

ALDERMANIC VACANCIES

GUIDANCE TO QUALIFICATION

1. To qualify for the office of Alderman a person must be:

- aged 18 years or over
- a British subject (British or Commonwealth citizen)
- an able and sufficient citizen and Freeman of the City of London¹
- not already an Alderman of another Ward
- not be disqualified for any other reason, for example, by reason of bankruptcy or on conviction of fraud or any crime for which a prison sentence has been imposed

and must either be

- a justice of the peace

or

- A person is qualified for office of Alderman provided that they are not or have never been:
 - i. convicted of an imprisonable offence (even if they were not actually imprisoned or the conviction has been spent) and
 - ii. the subject of a debt relief restrictions order or interim debt relief restrictions order, a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order, or a debt relief restrictions undertaking.

There is no requirement to reside within the Ward for which he or she seeks election and no requirement that a person is an owner or occupier of premises within the City.

If you have any questions about what serving as an Alderman involves, please contact Lorraine Brook (020 7332 1409, Lorraine.brook@cityoflondon.gov.uk).

ELECTION TIMETABLE

The Wardmote, which is the meeting of the Ward where the Alderman is officially elected, must be held within 42 working days of the surrender of office of the existing Alderman. The exact date of the election will depend on a number of factors including the availability of the Lord Mayor who acts as Returning Officer for the election, and the availability of suitable accommodation for the Wardmote, Poll and Count.

Once the date of the Wardmote is fixed then the rest of the election timetable can be calculated. The election period itself starts with the publication of the Notice of Election not less than 25 days (not including Sundays and Bank Holidays) prior to the Wardmote.

Nomination papers will be made available when the date of the election has been determined.

If you require assistance or advice please contact Alex Berry, Electoral Services Manager (020 7332 1430, alex.berry@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or Charlotte Gordon, Deputy Electoral Services Manager (020 7332 3497, charlotte.gordon@cityoflondon.gov.uk).

¹ For more information on becoming a Freeman of the City of London, please contact the Chamberlains' Court on 020 7332 3055 or visit http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/leisure_heritage/freedom_of_city/