Companies that ran sheltered housing or Almshouses schemes, and asked officers to liaise with the City Surveyor's Department about ensuring the Almshouses were kept to a good standard and were included in the capital projects scheme. Members also requested more detail on the chart summarising the Corporation's six sheltered housing schemes appended to the report.

**RESOLVED – That:**

- (a) A list of Livery Companies that ran sheltered housing or Almshouses schemes be circulated to Members;
- (b) Officers liaise with the City Surveyor's Department ensuring the Almshouses were kept to a good standard and were included in the capital projects scheme;
- (c) More detail on the chart summarising the Corporation's six sheltered housing schemes appended to the report be circulated to Members; and
- (d) The report be noted.

**5. REVENUE OUTTURN - 2013/14**

The Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Community and Children's Services presenting the Revenue Outturn for 2013/14, which detailed a 'better than budget' position of £34,000. Members were informed that this was because of a reduction in net expenditure on the Gresham Almshouses of £30,000, primarily due to a reduced requirement for repairs and maintenance and employee expenses.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

**6. REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15 AND 2015/16**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Community and Children's Services submitting the revenue budgets overseen by the Committee and seeking approval to the provisional revenue budget for 2015/16, for subsequent submission to the Finance Committee.

The Chamberlain reported that, overall, the 2015/16 provisional revenue budget totalled £109,000, an increase of £13,000 compared with the final budget for 2014/15. He reported that this was due to an increase of £16,000 in the City Grant to Gresham College in accordance with the agreed funding arrangements between the City of London Corporation, the Mercers' Company and Gresham College. This was partly offset by additional income of £4,000 from the City's 50% share of the Gresham Estate.

Members noted the Gresham Committee contingency budget of £3,000 and agreed that a request should be made to increase this to £10,000, to cover any

minor events or funding requirements in the future. Members discussed the Gresham Committee Service Overview appended to the report, and requested a change in the wording. Members noted that key financial details should not be included in this, a public document, but a non-public version could be included in the Gresham Committee handbook.

**RESOLVED – That:**

- (a) The provisional 2015/16 revenue be approved for submission to the Finance Committee, with an increase to the contingency budget;
- (b) That the wording in the Gresham Committee Service Overview be changed subject to discussion with the Deputy Chairman; and
- (c) That a more detailed Gresham Committee Service Overview be added to the Gresham Committee handbook.

**7. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

Members queried where the booklets listing Gresham lectures were stocked, and requested they be available at the Museum of London, in Corporation Libraries, and at the Guildhall reception, as well as being sent to all Members of the Court and to Livery Clerks. Alderman Mainelli advised Members that a Members' Briefing was also being arranged, and the 'App' had been very successful in publicising Gresham lectures.

**RESOLVED –** That the Gresham College booklets be circulated to all Members of the Court and to Livery Clerks, and that the booklets be made available, wherever possible, at the Museum of London, in Corporation Libraries, and at the Guildhall reception.

**8. ANY BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There was no other business.

**9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED –** That, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.	Exempt Paragraph(s)
10-13	3

**10. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –** That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2014 be approved as a correct record.

**11. JOINT GRAND GRESHAM COMMITTEE MATTERS - CITY SIDE CONSIDERATION**

The Committee considered the various items on the agenda for the meeting of the Joint Grand Gresham Committee that day.

**12. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was no other business.

**The meeting ended at 12.34 pm**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: Philippa Sewell**  
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<b>Committee:</b> Gresham (City Side) Committee	<b>Date:</b> 13 February 2015
<b>Subject:</b> Terms of Reference	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Decision</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Summary</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. As part of the post-implementation review of the changes made to the governance arrangements in 2011 it was agreed that all Committees should review their terms of reference annually. This will enable any proposed changes to be considered in time for the reappointment of Committees by the Court of Common Council.</li><li>2. The terms of reference of the Gresham (City Side) Committee are attached as an appendix to this report for your consideration as to whether they reflect the Committee's activities.</li></ol> <p><b><u>Recommendations</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. That, subject to any comments, the terms of reference as set out in the appendix be approved for submission to the Court.</li></ol>	

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WOOLF, Mayor	<b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Court of Common Council holden in the Guildhall of the City of London on Thursday 1st May 2014, doth hereby appoint the following Committee until the first meeting of the Court in April, 2015.
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#### GRESHAM COMMITTEE (CITY SIDE)

1. **Constitution**  
A Non-Ward Committee consisting of,
  - two Aldermen nominated by the Court of Aldermen
  - nine Members elected by the Court of Common Council, at least one of whom shall have fewer than five years' service on the Court at the time of their appointment
  - the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor (ex-officio)
2. **Quorum**  
The quorum consists of any three Members.
3. **Membership 2014/15**  
 ALDERMEN
  - 1 Ian David Luder, B.Sc.(Econ.)
  - 2 Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli
 COMMONERS
  - 7 (4) Simon D'Olier Duckworth, D.L.
  - 4 (4) Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson, Deputy
  - 1 (1) George Marr Flemington Gillon, *for two years*
  - 6 (3) Brian Nicholas Harris
  - 10 (3) Tom Hoffman, LL.B.
  - 13 (2) Anthony Noel Eskenzi, C.B.E., D.Sc., Deputy
  - 2 (2) Ian Christopher Norman Seaton
  - 1 (1) Kenneth Edwin Ayers, M.B.E., Deputy
  - 6 (1) Wendy Mead

together with the ex-officio Member referred to in paragraph 1 above.
4. **Terms of Reference**  
 To be responsible for:-
  - (a) letting and demising the lands and tenements given to this City by Sir Thomas Gresham by his last Will and Testament or otherwise to do and perform all and everything and things according to the true intent and meaning of the said last Will and Testament of the said Sir Thomas Gresham and the several Acts of Parliament for that purpose made with limitations and provisions as in the same are directed;  

(Note: The estate, so far as it relates to the land that was left to the City of London Corporation and the Mercers' Company, is administered by the Joint Grand Gresham Committee, which consists of the City Side and an equal number of Mercers. The legal obligations upon the City of London Corporation under the terms of Sir Thomas Gresham's Will, as varied by statute and discharged by the City Side, are limited:-

    - (i) to the appointment and payment of four of the Gresham Lecturers, namely those in Divinity, Astronomy, Music and Geometry, and in the provision of a sufficient and proper place for the delivery of the lectures;
    - (ii) to the maintenance of eight almshouses in Ferndale Road, Brixton, to the appointment of eight "almsfolkes" and the payment of a small annual sum to each of them);
  - (b) all other City Side matters relating to Gresham College including:-
    - (i) the appointment, from the membership of the Court of Common Council, of one representative to attend General Meetings of the Council of Gresham College and up to four Directors to serve on the Council of Gresham College;
    - (ii) any amendments to the current Memorandum and Articles of Association of Gresham College, other than financial aspects and those which, in the opinion of the Committee, are significant and should be considered by the Court.

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<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Gresham (City Side) Committee	13 February 2015
<b>Subject:</b> City of London Gresham Almshouses Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community & Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary</b></p> <p>This report gives Trustees and Members an information update on the City of London Gresham Almshouses, in Lambeth.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Note the report.</li><li>• Consider a funding request noted at point 5 of the report</li><li>• Note the recommendation made by officers to Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee regarding eligibility criteria for applicants to City of London Almshouses Trust properties, points 18-21 (and Appendix 1) and consider adopting similar criteria for Gresham Almshouse applicants.</li></ul>	

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. This report is presented half yearly to Trustees of the Gresham Almshouses. It updates Trustees on operational matters relating to the Gresham Almshouses and their residents and highlights any issues of concern, particularly where funding is required for which is not included in the current year's budget.

