



# The Centurion Community Action Group Limited (a Community Benefit Society) Share Offer.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## Can anyone buy shares in the Society?

You have to be 16 or over to buy shares (or to become a shareholder through a gift of them from someone else).

#### What do I get for my investment?

Each share is valued at £1. You (or a family group or syndicate of friends) must buy a minimum of 250 shares (£250). the maximum investment is 25,000 shares (£25,000).

If the Share Offer is successful (i.e. it raises a minimum amount of £175,000), you will receive a share certificate at the time of completion of the purchase as evidence of your investment. If the Offer is not successful, your money will be returned to you, in full, but without the right to any interest on that sum.

#### What rights would I have after making the investment?

Each shareholder will become a member of the Community Benefit Society (the Society) that runs the pub. As a member, you would be able to exercise one vote at Members' meetings. Note that each Member has one vote only, regardless of the size of the investment made.

#### What are the financial benefits of making an investment?

Provided that the business of the pub has available profits, the Society intends to pay interest at a rate of 5%, or 2% above the UK base rate (whichever is greater). The ability of the business to pay interest in any given year will be determined at the Annual Members' Meeting.

#### Is my investment safe?

Your investment is not protected by the Financial Conduct Authority Financial Services Compensation scheme. In addition, the Financial Ombudsman Service is not available to resolve any dispute that might arise in relation to the shares.

If the business of the pub gets into financial difficulties and has to be wound up, the rights of the pub's creditors would have priority over your rights. This means you would potentially not recover all (or any) of your investment.

Although you could lose your investment, no member would have any further liability for the pub's debts.

# Can I sell my shares or give them to someone else?

The shares are **not transferable**, so can't be sold or given to someone else.

Your investment can only be **withdrawn**, by requesting the Society to buy them back. Withdrawals will not be allowed for the 3 years following the date of your investment. After this period, you could

request the Society to buy your shares by giving it 3 months' notice. The Committee has the right to refuse or suspend withdrawals in order to safeguard the financial position of the business. Subject to this, all withdrawals shall be paid in the order in which the notices were received, up to a maximum total withdrawal specified for the financial year.

**Death** - A Member may nominate any person or persons to whom his/her shares should pass at the time of their death. On receiving satisfactory proof of the death of a Member who has made a nomination, the Society shall either transfer the shares to or pay the full value of the shares to the person so nominated. Following the transmission of the shares, if the nominee does not wish to continue with Membership, he/she may apply to withdraw the shares. The right to withdraw will the proceed to the withdrawal condition set out above.

# Will my investment increase or decrease in value?

Under its Rules, the Society is subject to an "asset lock", which means that any residual assets held by the Society at the time of it being wound up (after the face value of the share capital is taken into account) must be transferred to an equivalent body that has a community benefit purpose. This means that, on a withdrawal, the Society would repay your original investment only and there would be no gain or loss in the capital value of the shares.

## How do I apply for shares?

Shares must be paid in full at the time of the application. During the Offer period, all monies received will be held in a separate suspense account, so that it is safeguarded from any claims against the Centurion business and will be returned in full if we fail to achieve the minimum Share Offer target.

Complete the appropriate application form – see Appendix C of the Offer Document - and make your payment by cheque or bank transfer.

- Completed forms and cheques can be physically delivered to or posted to Centurion Community Action Group Limited, 1, Oldfield Drive, Vicars Cross, Chester CH3 5LN, or emailed to <a href="mailto:TheCenturionShareOffer2023@outlook.com">TheCenturionShareOffer2023@outlook.com</a>
- Please make cheques payable to Centurion Community Action Group Limited, or make a bank transfer to the Centurion Community Action Group account at Lloyds Bank plc Account no: 83497868

Sort code: 30-91-92

Please reference your payment with your surname and initials.

# When will I be able to apply for shares?

The Offer period commences on 1 December 2023 and closes on 29 February 2024, with the option of a one-month extension (until 31 March 2024) if this is thought necessary to achieve the minimum share target of £175,000.

#### Is this a good investment?

You are strongly advised to read the Offer Document, in full, and to take independent legal and/or financial advice before committing yourself to buying shares in the Society.