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| Committee: | Dates: |
| Housing Management & Almshouses Sub-Committee | 24/09/2018 |
| Subject: | Public |
| Filming and Photography on Estates Policy | |
| Report of: | For Decision |
| Director of Community & Children's Services | |
| Report author: | |
| Liam Gillespie – Head of Estates | |

Summary

The City of London's housing estates attract interest from people and organisations wishing to carry out filming and photography projects on them. The majority of this activity takes place on estates in the Square Mile but others have been used previously.

In response to comments received from residents and Members regarding the use of our estates for this purpose, a brief policy has been written which outlines how we will consider any requests to use our estates for filming and photography projects.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Approve the Filming and Photography on Estates Policy for use by the Housing Service

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London's housing estates, both in the City itself and outside, are sometimes used as locations for filming and photography projects. These projects vary in size and purpose and range from small commercial photo shoots to television adverts and feature films.
2. While these projects do generate a modest income, some concerns have been raised by residents and Members about the use of residential estates for filming and photography. This policy is intended to explain how requests for commercial filming and photography on our estates will be considered.
3. Most projects are completed with minimal disruption and we rarely receive formal complaints about commercial filming and photography on our estates. Those we

have received tend to relate to the proximity of the activity to residential properties and the disruption this has caused to individual residents.

Current Position

4. All our estates are private property and permission is needed for commercial filming and photography to take place. The City's Film Team, part of the Town Clerk's Department, will deal with applications to carry out filming and photography on City property. They will refer to the relevant Estate Manager for permission to use any City housing estate for this purpose.
5. The new policy outlines the factors we will generally consider when we are approached for permission to film on one of our housing estates.
6. The policy establishes a guiding principle, which is that our estates are residential areas and disruption to residents should be kept to a minimum. In considering requests for permission, we will have in mind the potential adverse impact on residents' enjoyment of their homes. If we cannot be assured that any disruption can be reduced to an acceptable level, bearing in mind the listed factors and any other relevant considerations, we will refuse permission.
7. We also reserve the right to refuse permission for any other reason in accordance with our inherent right to manage our property.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. The policy supports aims in the corporate and departmental plans relating to the effective management of our spaces, as well as ensuring that our estates are desirable places to live.

Policy Management

9. This is a new policy and no housing management policy has covered this subject area previously. The policy has been drafted in line with established practice and it was subject to public consultation.

Conclusion

10. The Filming and Photography on Estates Policy is intended to describe how we will handle applications for permission to carry out filming or photography on our housing estates, which are private property. We aim to strike a balance between allowing projects, which generate income and interest in the City as a destination, with ensuring that residents on our estates are not disrupted or inconvenienced by filming activity near their homes.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Filming and Photography on Estates Policy
- Appendix 2 - Consultation comments and responses

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