***Bradford Flower Fund Homes***

**Equality Act Statement**

Bradford Flower Fund Homes is a registered charity and the charitable objects set out in clause 4 of its Memorandum of Association permit the Charity to give a preference in the provision of services to persons who are older/elderly.

The trustees of the Company are satisfied that the restriction in its Constitution’s objects by which preference is given to those older/elderly is justified under the ‘*charities exception’* in section 193 of the Equality 2010 Act for the following reasons:

1. Section 193(1) of the Equality Act 2010 states that a person (in this case the Charity does not contravene the Act by restricting the provision of benefits to person who share a protected characteristic if it is:
2. The person acts in pursuance of a charitable instrument; and
3. The provision of benefits is within subsection (2).

In the case of the Company its ‘*charitable instrument’* is its Articles of Association).

1. Section 193 (2) states that the provision of benefits is within this subsection if it is
2. a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim, or
3. for the purpose of preventing or compensating for a disadvantage linked to the protected characteristic.
4. The trustees of the Charity are satisfied that the age preference for persons older/elderly compensates for, or overcomes, a disadvantage linked to the relevant protected characteristic for the following reasons:

**Applicants who are in need may be persons older/elderly who can no longer afford to maintain their own homes in retirement; or who, while still capable of living independently without carers, are, as they grow older, developing health issues and/or are experiencing other difficulties in continuing to live in their own homes.**

**Applicants suffering from financial hardship will receive relief by means of low cost, well maintained accommodation. Many of those in need or financial hardship are widowed or retired persons who apply for accommodation and can no longer afford the local rents, or who come to the area after living in their own homes or rental accommodation in less costly areas.**

**Other applicants older/elderly may have lived farther away in other parts of the country, but now wish or need to live near family members – often adult children - who are resident within the area of benefit.**

**Some applicants are often person older/elderly who worked in the area of benefit for many years, moved away to work elsewhere but who in retirement now wish to return to an area where they have close friends and social links.**