The Geological Society

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK

Background:

The Nominations Committee is a new committee arising from the new Byelaws that replaces the Elections Committee. Its purpose is to support Council to grow a pipeline of skilled volunteers through appointments and/or election of members to Council and Standing Committees.

Other key roles are:

- Support processes for recruiting and selecting Council and committee positions.
- Support the Society to achieve diversity across Council and its reporting committees.

It has a broad range of functions beyond this – see its related regulation R-G-09 Nominations Committee to find out more (attached as Appendix A)

The Nominations Committee comprises current trustees, recent trustees and three members of the Society who have not been on Council. (See current membership in appendix B.)

Time commitment

Members of the Nominations Committee shall serve a three-year term..

The Nominations Committee shall meet at least four times a year, normally remotely.

The typical time commitment is four one-hour meetings annually, and is likely to include some additional reading and exchanges of emails, and may also include up to two days serving on selection interview panels. It may vary from year-to-year depending on the number of vacancies and applicants.

Who can apply

Any Voting Member (Student Members, Fellows and Honorary Fellows) who has never served on Council.

Person Specification (essential)

- Voting Member of the Geological Society (a Fellow, Honorary Fellow, or Student Member) at the time of submission of their expression of interest.
- Ability to commit to the time needed for the role.
- Understanding of Nominations Committee's objectives, role and responsibilities
- Ability to maintain the confidentiality of all sensitive / confidential information

How to apply: Submitting your expression of interest

All Voting Members wishing to serve on the Nominations Committee should submit the Nominations Committee Expression of Interest Form on the Reporting committees page.

Note: Interested members may put forward questions about the role prior to submitting their expression of interest via secretary@geolsoc.org.uk.

Expression of Interest should be <300 words

Please include in your Expression of Interest:

The Geological Society

- Why are you interested in serving on the Nominations Committee?
- Please provide current and background information about yourself, such as your experience of studying or working in geoscience, your professional interests, etc
- What is your experience, if any, of volunteer or committee work?

Selection Process, Timeline and Key Dates:

1 Sep – 8 Oct 2026: Call for Expressions of Interest.

1 Sep – 8 Oct 2026: Interested candidates may contact the Society to discuss this role before submitting an Expression of Interest via secretary@geolsoc.org.

15 Oct 2026: Nominations deadline. Expressions of Interest reviewed by Nominations Committee.

19 – 30 Oct 2026: Selected candidates invited for a ~30-minute interview with a panel of 2-3 Nominations Committee members. Proposed dates and timings to follow.

6 Nov 2026: Candidates are informed of outcome.

Mid-Nov 2026: New Nominations Committee Members attend Nominations Committee meeting (date TBC).

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA)

We are committed to supporting diversity amongst our staff and Fellowship, and have made it a priority to help encourage and celebrate equity and inclusion in geoscience education and professions.

As the UK professional body for geoscientists, we believe that everybody should have the opportunity to fulfil their potential, regardless of disability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or other diversity characteristic. We believe that making the geosciences more inclusive will benefit individuals, the science, and society.

Improving diversity, equity and inclusion in geoscience education and professions, and in the Geological Society itself, is a long term goal which will involve generational change.

In September 2014 we formalised this commitment by becoming a signatory to the Science Council's Declaration on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This Declaration sets out our ambition to improve diversity, equity and inclusion across geoscience communities.

Read more on our EDIA page

The Geological Society

GENERAL REGULATIONS

OFFICERS

1. OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the duties and responsibilities of the Fellows elected as Officers of the Society are defined.

2. SCOPE

This Regulation defines the duties and responsibilities of the Officers of the Society, namely the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer.

3. RELATED REGULATIONS

Reference should be made to the following related Regulations

Regulation R/G/7:	Standing Committees of Council
Regulation R/G/9:	Nominations Committee (previously Elections Committee)
Regulation R/G/10:	Election of Trustees and Officers

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS

4.1 President

The President for the succeeding year shall be elected in accordance with the Byelaws, normally serve for two years, and then retire from the Presidency and from Council.

The President shall chair Council and all General Meetings and shall be an ex-officio member of all Standing Committees.

The President shall be responsible for the proper conduct of the Society's business and shall ensure that:

i) the provisions of the Charter and Byelaws of the Society are maintained;
ii) the activities of the Society are consistent with its charitable status;
iii) all Officers and members of Council and of Standing Committees perform the duties assigned to them properly;
iv) reports are called for from Standing Committees, Scientific Committees, Temporary Committees, Working Groups, Specialist Groups, Regional Groups and staff;
v) extraordinary meetings of Council and of Committees are called when necessary; and
vi) appropriate measures are proposed to Council for the good management of the Society.

