

TENANT AND LEASEHOLDER CITY BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT RULES

Report of the Director & Company Secretary

1. SUMMARY

This report proposes an amendment to the rules for recruiting tenants and leaseholders to the City Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approves the proposal to amend the rules for recruiting tenant and leaseholder City Board Members by retaining the requirement for one proposer but reducing the number of seconders from six to one.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 The current rules for the election of tenant and leaseholder Board Members include a requirement for applicants to obtain a proposer and six seconders to support their application for Board Membership.

3.2 The process for the appointment of tenant and leaseholder Board Members also applies to City Board Members. It is contained in Part IX of the Governance Arrangements and states

Nominated, eligible prospective tenant Board Members must be proposed by a person living in the area covered by the election process. They must also be seconded by 6 people living in the area covered by the election process. No candidate shall be proposed and seconded by another candidate in the election process. Proposers and seconders should not live at the same address as the candidate in the election.

3.3 The number of tenants and leaseholders applying for City Board membership is generally low. We believe one of the reasons for this is the need for applicants to obtain a proposer and six seconders. This has proved especially difficult for candidates in the past. The two leaseholder City Board Members represent all leaseholders in the North and South of the City and applicants can find it difficult to identify other leaseholders, unless they are actively involved with the Leaseholder Group. This requirement also creates a barrier where tenants and leaseholders are new to a neighbourhood or where they have not established relationships with people living in their area.

3.4 Earlier this year, we carried out a recruitment campaign for two casual City Board vacancies. For these vacancies, we did not require applicants to obtain proposers

and seconders. The number of applications received was far higher than previously experienced.

- 3.5 However, it is proposed that we retain the requirement for one proposer but the number of seconders is reduced to one so that we retain the need for an element of support, but increase the likelihood of getting more applicants.
- 3.6 No changes to the process for main Board Members are proposed.

4. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Adopting and changing the Governance Arrangements and approving procedures for the conduct of elections for Tenant and Leaseholder Board Members is a matter reserved to the Board.
- 4.2 The Memorandum & Articles of Association is silent on the requirement for proposers and seconders and therefore does not require the Council's approval.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is in the best interests of the Board to encourage a wide range of tenants and leaseholders to apply for City Board membership and to ensure any unnecessary barriers are removed.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Consultation
Financial and Business Plan
Council
Personnel
Environmental
Equalities Impact Assessment
Health & Safety
Policy Review

If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author, or Phil Davies, Chief Executive, phil.davies@derbyhomes.org – Phone: 01332 888528

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Background Information: None

Supporting Information: None