### **Office & Community Facility**

2. We are delighted to inform Trustees that the new office and community facility, converted from the former Assistant Matron's flat, was completed in early December, in time for the presentation of the Christmas hampers. The office has provided an appropriate place for the Matron and other staff to work and see residents. The Communal Hall was much needed, and has provided residents with a lovely, bright, spacious place to hold social gatherings, as well as an area with a cosy, lounge-like ambiance.

3. Rather than rushing into buying furniture, we brought some chairs and tables from Isleden House to begin with, so that residents could get the feel of the new space and decide what would be the best type of furniture. They have now chosen a mixture of armchairs, tables and upright chairs.
4. Residents are now busy organising new social activities to make the most of their new Communal Hall. Activity ideas so far include coffee mornings, a book club, a chair exercise class, a gardening club and a craft club. Residents are very much enjoying their new facility.
5. As City of London Almshouses Trust have funded the creation of the hall, Gresham Trustees are asked to consider if funds could be made available for furniture and other items for residents use in the new facility, ie fridge, dishwasher and kitchen equipment. It is anticipated this would be approximately £7,000; which would also include equipment for the activities residents have expressed an interest in (ie TV, DVD player, sewing machine for craft club). The cost of the creation of the hall is approximately £70,000.

### **Christmas hampers**

6. Residents enjoyed their hampers and would like to thank the Trustees for their generosity. As always there are a few items in the hampers not to individual residents taste, however Matron placed a "swap box" in the Hall for residents to bring their goods and swap them for items they preferred. There were a few items left which Matron took to the local food bank.
7. Due to the unexpected death of a resident there was a spare hamper which officers decided to raffle for residents in other sheltered housing managed by the City (Isleden House, Mais House and Harman Close). The tickets were £1 each and proceeds were given to The Royal British Legion as housing staff have adopted this charity in the centenary year of World War 1.

### **Garden work**

8. A recent review of Health & Safety issues on all estates identified a need for training on the proper use of garden equipment. Our gardener undertook this training in December, so we can now be confident that all equipment used at the Almshouses is done so in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and H&S regulations. The gardener has a dedicated day to work on the Gresham gardens.

### **Road repairs and lighting**

9. Officers previously reported deterioration in the roadway on the estate, as well as a proposal to improve the lighting for residents' safety and security at the same time as repairs could be effected.

10. Due to the remedial work at the Rogers Cottages and the communal hall project, the survey was delayed. However, quotes have now been received for the installation of lighting around the inner path of the garden. The lighting quote is to provide a power source from the office building, across the internal road, with ducting buried in the garden encasing power cables for 22 low level lights over 320 metres at a cost of £24,000.
11. In discussions with several residents, concerns were expressed regarding the height of the lights and how brightly they might shine in resident's homes. After a review of options with the contractors, officers decided that low level lighting would be the most effective and appropriate and we will proceed on this basis.
12. The cost of the road repairs work will be approximately £30,000. This work will involve removing the current road surface, regulating lower areas and repairing potholes, adjusting any ironworks in the roadway and then laying a new surface.
13. It is considered prudent to undertake both lighting and road repairs at the same time which will minimise disruption to the estate. Extra care will be taken to seek advice regarding any issues over the tree roots which are part of the cause of the degradation to the current road surface.
14. The total cost of improving lighting and repairing the roads, then, will be £54k. This will be incorporated into the City of London Almshouses Trust budget for 2015/16.

### **Networking Group**

15. The Sheltered Housing Manager has joined the East London Almshouses Group and attended their last meeting in October. Staff members from The Mercers Company provide the administration function for the Group, arranging meetings at different Almshouses and inviting external speakers each quarter.
16. The meeting was held at Edward Edward's House, one of Southwark Charities properties. These flats were remodelled and refurbished from bedsits into one bed properties several years ago and have since been maintained to a high standard. Residents were very happy to show us round their homes which were spacious and light. There were about 20 other Almshouses officers present and all participated in lively discussions regarding common issues, such as managing residents with deteriorating health, and maintenance of buildings. There were also two outside speakers at the meeting from the Alzheimer's Society and a company detailing how to manage building maintenance for Legionella issues.

