



# Aldgate

## Support for Our Tenants

As Chair of the Property Investment Board (PIB) I'm delighted to say that the Board and the City Corporation acted swiftly with approval regarding the need to support the City's tenants, whilst maintaining medium term income from the investment property portfolio.

We have spoken with institutions, landed estates, property companies and foreign investors to get and maintain an overall view on the measures being taken to support tenants, and confirm that we are in line with the market.

We aimed to assist tenants considered to be "at risk" including the following categories:

- All retail tenants with the exception of supermarkets, pharmacies, banks and building Societies.
- All leisure tenants
- All food and beverage tenants
- Serviced office tenants and tenants who are dependent on third party sublets
- Office tenants to support SME's.

We immediately moved to monthly payments for all tenants and agreed the following:

**1 March – June 2020 Quarter:** Rent deferrals, until the end of September 2020 with



repayment on a monthly basis over the following 12 months until September 2021. No late interest will be charged.

**2 June – September 2020**

**Quarter:** A mix of rent deferrals for 6 months, repayable from December 2020 over a 12 month period and rent free for "at risk" tenants, if it made commercial sense for the City. Micro-businesses would get a rent free quarter by default.

**3 September 2020 – December**

**2020 Quarter:** Rent free for "at risk" tenants whose rent is under £200K p.a. and serviced office and other operators reliant on third party income. Micro-businesses would get a rent free quarter by default.

**4 December 2020 – March 2021**

**Quarter:** A move to turnover rents for 12 months to provide certainty for tenants in terms of affordability and business

planning together with certainty of income for the City in terms of minimum rents.

We of course are aware that the government has extended the moratorium on taking enforcement action against tenants for non-payment of rent until 31 st March 2022.

Our view was that we should be supporting tenants with their cash flow and minimising the risk of tenant failure and vacant units. The aim being to retain and help as many tenants as possible when restrictions are lifted and business returns to the new normal.

Our City is open for business.

**Deputy Andrien Meyers CC**



# COVID-19 Booster and Flu Vaccines



The number of cases of COVID-19 in London is rising. But the COVID-19 booster programme can make a real difference. Boosters are available to those 50 years old or older, people who work in health or social care or younger people who have a long-term health condition. The jab boosts waning immunity for those most at risk over the winter period. More than eight million people in the UK have already received their COVID-19 booster vaccine. People will be invited by the NHS when it's their turn. If you have not been contacted within a week of reaching six months since your second vaccine you can call 119 or book online or visit various walk-in sites across London.

Flu is another virus that can be serious. To give people the best

protection over winter, those over 50 years old, and people who have a long-term health condition or are pregnant are eligible for a free flu vaccine and should book an appointment at either their GP practice or their local pharmacy.

The offer of a first and second COVID-19 vaccine remains open to anyone who is eligible, including children aged 12 to 15 years old.

Some of the new variants of concern spread more quickly. This means it is even more important to get both doses of the vaccine or just one dose for those aged between 12 and 17 years old.

[www.nhs.uk/wintervaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/wintervaccinations)

## Free cycle services on offer



The City of London Corporation is calling on residents and workers to take advantage of free cycle services as the Square Mile's buzz returns.

Throughout the pandemic, many people across England took to two wheels as the benefits of fresh air and sustainable travel became even more evident during the months of lockdown.

TfL revealed that cycling levels during the coronavirus pandemic were boosted from 21 per cent of Londoners in 2019/20 to 27 per cent in 2020/21.

Those who live, work or study in the City of London are eligible to receive free cycle training from expert instructors who will tailor the session to the rider's ability – from first-time riders to regular cyclists looking to improve confidence.

Since August last year, a total of 218 adult cycle skills sessions have been undertaken by Pedal Me and Cycle Confident in the City of London. In addition, two Square Mile schools have benefited from school cycle training sessions.

