

DATE : 3 August 2009



GREENWICH HOSPITAL

RESPONDS TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

ON GREENWICH MARKET REGENERATION PLANS

In response to public consultation, changes to the regeneration plans for Greenwich Market have been submitted to Council planners.

Cobbled Floor

The plans have been amended to retain the much loved cobbled market square. Subject to gaining planning consent, Greenwich Hospital will carefully raise, refurbish and re-lay all the cobbles in a new configuration interspersed with new granite setts. The new setts will create a cobbled market floor of familiar appearance which will ensure this much loved feature of the market is retained.

Durnford Street buildings

Greenwich Hospital has also listened to concerns over the loss of the Durnford Street buildings and has been exploring ways in which the brickwork and other building materials can be salvaged and re-used. Greenwich Hospital has agreed to donate the materials to the World Heritage Site for re-use locally within the World Heritage Site.

Commenting today Martin Sands, Director of Greenwich Hospital, said:

“Having hosted two public exhibitions and undertaken extensive stakeholder and community consultation I am pleased that we are able to respond to these specific community concerns raised about the cobbled market floor and the Durnford Street buildings. The market regeneration is designed to respect the World Heritage Site, retain the character of the Market and encourage retail diversity and independent businesses.”

- ENDS -

For further information, contact David McFarlane at Communiqué: 020 7828 4888 or 07917 770475

Notes to Editors

Information on the consultation is available at:

www.greenwichmarketconsultation.org.uk.

The market regeneration scheme will be subject to determination by Greenwich Council Planning Board on 26 August 2009.

Background

Greenwich Hospital is a Crown charity, established in 1694, which provides charitable support to serving and retired men and women of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines and to their dependants. It devotes its resources to paying pensions; providing grants to naval charities, running three sheltered housing schemes; and awarding means tested bursaries at the Royal Hospital School. The Hospital does no fund-raising and its outputs are met entirely from its investments including the Greenwich Estate.

Greenwich Hospital owns a large proportion of Greenwich Town Centre, including the Island Site. The Island site is the name used for the market area and further retail, residential, public houses, leisure properties and commercial properties in an area bounded by College Approach, Greenwich Church Street, King William Walk and Nelson Road, including the market space and Turnpin Lane

The Hospital's criteria for the regeneration of Greenwich market are that any improvements to the Hospital's properties in Greenwich town centre will need to:

- Retain the diversity of shops and stalls.
- Be architecturally, physically and financially viable.
- Be capable of standing the "test of time."
- Be mindful of Greenwich's status as a World Heritage Site and as a Maritime Heritage Site.
- Complement Greenwich's unique position as a tourist and retail destination.