

Governing Council election process

RICS must remain impartial therefore the process must be managed by an independent provider. Mi-Voice have been appointed as the independent election service provider for this year's election. They will host the election website where members apply and vote.

The process is in two parts:

1. Application stage

- Chartered members (FRICS/MRICS) and AssocRICS members are invited to stand for election to Governing Council.
- Members are able to stand for election for up to two seats (but not hold more than one seat on Governing Council), subject to the following eligibility requirements. For more information on standing for more than one seat, please refer to the FAQs.
 - To apply for a Geographic seat, candidates will have expertise in that market and they must be based in the same location as the seat they are standing for.
 - To apply for the Next Generation seat, candidates must be 30 years and under on the date applications for the elections open.
 - To apply for a Professional Group seat, candidates must have expertise in that particular field.
- Application requirements include a CV (two pages max), a written election statement (500 words max), and the support of two RICS members (for more information on supporters please refer to the guidance regarding supporters) – these are mandatory, and applications will not be accepted without these. Please note, they will be published as part of the candidate profile on the ballot paper. Video statements are **optional**, as are digital headshots, both of which will be published as part of the candidate profile on the ballot paper if provided.
- Mi-Voice (independent election service provider) will manage the application stage on behalf of RICS.
- Due diligence will be carried out at this stage, this includes membership and regulatory checks only to confirm that the candidate and their supporters are “members in good

standing". For more information on due diligence checks, please refer to the guide to membership and regulatory checks and background screening. Please also refer to the guidance regarding supporters.

- Candidates will be verified to confirm they are eligible to stand for election to the seat/s for which they have applied. Candidates election statements, and video statements (if provided) will be checked for inappropriate content as per the guidance. Please refer to the guide to the verification of candidates for more information.
- Candidates are not able to announce their candidacy or commence campaigning until the voting opens. Please refer to the campaign guidance.

2. Election stage

- All validated candidates are presented to the electorate. Their ballot paper will include their CV, their election statement, and details of their supporters. Where provided, the ballot paper will also include a digital headshot and the video statement.
- The electorate will only be able to vote for the seats they are eligible to vote for, i.e. their Geographic seat (if applicable), the Next Generation seat and all Professional Group seats.
- The voting stage will be managed by Mi-Voice on behalf of RICS.
- Due diligence, i.e. background screening, will be carried out on elected candidates only and before their appointment is confirmed – appointments are subject to satisfactory due diligence checks. Please note, the background screening is carried out after the election results are announced. Where a candidate fails the due diligence the candidate, or chooses not to take up their seat it will be offered to the runner-up. The membership will not be informed as to why a candidate is not able to take up their seat. For more information on due diligence checks, please refer to the guide to membership and regulatory checks and background screening.