

## Election of Royal Photographic Society President Information for Members – Additional Update

Prepared by RPS Nominations Committee (NomCom), 25 May 2026

### *Why is there only one candidate?*

All Trustees eligible to stand for election were given the opportunity to put their name forward for election as President. It is very much a personal choice and before reaching a decision, eligible Board members will have weighed up their individual circumstances and the various requirements of this hugely demanding role.

This is not the first time there has been only one candidate for the position so we do have precedent for the process we must follow. Members should be assured that NomCom has engaged in formal discussions with the candidate to explain the role and ensure the demands of the role are fully understood.

### *How do we know that the Presidential Election process has been fair?*

NomCom has followed the requirements of the RPS By-Law 2025:11.4 which is the basis upon which the Presidential Election takes place. It has closely followed the timetable set out in the earlier *Information for Members* document.

The process we have followed and shall continue to follow has been subject to audit by the RPS Director of Finance & HR. The auditor reported: *"I have audited the Presidential election process. I have found it to be straightforward and transparent. I can confirm that the process has been followed to the letter and has been fair for all Board Members."* The process has also had general oversight by the Society's lawyers.

### *Do we get the opportunity meet the candidate?*

Even though there is only one candidate, NomCom has ensured that Members can still access the same information which would have been made available in advance of an election. This includes a Personal Statement from the candidate describing their qualities and why they feel they are qualified to undertake the role of President. Similarly, the candidate has produced a short video where they introduce themselves to Members and explain what they will bring to the role of President and Chair of Trustees.

A "Town Hall" meeting (chaired by a member of NomCom) will be held on the evening of Monday 15 June 2026 where Members can meet the candidate to hear details of their plans and ambitions outlined in their Personal Statement and their video presentation. The event will be recorded and made available to Members who are unable to attend.

### *What happens next?*

With there being only one candidate, a Presidential Election is no longer necessary. Subject to approval by the Members at the AGM on 26 September 2026, at the close of that meeting the one candidate will formally become President Elect of the RPS. At the close of the AGM in 2027, they will take up the office of President and Chair of Trustees of the RPS.

### *When is the next Presidential Election*

The term of office for President is two years as described in RPS By Law 2025:11.3. The next Presidential Election will take place in advance of the RPS AGM in 2029 where the serving President, who will be eligible for a second term of two years, and any other eligible Trustee, will be able to stand for election. If there is no second candidate and if the President is prepared to continue in office for a further two-year term, Members will be given the opportunity to vote in support of this at the AGM in 2029.

**Alastair Taylor ARPS**

Chair, Nominations Committee