

INTRODUCTION

Glasgow West Housing Association (GWHA) is a charitable organisation registered as a housing association with The Scottish Housing Regulator and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Association is run by a voluntary Management Committee in accordance with its Constitution, the guidelines laid down by The Scottish Housing Regulator and the Law.

The Management Committee (MC) employs staff to run the affairs of the Association on a day to day basis.

The Association's Membership policy seeks to ensure that its Membership reflects the communities it serves, that all sections of the community are represented and to establish a wide and active membership by recruiting as members, individuals who have an interest in the work of the organisation and to make effective use of the skills, experience and views of its members.

WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

Some of the benefits of becoming a member of GWHA are:-

- vote at elections for the Management Committee
- be nominated for election to the Committee
- nominate other members for election to the Committee
- vote on other matters discussed at the AGM and General Meetings
- directly influence the policies of GWHA
- have a say in what services are provided and how GWHA is run.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Members of the Association are those people who hold a share in the Association and whose names are entered into the Register of Members.

Applications fall into three categories:

- Cat A Such applications are automatically approved by the MC
- Cat B Such applications are normally considered and approved by the MC
- Cat C Applicants must attend an interview with members of the MC. The members of the MC must be satisfied that an applicants reasons for seeking to join the Association are consistent with the Membership Policy.

Applications will normally be considered within 28 days of an application being received but cannot be approved within 14 days leading up to the AGM.

APPLICANT	CATEGORY
Tenants of the Association	A
Owners receiving a factoring service from GWHA	B
Other residents in Anderston, Burnbank Gardens, Hillhead or Kelvingrove	B
Others	C

The Association accepts applications from organisations as well as individuals, in accordance with the rules relating to representing an organisation.

You can apply for membership of the Association from the age of 16.

No member shall hold more than one share in the Association.

PROMOTION AND PARTICIPATION

The Association will promote Membership by circulating information on Membership to tenants, local community and representative groups, local authority departments, housing advice agencies, etc.

The Association will endeavour to ensure its Members are informed and can actively participate in the organisation. To this end the Association will:

- commit to the AGM date 9months in advance
- in the week leading up to the AGM, remind all visitors to the office of the impending meeting
- publicise general meetings, via posters at all properties, at least 7 days before the formal date of notification of the meeting
- circulate information to Members so they can make informed decisions at the general meetings. Where information in a particular format or language is required, the Association will endeavour to provide this.

- make every effort to seek out members views and hold general meetings at times and locations suitable for the Membership and at a fully accessible venue
- keep Members informed on all major developments affecting the Association
- actively promote the opportunities that exist, through election, for serving on the Management Committee.
- evaluate the success and feedback from the AGM after each general meeting
- summer newsletters will provide info on recent AGM
- spring newsletter will promote membership and confirm forthcoming AGM date, membership and nomination information.

APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP

Application Forms are available from the Registered Office of the Association. The completed form should be sent with £1 to the Chairperson at the Registered Office.

All completed Application Forms are presented to the Management Committee at the earliest opportunity.

Once approved, a Share Certificate will be signed by two Committee Members and the Secretary of the Association and issued within two weeks of the appropriate Management Committee meeting, along with details of how Members can participate in the organisation, including the AGM and how to stand for election to the Management Committee.

Where an application is rejected, the applicant will be advised of the decision within two weeks of the appropriate Management Committee meeting.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A member may terminate their membership by giving the Secretary, at the Association's registered office, seven day's notice in writing.

GWHA's Management Committee may terminate a membership if:

- a member has failed to inform of a change of address as set out in Rule 10;
- or, failed to attend and submit apologies for five annual general meetings;
- a complaint is received about a member's behaviour.

Reference should be made to the Association's Rules which outline the procedure for termination of a membership.

In all instances, the share will be cancelled and the value of the share will belong to the Association. The termination of the membership will be recorded in the register of members.

Any reapplication for membership, will need to be approved by two-thirds of the members voting at a general meeting.

Membership forms can be obtained by contacting Carol Nicol on 0141 331 6664 or cnicol@glasgowwestha.co.uk



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MEMBERSHIP