

Royal Hospital Chelsea Letters Patent 2003 – full text

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen Head of the Commonwealth Defender of the Faith To Our Paymaster-General now and for the time being and the other persons hereinafter mentioned and to all others whom it may concern Greeting Whereas We did under the Great Seal of Our Realm bearing date the eighteenth day of April in the fifty-first year of Our Reign constitute and appoint the persons therein named and certain other persons to be the Commissioners for the Government of Our Royal Hospital at Chelsea and the In-Pensioners thereto belonging Now Know Ye that We have revoked and determined and by these Presents do revoke and determine the said recited Letters Patent and every Clause Article and thing therein contained And Further Know Ye that We have revoked and determined and by these Presents do revoke and determine the Royal Warrant given at Our Court bearing date the twenty-second day of April in the thirty-second year of Our Reign and the Regulations for Our Royal Hospital at Chelsea made thereunder as amended And Further Know Ye that We have thought fit. to constitute and appoint and by these Presents do constitute and appoint Our Paymaster-General now and for the time being Our Minister of State for the Armed Forces now and for the time being the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State and Minister for Veterans Affairs now and for the time being the Command Secretary (Adjutant-General) now and for the time being the Governor of Our Royal Hospital at Chelsea now and for the time being two Officers not below the rank of Major General serving on the Staff of the Ministry of Defence who shall be the nominees of the Chief of Our General Staff the Lieutenant Governor of Our Royal Hospital at Chelsea now and for the time being and such other persons not exceeding ten in number being Officers either in Our Civil Naval Military or Air Service or having been in such Our Service and having retired therefrom or persons not in nor having been in such Our Service who are distinguished in their field as shall have been nominated to Us by Our Principal Secretary of State for Defence and appointed by Us from time to time by Our Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual to be Our Commissioners for the Government of Our aforesaid Royal Hospital at Chelsea And We do hereby give and grant unto you Our said Commissioners or three or more of you full power and authority to settle and ascertain what proportions and kinds of victuals you shall judge most convenient for the diet of such persons as now are or shall hereafter be entertained and fed in Our said Royal Hospital and to make contracts and agreements with any person or persons for the furnishing of the same at such rates and for such times as you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you shall seem best and also for clothing the said persons belonging to Our said Hospital and washing the linen to them and every of them belonging and likewise to keep in good order and repair and maintain the several Courts Gardens Walks Avenues and Lights belonging to Our said Hospital as to you or any three or more of you as aforesaid shall seem most proper for the better accommodation and good government of the same And We do hereby give and grant unto you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you as aforesaid full power and authority to make provision for such Establishment or Establishments as you think proper for the expense of Our said Hospital and to nominate constitute and appoint from time to time such and so many Under-Officers and Servants as are or shall at any time or times hereafter be wanting in Our said Hospital and to determine the salaries and conditions and duties thereof and further to remove or displace them or any of them from time to time as to you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you shall seem meet And We do hereby give and grant unto you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you as aforesaid full power and authority generally to do and perform all such matters and things and to enter into such arrangements or agreements as you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you in your discretion shall think necessary or desirable for the good government of Our said Hospital including for the avoidance of doubt the raising of finances to enable you Our said Commissioners to

carry out the purposes for which power and authority has been granted to you And We do hereby direct require and command that in all cases whatsoever involving payment of any sum or sums of money for any use or uses of Our said Hospital all such payments shall be consolidated within annual financial statements for Our said Hospital which shall be signed by you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you and which shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General And We do hereby give and grant to you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you as aforesaid full power and authority to determine the terms of eligibility for admission to Our said Hospital the principles of which shall be laid down in notices made from time to time by Our said Commissioners And We do hereby further declare Our Will and Pleasure to be that no person be admitted for the future into Our said Hospital but under the said terms of eligibility And We do hereby direct and order that in the admission of In-Pensioners you do guide yourselves by the several Acts of Parliament already made or hereafter to be made relating thereto And We do hereby empower you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you to examine into the qualifications of any persons at present in Our said Hospital and to discharge such of them from any further provision as you or any three or more of you shall judge not to be duly entitled to the same And Our Will and Pleasure is and We do hereby require and command that you Our said Commissioners and every of you do diligently attend the execution of this Our Commission in all things as becometh and this Our Commission or the entry enrolment or exemplification thereof shall be to you and every of you a sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalf And Lastly We do hereby ratify and confirm whatsoever shall have been done or purported to be done by any of the Commissioners named in the said Letters Patent dated the eighteenth day of April Two thousand and two or by any Commissioner appointed or reappointed under the said Letters Patent by any Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual or otherwise with Our approval pursuant to the direction contained in the said Letters Patent up to the date of these Presents In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent Witness Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-first day of November in the fifty-second year of Our Reign

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL