

2027 Senior Vice President elections

Frequently Asked Questions

September 2026

1. What does the role of Senior Vice President involve?

The Senior Vice President plays a key leadership role in guiding the Institution's strategic direction, upholding professional standards, and driving engagement across the surveying profession. The Senior Vice President supports the President, the President Elect and Governing Council in setting our global strategy and ensuring RICS fulfils its Royal Charter obligations.

The full role description for Senior Vice President can be found [here](#).

2. Who makes up the Presidential Team?

The Presidential Team comprises the President, President Elect, and Senior Vice President. The President is the most senior person within RICS, they are our leading ambassador and chair Governing Council, our governing body. The President is supported by the President Elect and Senior Vice President.

Details on the current Presidential Team can be found [here](#).

3. What is the role of the Presidential Team?

The Presidential Team are the most senior team within RICS acting as leading ambassadors for RICS. They work in partnership with the CEO to shape RICS' thought leadership agenda and to address critical issues in the built and natural environment, from urbanisation to technology and climate change. They are elected by Governing Council typically serve one-year terms as Senior Vice President, then as President Elect, and progressing to President. They sit as members of Governing Council throughout their terms, apart from the President who chairs Governing Council.

4. What is Governing Council and what is its role?

Governing Council is the governing body of RICS. Ultimate responsibility for RICS rests with Governing Council, which has power to act in all matters in the name of RICS.

Governing Council sets the vision for RICS and is responsible for articulating the strategy to achieve this vision. Its powers are set out in RICS Bye-Laws, which are approved by the Privy Council and the membership. The primary duties and functions of Governing Council are:

- Agreeing the Institution's strategy and vision

- Overseeing the delivery of that strategy via annual business plans
- Overseeing the effective delivery of standards and regulations
- Agreeing changes to Byelaws and Regulations

Governing Council has up to 28 members, comprising 20 member-elected candidates in Geographic seats, Professional Group seats and a Next Generation seat (formerly Young Member seat), three Presidential Team office holders (the President, the President Elect and the Senior Vice President), a Senior Independent Governor and another appointed independent member, and up to three appointed members with relevant expertise or interests.

Details on the current composition of Governing Council can be found [here](#).

5. How often are Senior Vice President elections held?

Elections for Senior Vice President are held every year. Typically, applications open in May, followed by longlisting, shortlisting, and interviews with the Appointment Panel in June, July and August respectively, and election by Governing Council at their September meeting.

6. Why have the 2026 elections been delayed?

This year's elections have been delayed due to the Independent Review, which began in December 2025. The search for the 2027 Senior Vice President will commence in September, with the election by Governing Council happening in February 2027. The new Senior Vice President will be announced in March.

7. How long is the term for Senior Vice President?

The role of Senior Vice President is usually for a 1-year term, commencing in the January, however, the term for the 2027 SVP will commence in March following their election. Subject to satisfactory performance, the Senior Vice President then progresses to President Elect and then to President both of which are for 1-year terms commencing on the 1 January each year.

8. Is the role of Senior Vice President remunerated?

The role of Senior Vice President is not remunerated, although all reasonable expenses will be reimbursed in line with the RICS Expenses Policy. The roles of President Elect and President are remunerated.

9. Who is eligible to apply?

Eligibility to apply for the role of Senior Vice President includes members who are either Fellows (FRICS) or Members (MRICS) of the Institution. The Senior Vice President must be a Fellow at the time of assuming office. If a Member is elected to the role who is

currently not an FRICS, they will automatically become a Fellow upon election as Senior Vice President.

Please note, however, that the following members may not apply for the role of Senior Vice President:

- Any current RICS employee. Former employees can apply; however, 3-years must have elapsed before an application is made.
- Any member who has unsuccessfully applied for the role of Senior Vice President twice in the previous two years – any such member is not permitted to apply for a further clear two-year period.
- Any member who is **not** “a member in good standing” or a “fit and proper person” -please refer to the '[Guide to membership and regulatory checks and background screening](#)'.

10. What does the process involve?

The process is made up of two parts (excluding the preparation stage). The selection process is overseen by the Appointment Panel and is followed by the election of the Senior Vice President by Governing Council. Please refer to the '[Summary of the Senior Vice President Election Process](#)' for more details.

11. How do I apply?

Green Park is acting as an employment agency advisor to RICS on this appointment. Candidates should apply for this role through their [website](#).

Candidates are requested to submit:

- a CV (maximum 3 pages)
- a personal statement explaining where you feel you best meet the requirements set out in the person specification and where you feel you would need support in enhancing or developing the necessary skills (maximum 3 pages)
- details of three RICS members who are in support of their application. The details required are membership number and contact information. **Important** - Please refer to the '[Guidance regarding supporters](#)' for supporter eligibility requirements.
- a signed declarations and disclosures form
- a diversity monitoring* form.

*The diversity monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing the applications.

12. When does the application period close?

11:59pm GMT, 2 November 2026.

13. Why is a search consultant used?

The role of Senior Vice President is a senior role at RICS, and it is important that we are able to reach a large pool of potential candidates that we may not be able to reach using our channels alone. They also add independence to the process.

14. Who can act as a supporter?

To apply for Senior Vice President candidates must have support from three chartered RICS professionals (FRICS/MRICS) who they have known for at least one year (at the point of application). We are not able to accept applications without these.

To be eligible to act as supporter, the supporter must be a chartered member 'in good standing' and must not be a member of a governance body or member of staff. Please refer to the ['Guidance regarding supporters'](#) for more information.

15. Can I hold another role on an RICS governance body whilst Senior Vice President?

No, members are not permitted to hold multiple roles on RICS governance bodies at any one time, this includes holding more than one seat on Governing Council. Please refer to the ['Dual positions on RICS governance bodies'](#) guidance.

16. Who is the Appointment Panel?

The Appointment Panel comprises:

- Harriet Kemp (Chair), Chair, RICS Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NRC)
- Tina Paillet FRICS (former RICS President)
- Kam Kuen Chiu FRICS (Chair, China Regional Advisory Board)
- Annabelle Huffer MRICS (Chair, RICS Matrics UK)
- Liz Peace CBE (Senior Independent Governor, RICS Governing Council)

17. Why are candidates offered the opportunity to meet with the CEO, and will this affect the objectiveness of the process?

Informal meetings between candidates and key stakeholders are standard practice for senior appointments such as Senior Vice President. The purpose of the meetings is to allow the candidates to get a better understanding of the role and the working relationship between the President/ Presidential Team and the CEO which is critical to the organisation. The CEO will provide feedback to the Appointment Panel which will be used in conjunction with the other information they have, i.e. outcome of the executive assessments, and supporter references, to form a more rounded perspective on the candidates.

18. What happens if the Appointment Panel are unable to recommend suitable candidates to Governing Council?

In the event that the Appointment Panel are unable to find a suitable candidate to recommend to Governing Council then the Nominations and Remuneration Committee will start the process to elect a Senior Vice-President again.

19. Who elects the Senior Vice President and how?

It is the responsibility of Governing Council to elect the Senior Vice President, following the election process set out in our [Standing Orders](#). The election is held at a virtual meeting of Governing Council and is set to take place on the 25 February 2027.

20. Will you be reviewing how you elect the role of Senior Vice President in the future?

As committed to, a review of the Senior Vice President election process was included as part of the terms of reference for the December 2025 independent review. We have received the findings of this review, and these are currently being reviewed by Governing Council. At this stage, we will continue with the established election process to maintain a pipeline of presidential candidates.

21. When is the election by Governing Council?

The election by Governing Council is due to take place at their meeting on the 25 February 2027.

22. What is the election process followed by Governing Council?

The election process followed by Governing Council is set out in the [Standing Orders](#). The election is held at a virtual meeting of Governing Council.

23. What happens in the event of a tie in the election?

As per the [Standing Orders](#), in the event of a tie the President, as Chair of Governing Council, will, at their absolute discretion, have the casting vote.

24. What happens if no candidate is elected?

In the event no candidate is elected to Senior Vice President by Governing Council, then the Nominations and Remuneration Committee will start the process to elect a Senior Vice President again.

25. When and how will the results be announced?

The results will be announced on the RICS website and social channels as soon as possible after the election has taken place (25 February 2027).

26. When does the term of office begin?

The term of office for successful candidate begins early March 2027.

27. What is the time commitment involved?

The time commitment increases progressively throughout the three-year presidential pathway. As a Senior Vice President, the commitment is typically up to 20 days per year for Governing Council responsibilities, in addition to ambassadorial duties. This includes two in-person meetings at our headquarters in London.

As President Elect, this commitment can increase to approximately 50 days per year. During the presidential year, the requirement may rise to as much as 120 days annually.

The Senior Vice President will work alongside the other members of the Presidential Team to agree how responsibilities and duties are shared across the pathway. The time commitment is under constant review.

Candidates should be confident that they can commit the time required at each stage of the presidential journey and effectively represent RICS at both national and international levels.

Given the nature of the role, there is a need for a high level of ability at times to work flexibly from anywhere.