

What am I voting for and why?

CSH has four Guardian Shareholders who are bound to act in accordance with the wishes of the co-owners. At the General Meeting, Voting Co-Owners need to indicate how they wish the Guardian Shareholders to act on their behalf on important matters.

Three Guardian Shareholders are required for the meeting to be quorate and to make decisions based on the indication of the Voting Co-Owners.

Resolution: Approval of the Directors' Report and Accounts the year ended 31 March 2021 and the Auditor's Report on the Accounts

The annual accounts are presented to the meeting by the Director of Finance for the Guardian Shareholders to approve. Copies of the accounts will be made in advance to Co-owners. However, these follow a format set down by law and so are quite technical documents. The Director of Finance will therefore give a short presentation on the content and an overview of the organisation's financial position.

There will be an opportunity for questions before Co-owners are asked to vote to indicate their willingness to allow these accounts as presented to be submitted to Companies House and published. An approved set of accounts are usually published on the Companies House website by the end of December or early January.

Resolution: To appoint BDO LLP as Auditors

By law CSH needs to have its final accounts audited. This is done by firms of auditors. If an organisation is satisfied with the performance of its auditors, which is monitored through the CSH Audit & Risk Committee, it is usual to vote on continuing with the existing auditors.

It is good practice to test the market for auditing services every three to five years, and so the Board of Directors may make a recommendation to change auditors based on the outcome of a tender for services.

Resolution: To authorise the CSH Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors

The remuneration is the amount we pay to the Auditors per year for their services. This figure is discussed and agreed by the Board of Directors.

By voting on these resolutions, the Co-Owners are indicating to the Guardian Shareholders how they should vote to reflect Co-Owners' wishes. The Guardian Shareholders vote accordingly on these resolutions.

In practice these votes are usually straightforward, but a General Meeting does give a formal setting for any Co-Owner to ask the Board about the running of the organisation.