The President, when prevented from giving full attention to the current business of the Society, shall provide timely notice to an Officer in order that the responsibilities normally undertaken by the President are discharged.

4.2 Vice-Presidents

A Vice-President or other Officer shall normally chair Council or other meetings when the President is absent, or when the President is unable to give full attention to the current business of the Society.

Nomination of Vice Presidents for the succeeding year shall be made to Council by the Nominations Committee.

The Vice Presidents shall normally serve for three years but may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms in Office.

The Vice Presidents shall be elected by ballot, from the members of Council for the succeeding year, at the Annual General Meeting (Regulation R/G/10).

The Vice Presidents shall attend relevant Standing Committee meetings and ensure that:

(i) minutes of the proceedings of such meetings are taken;

(ii) all other necessary records in connection with the Society's business are kept

4.3.1 Vice President, Foreign & External Affairs

The Vice President, Foreign & External Affairs, is responsible for the general supervision of all matters relating to the external and international roles of the Society as Council may require, including liaison with Government and external stakeholders on matters pertaining to geoscience, and co-ordination of responses to public consultations on matters pertaining to geoscience or geoscientists.

The Vice President, Foreign & External Affairs, shall chair the External Relations Committee (Regulation R/G/7).

4.3.2 Vice President, Professional Matters

The Vice President, Professional Matters, is responsible for the general supervision of all matters relating to the professional activities of the Society as Council may require, including:

- validation of Fellows as Chartered Geologists and Chartered Scientists;
- election of Fellows as European Geologists; and
- Continuing Professional Development.

The Vice President, Professional Matters, shall be a Chartered Geologist, and shall chair the Professional and Chartership Committee (Regulation R/G/7).

4.3.3 Vice President, Publications

The Vice President, Publications, is responsible for the general supervision of all matters related to the publishing activities of the Society as Council may require, including the publication of books and journals in order to:

- fulfil the objectives of the Geological Society; and
- provide a financial contribution to support the wider aims of the Society.

The Vice President, (Publications) shall chair the Publications Committee.

4.3.4 Vice President, Science

The Vice President, Science is responsible for the general supervision of all matters related to the scientific activities of the Society as Council may require, including:

- ensuring that the scientific output of the Society is maintained at the highest international standards, and to encourage the dissemination of the resulting knowledge;
- developing a high quality and relevant portfolio of scientific meetings in London and around the UK; and
- advising on possible future Special Publications/thematic sets and encourage publications resultant on meetings.

The Vice President, Science shall chair the Science Committee.

4.4 Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for the general supervision of all matters relating to the finances of the Society as Council may require, including its accounts, real estate, investments, and funds, and ensuring that these are reported appropriately to Council and the Fellows.

Nomination for the office of Treasurer for the succeeding year shall be made by the Nominations Committee (Regulation R/G/9).

The Treasurer(s) shall normally serve for three years but may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms (Regulation R/G/10).

The Treasurer shall be elected by ballot, from the members of Council for the succeeding year, at the Annual General Meeting (Regulation R/G/10).

The Treasurer shall chair the Finance and Planning Committee. The Treasurer shall chair whatever Sub-committees or Panels are necessary to advise on detailed technical matters.

5. MEETINGS OF OFFICERS

Officers shall meet as required to consider matters relating to the operational effectiveness of the organisation. Further business may be conducted by email. The aims, terms of reference, structure and method of working are below.

5.1 Aim

To ensure the efficient management of the Society

5.2 Terms of Reference

To supervise and advise Council on matters relating to organisational effectiveness and efficiency including HR strategy, IT provision and infrastructure, premises, facilities, and other housekeeping matters, and to ensure that the Society adheres to appropriate health and safety standards.

5.3 Structure

The President shall chair the meeting of Officers. Membership will consist of all Officers plus the President-Elect when applicable. Officers serve throughout their terms of office. The secretariat will usually be provided by the EA to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive will attend meetings of Officers. Other members of the management team will attend by invitation.

Appendix B: Nominations Committee current membership

Nominations Committee

Current Membership includes:

Ruth Allington (past President)

Keith Myers (Treasurer)

Jessica Smith (President)

Helen Smyth (past Council Member)

Kevin Stephen (Council Member)

Vacant (Non-Council Member)

Vacant (Non-Council Member)

Vacant (Non-Council Member)

In attendance:

Simon Thompson (Chief Executive)

Christina Marron (EA)