

Committee	Dated:
Gresham (City Side) Committee	26 May 2023
Subject: Gresham Almshouses Update	Public
Report of: Director of Community & Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Marie Rene, Area Manager	

Summary

This report gives Trustees an information update on the Gresham Almshouses, in Lambeth. Some of the information in the report also relates to the City of London Almshouses on the estate.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- 1) note the report;
- 2) approve the funding for the cost of the installation of the CCTV and the annual maintenance costs for the Gresham Almshouses.

Main Report

Background

1. This report is presented half yearly to the 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.

Current Position

2. Staffing

We are in the process of recruiting a permanent gardener at the Almshouses.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour

We are still experiencing non-residents entering the scheme and loitering in the communal areas. We recently had one of the void properties broken into. The police were informed and attended site. The Scheme Manager continues to liaise with the local police to increase the patrols in the area.

4. Installation of CCTV

As referred to earlier in this report there has been an increase of non-residents loitering on the grounds of COL Almshouses / Gresham Almshouses.

The design of the scheme allows people to access communal areas, such as stairwells and loiter and take drugs in these areas. The Scheme Manager is approaching these people daily to ask them to leave the site and is liaising with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team to increase patrols.

Following the last committee meeting it was agreed that installation of CCTV on the site would be the most feasible option.

A site inspection with a security specialist was carried out and a quote obtained.

The cost of the installation of CCTV onsite is £17,500 + VAT and an annual maintenance cost of £800 + VAT per annum.

The specification includes the installation of 11 cameras to cover the whole scheme (please see site plan with camera location attached).

By installing CCTV on the site, it will deter drug users loitering on the scheme and help make the scheme feel safer.

The cost for the Gresham Almshouses would be £2800 + VAT for the installation and £128 + VAT annually towards the maintenance costs.

Please note that the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee have approved the funding contribution for the installation of CCTV at the Almshouses.

Recommendation

Members are requested to approve the funding for the cost of the installation of the CCTV and the annual maintenance costs for the Gresham Almshouses.

5. Void Properties

There are currently no void properties at the Gresham Almshouses.

6. Social Activities

An afternoon tea was held to celebrate Easter on 6th April 2023. Residents enjoyed hot cross buns with other sweet treats.

A celebration party was held for the Kings Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023. This was well attended by residents.

Conclusion

Trustees are asked to note the report.

Appendices

Proposed CCTV Cameral location – Almshouses.

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