

Council meeting 10 & 11 October 2006

PUBLIC BUSINESS

## **Report on gazetting of regulations for election of Council members**

### **Purpose**

To report to the Council on the gazetting of the draft regulations concerning election of the Society's Council members, and to seek approval of the regulations for submission to the Privy Council on completion of the gazetting period.

### **Strategic objective domain**

An organisation that consistently performs as a regulator, professional representative leader and publisher

### **Recommendations**

The Council is asked to:

- i. agree the suggested changes to the gazetted draft regulations as marked up in Appendix A; and
- ii. agree the revocation of the existing regulations concerning election of Council members and that the replacement regulations at Appendix A be submitted to the Privy Council for formal approval on completion of the gazetting period.

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Council has approved draft regulations concerning election of Council members. The draft regulations have been gazetted for a period of sixty days, as required under art. 10(1) of the Charter. That sixty-day period will end on 10 October 2006.
- 1.2 The Privy Council's advisers have requested a number of minor technical changes. These have been incorporated into the draft and, other than purely typographical matters e.g. capitalisation or the removal of commas, have been marked up in the text at Appendix A.
- 1.3 No other submissions have been received at the time of finalising this paper; any further comments received before the end of the period will be reported at the meeting.
- 1.4 Given that comments have been received during the gazetting period, the Council will need to confirm that it wishes the regulations to go forward to the Privy Council for approval.

## **2. Risk Implications**

- 2.1 The current regulations are sparing in what they say about complaints, challenges, problems or alleged irregularities, and the powers of authority they give to the Returning Officer are insufficiently explicit. The 2005 elections encountered a number of challenges and, while all these were resolved it would be unwise to rely on this always being the case. Should a complaint against the process be upheld, the Society could potentially be placed in a difficult and contentious position.

## **3. Resource Implications**

- 3.1 There are no resource implications associated with this proposal.

## **Recommendations**

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