### **Performance Information**

17. No formal complaints have been received since this was last reported.

### **Eligibility criteria and vacancies**

18. The current eligibility criteria for people wishing to apply to the waiting list for City of London Almshouses, was set at a time when the Almshouses properties were in low demand. This basic criteria has also been used for Gresham Almshouses applicants (with the added requirement of the financial position of the prospective resident, as indicated in the terms of Sir Thomas Gresham's Will).
19. Officers recommended a change to the eligibility criteria due to excessive demand from applicants not requiring the support of sheltered housing, see Appendix 1.
20. At the Committee meeting on 12 January 2015, Members resolved that all applicants to the waiting list must:
  - i. **Be aged 66 years old or over;**
  - ii. **Be living in Greater London OR have worked in the City for a period of 5 years or the 12 months prior to the application OR have a child or sibling living in the City or in the London Borough of Lambeth.**
- **Members further agreed that Trustees should retain the ability to waive the criteria in exceptional circumstances.**

**These changes are to take immediate effect subject to there being no questions raised by the Charity Commission.**

21. Gresham Trustees are requested to review Appendix 1 and resolution of the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee with consideration of adopting these criteria for the Gresham Almshouses (with the added proviso of the financial requirements of Sir Thomas Gresham's Will and a requirement for officers to seek applicants from within the City in the first instance).
22. There has been one vacant Gresham property which was advertised in the City at the request of the Gresham Trustees. Unfortunately officers did not receive any applications from City residents and the property will be offered to an Almshouse resident who has previously expressed an interest in moving into a Gresham bungalow. Remedial and repair work on the property took longer than expected due to the dry rot issues found upon void inspection, however this has been treated and a new kitchen and wet room have been installed, as well as full decoration throughout the bungalow.
23. There are currently 9 applicants currently living at the City of London Almshouses on the waiting list, which is held on a contingency basis should no eligible applicants apply from the City when a vacancy is notified.

**Jacqueline Whitmore**

**Sheltered Housing Manager**

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<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Housing Management & Almshouses Sub Committee	12 January 2015
<b>Subject:</b> Review of City of London Almshouses Eligibility Criteria	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community & Children's Services	<b>For Decision</b>

### **Summary**

The current eligibility criteria for people wishing to apply to the waiting list for City of London Almshouses was set at a time when the almshouses were in low demand.

This has now changed, and there are increasing numbers of people applying to the list. Many of these come from outside London, with no connection to the area, and are of working age. This paper sets out proposals for changes to the eligibility criteria, in order to focus the provision of almshouse accommodation on those in greatest need.

Officer propose that:

- the age threshold for applicants be raised from 55 to 66, in line with the state retirement age;
- applicants be required to either:
  - be living in Greater London;
  - have been working in the City for at least the 12 months prior to the application;
  - have a child or sibling living in the City or the London Borough of Lambeth;

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to agreed the proposed changes in eligibility criteria for applications to the City of London Almshouses waiting list, and to instruct officers to implement these with immediate effect.

### **Main Report**

#### **Background**

1. At its meeting on 25 September 2014, Members of the Housing Management & Almshouses Sub-Committee received a report entitled 'Reduction in external funding to Almshouses residents'. This report outlined changes in the way the London Borough of Lambeth provides financial support to

vulnerable residents and explained the impact on working residents at the City of London Almshouses.

2. Members approved recommendations regarding funding to these individuals, and asked officers to review the eligibility criteria for the City of London Almshouses, with a view to preventing the situation where residents require top-up funding occurring in the future.
3. A review has now been carried out. As well as looking at the issue of financial arrangements for residents who are employed, officers have looked at the current waiting list, the demand for places at the almshouses, and trends in housing applications generally. It has also taken into account the strategy agreed by the Community & Children's Services Committee in November 2014, that the City will, in the future, provide housing suitable for older people on all estates, rather than focusing provision on specific sheltered housing schemes.
4. This paper sets out the findings of the review and proposals for changing the criteria for admission to the City of London Almshouses waiting list. It does not propose amendments to the criteria for the Gresham Almshouses waiting list, as this is the responsibility of the Gresham Trustees, and the terms of letting for those almshouses are different.