**More on the Cycle Confident free training:** [cycleconfident.com/sponsors/city-of-london/](http://cycleconfident.com/sponsors/city-of-london/); **the Pedal Me business cargo bike rider training:** [pedalme.co.uk/training/](http://pedalme.co.uk/training/)

# Meet your candidates

By the time you receive this newsletter the deadline for registering to vote in next year's City elections will almost be due – 16 December.

If you are registered you will be able to vote for the City's Common Councillors in March 2022. These elections are held by 'first past the post' and you will have the same number of votes as councillors you are electing, eg three votes in a three-member ward. If there is a vacancy for an Alderman in your ward next year, you will also have one vote in that election.

You will also be invited to attend your ward's Wardmote, a meeting similar to a hustings, the day before the election, 23 March 2022. This will give you the opportunity to meet your candidates and ask them questions. You will be able to vote in your allocated polling station on polling day, 24 March 2022. As with any other election, you can request a postal vote without needing a reason. If you think you might be away from the City or busy on Election Day, you might want to arrange a postal vote that goes to your home or work address. Postal votes are usually dispatched 10 working days before polling day.

Updated information on the wardmotes, their timing and location will appear on the website.

Invitations to the meetings will also be sent to all electors.

**If you have any queries regarding the meeting in your Ward please contact the Electoral Services Office on 0800 587 5537, [electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or [speakforthecity.com](http://speakforthecity.com)**



## WORK OR LIVE IN THE CITY?

## REGISTER TO VOTE BY 16TH DECEMBER

[www.speakforthecity.com](http://www.speakforthecity.com)

 **SPEAK FOR THE CITY**



The City of London Corporation has mounted a new campaign to support retail, leisure and hospitality businesses as well as cultural attractions by encouraging people back into the Square Mile for work and play.

The "Square Smile" campaign is designed to raise awareness of the benefits of returning to the City and face-to-face interaction as firms increasingly give their staff more flexibility on where they locate through hybrid working. It showcases the City's vibrant offer – ranging from world-class culture, heritage, cuisine, entertainment, retail, architecture and much more.

The campaign – which runs until the beginning of 2022 – targets hybrid workers as well as those who have fully returned to their workplace. The campaign seeks to remind them of all the things they missed during the pandemic, including socialising and enjoying the City's culture and entertainment. Whether it be collaborating with teammates, going for a spontaneous lunch or having the opportunity to go for after work drinks, the City can help to bring people together.

[cityoflondon.gov.uk/squaresmile](http://cityoflondon.gov.uk/squaresmile)

## ASK FOR ANGELA

**By telling customers that they can 'Ask for Angela' we're giving them a discreet code word that they can give to staff if they feel unsafe or threatened.**

The City of London Police, City of London Corporation and Metropolitan Police Service are working in partnership with Safer Sounds, who are part of the Safer Business Network, and licensed venues to help keep people safe while in the City of London.

The 'Ask for Angela' initiative is being rolled out to bars, clubs and other licensed businesses across the whole of London, including in the City of London. The scheme aims to reduce sexual violence and vulnerability by providing customers with a phrase they can use to get the attention of staff if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable. Staff can help by reuniting them with a friend, seeing them to a taxi, or by calling venue security and/or the police.

The City of London Police, City of London Corporation and Metropolitan Police Service are working in partnership with Safer Sounds, who are part of the Safer Business Network, and licensed venues to help keep people safe while in the City of London.

Many of the City's bars, clubs and other licensed businesses are getting busier and will continue to do so in the lead up to Christmas. For many people, this could be the first time they have been to a licensed premises during the festive period in two years, due to the pandemic.



## Who We Are



Members for Aldgate Ward from left to right: Alderman Sue Langley, Andrien Myers, Mrs Sylvia Moys MBE, Dhruv Patel OBE, Hugh Morris, Doug Barrow

## CONTACT US

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, only want to receive an email notification to download it or are receiving more than one copy per household then please send your details and the name of your ward newsletter to [wardnewsletters@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:wardnewsletters@cityoflondon.gov.uk) and we will amend our database.



We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

