

Council meeting 5 & 6 December 2006

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

## **Council election 2007**

### **Purpose**

To note members of Council retiring in 2007 and to agree arrangements for conducting the election of Council members in 2007 as set out in the regulations.

### **Strategic objective domain**

- Improving member engagement in the work of the Society
- An organisation that consistently performs as a regulator, professional representative leader and publisher

### **Action required**

Council is asked

- i. to note the Council members whose term of office expires in 2007
- ii. to appoint Electoral Reform Ballot Services Limited as the scrutineer for the Council elections in 2007, and
- iii. to agree that the date from which newly elected or re-elected and newly appointed or re-appointed members of the Council take office in 2007 be Saturday 19 May 2007.

### **1. Background**

New regulations for the election of Council members came into effect on 19 October 2006. These regulations specify actions which the Returning Officer must take before the election process commences as set out below. Council will be informed of the timetable for the 2007 elections as soon as it is finalised.

### **2. Council members whose term of office expires in 2007**

The Returning Officer is required (under Article 3.(2)(g)) to notify the Council of members whose term of office expires in 2007. These are:

Elected Council members:

- Mr Gerald Alexander
- Mr Sultan Dajani
- Mrs Davan Eustace
- Mr John Gentle
- Mrs Corrine Hunt
- Mr John Jolley
- Mr Stephen Wells

Mr Dajani is not eligible to serve a further term of office.

Appointed Council members:

- Mrs Lorna Jacobs
- Mr Alan Kershaw
- Professor Michael Schofield

Professor Schofield is not eligible to serve a further term of office.

The appointment process will be commencing in the near future.

**2. Appointment of Scrutineer**

The new regulations provide that the Council, on the advice of the Returning Officer, should appoint persons to act as scrutineer. Electoral Reform Ballot Services Limited have administered the Society's elections and acted as scrutineer for a number of years. The Council is invited to confirm the re-appointment of ERS.

**3. Effective date**

The new regulations provide that the Council, on the advice of the Returning Officer, should fix the date on which Council members elected in a given year take office – this is known as the 'effective date'. The regulation states

"4. Effective date

- 1) On the advice of the Returning Officer, the Council shall, in each year, fix a date on which Council members elected in that year shall take office ('the effective date').
- (2) The effective date shall ordinarily be in May after the conclusion of the Society's Annual General Meeting, but may, upon the advice of the Returning Officer, be fixed for some other date.
- (3) The Returning Officer shall publish the effective date on the Society's website and in the Journal as soon as practicable after it has been fixed by the Council."

The Society's Annual General Meeting is fixed for Wednesday 16 May 2007. It is proposed that the effective date for 2007 Saturday 19 May 2007.

**4. Risk implications**

The decisions sought in this paper are required at this stage in order to comply with the regulations, ensuring the election process is valid and not open to subsequent challenge.

**5. Resource implications**

There are no resource implications associated with these recommendations. The cost of the election is included in the 2007 budget.

**6. Action required**

Council is asked

- i. to note the Council members whose term of office expires in 2007
- ii. to appoint Electoral Reform Ballot Services Limited as the scrutineer for the Council elections in 2007, and
- iii. to agree that the date from which newly elected or re-elected and newly appointed or re-appointed members of the Council take office in 2007 be Saturday 19 May 2007.

Ann M Lewis  
Secretary & Registrar