### **Current Position**

5. Currently, the criteria for applicants to the waiting list for the City of London Almshouses is that they must be:
  - Aged 55 or over;
  - On an income which is below average or receiving welfare benefits;
  - In proven need of housing;
  - Wishing to live in sheltered accommodation.
6. There is no geographical restriction – applicants can come from anywhere in the country.
7. The age threshold was lowered, and geographical criteria abandoned some years ago, at a time when there was a low number of applicants to the Almshouses waiting list. Almshouses were not seen as particularly desirable properties at that time, as private rented accommodation was more affordable than it is now.
8. However, since then, things have changed. In recent years, we have had a significant increase in people applying for the waiting list. With no geographical restriction and a low age limit, we are receiving an increasing number of applications from people of working age, who wish to move to London for employment, but cannot afford private rents.
9. Most of these applicants are not considered to be elderly and are not in need of sheltered or supported housing. They are unable to claim state retirement benefits until age 66 and many are working beyond this age. Currently more

than a third of the residents at the Almshouses do not require any support from staff as they are either at work or have no requirement for staff support.

10. The impact of the changes in funding for housing support from the London Borough of Lambeth is that residents who work and cannot claim benefits, are having this portion of their service charges funded by the City of London Almshouses Trust, even though they may not be in need of the actual support. The more people of working age we have living at the almshouses, the more this top up funding will be needed.
11. As a result of these changes, there is an increasingly noticeable difference within the demographics of the community at the Almshouses, and a distinct separation between younger residents who are working (in the main) and able bodied with interests outside the community, and the older, mainly retired community who are not always so fortunate health-wise. Whilst we wish to encourage a mix of residents, this is creating a two tiered community.
12. Members may also feel that the current criteria, whilst reasonable when demand for the almshouses was low, is no longer in keeping with the intent of the original benefactors, which was to provide accommodation for “poore and impotente” people.

### Options

13. There are a number of options open to Members, who may wish to choose one or a combination of several:
  - a. To leave the criteria as they are. This will simply mean that we continue to accept people aged 55 and over from anywhere in the country, and the waiting list will increase.
  - b. To increase the age threshold to the current state retirement age of 66. This will mean that fewer residents who are still working will be able to live at the almshouses but, given that 66 is still not considered old, will ensure there remains a balance of active and less active residents.
  - c. To restrict applications geographically, only accepting applicants from the Greater London area, and giving priority to City residents and tenants of City of London homes in other London boroughs.
  - d. To restrict eligibility to applicants from Greater London, applicants who have worked in the City for the previous 12 months and applicants from elsewhere who have close family (child or sibling) living in the City or Lambeth).
  - e. To only accept applicants who are in receipt of the state pension.
14. It is the view of officers that a combination of options b and d would provide the most appropriate set of criteria. The criteria for applicants would then be that they:

- Are aged 66 or over;
  - Currently live in Greater London; or have worked in the City for at least the 12 months prior to the application; or have immediate family (child or sibling) living in the City or the London Borough of Lambeth for the last 12 months;
  - Are in proven need of housing;
  - Wish to live in sheltered accommodation.
15. Officers would review the current applicants who are awaiting approval interviews to consider a reduction in the list. The applicants who have already been approved would remain on the waiting list; it would be unfair to remove them after approval had been granted.
16. The criteria would come into immediate force for all new applications to the waiting list.

### **Recommendation**

17. Members are asked to agreed the proposed changes in eligibility criteria for applications to the City of London Almshouses waiting list, and to instruct officers to implement these with immediate effect.

### **Implications**

18. There are no financial implications of making this change, other than the fact that the Trustees would not be required to give additional grants to working residents in future, as residents would not generally be of working age.
19. There are no legal implications, and the new criteria would only apply to applicants who have not already been accepted onto the waiting list.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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