1  OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the nomination and election process of a new Fellow is in accordance with Clauses 2.5 to 2.10 of the Bye-laws.

2  SCOPE

This Regulation covers the actions and responsibilities of the Fellowship Office, Fellows, Officers and Council in receiving and processing an application for nomination and election of a new Fellow.

3  RELATED REGULATIONS

Reference should be made to the following related Regulations:

- Regulation R/FP/7: Codes of Conduct
- Regulation R/FP/9: Subscriptions and Fees

4  CRITERIA FOR ELECTION AS A FELLOW

4.1  General

Fellowship is not geographically restricted and is open to all who meet the following criteria:

i. Possession of a degree or equivalent qualification (see Sections 4.2 and 4.3 below);

ii. Completion and submission of an application form for election as a Fellow;

iii. Payment of an application fee;

iv. Confirmation that there are no grounds which would disbar election to Fellowship.

4.2  Degrees

Degrees that meet the requirements are:

i. degrees at Honours (H) level, Master’s (M) level or Doctorate (D) level awarded by a university or institution of higher education subject to the period of study leading to the degree satisfying the following requirements:
• at least 25% of the course content comprises geological/earth science based subjects; or
• if less than 25% of the course content comprises geological/earth science based subjects, the applicant for election as a Fellow shall demonstrate an interest in earth sciences.

4.3 Equivalent Qualifications
Applicants who do not meet the requirements for Fellowship that are based on them holding a recognised degree (as defined in Section 4.2 above) may apply to be elected as a Fellow if they have relevant experience in geology or a cognate (closely related) subject.

Relevant experience should include at least two of the following:

i. a degree at non-honors level from a university or institution of higher education;

ii. employment in geology, or within a profession where geology is a core discipline;

iii. active membership of a geological group or society;

iv. employment as a secondary school teacher involved in teaching geology;

iv. active involvement in advancing the science or application of geology, such as author of papers published in scientific journals, contributions to published maps or reports or through the discovery and description of new geology such as a new fossil or mineral species.

5 PRIVILEGES
Subject to having paid the annual subscription to the Society, as laid down in the Regulations (Subscriptions), Fellows will be entitled to privileges, which may include:

(i) a copy of the monthly magazine “Geoscientist”;

(ii) one free Society journal by online access, with the option to subscribe to others at a discounted price;

(iii) free online access to the Book Archive (GSL books published prior to the current plus three prior years). For an additional fee Fellows may subscribe to the Full Book Collection which includes all new and recent GSL online books.

(iv) use of the Geological Society Library;

(v) membership of Regional and Specialist Groups and access to their meetings;

(vi) reduced charges for publications and meeting registration fees; and

(vii) other privileges which may from time-to-time be accorded by Council.

Fellows may attend General Meetings of the Society and may vote. Fellows may propose new Fellows.
Applications can be made online from the Society's website or forms can be downloaded. Requirements for applications and the current fees are also available on the website.

Complete application form and submit with application fees.

If the application is incomplete, write to the applicant stating why they do not meet the requirements. Advise applicant on actions that they could take to meet the requirements. Advise applicant of their right to appeal.

Send acknowledgement to applicant to indicate that a completed application form has been received and is being processed.

Enter name of applicants on list for publication on website.

Inspect list of applicants and provide any comments in writing to the Fellowship Office.

Prepare paper for Council containing the names of applicants for election as Fellows together with any written comments received from Fellows.

Move a motion in Council that the latest applicants shall be proposed by Council for election as Fellows.

Council shall take into account any comments received in writing from Fellows.

Council proposes list of candidates for election as Fellows.

Candidates are proposed for election at Ordinary General Meeting of the Society.

Candidates elected as Fellows.

Newly elected Fellows are informed, in writing, of their election and issued with a certificate.

Notes and Additional Information:

- Fellows shall be allowed 21 days from publication of list of applicants for election as a Fellow to submit written comments to the Fellowship Office.
Ordinary General Meetings for the election of Fellows shall normally take place immediately following Council Meetings.

7 RECORDS

The Fellowship Office shall be responsible for maintaining the following records:

i. a list of Applicants for election as Fellows as set out in these Regulations. The list shall be published on the Geological Society website;

ii. application forms received from those (listed in (i) above), who have applied for election as Fellows. These forms are to be available for inspection by Fellows, on application to the Fellowship Office, during the period between posting of the Applicants’ names and up to one hour before the Applicants are considered for election as Fellows;

iii. an up-to-date list of current Fellows of the Society including the date of their election, their address, qualifications, titles (if appropriate) and areas of interest. Data from the Fellowship List shall be placed on the Society’s website.

8 REINSTATEMENT OF A FELLOW

A Fellow who has either resigned or let their Fellowship lapse and has been struck off in accordance to the Society’s Regulations or Bye-Laws. They must reapply, if eligible, through the same process and procedures as are required of any person wishing to apply for Fellowship.

In exceptional cases when a Fellow has let their Fellowship lapse they may be readmitted without the need for re-election on the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and subject to the approval of the Secretary for Professional Matters. All exceptions recommended for acceptance or refusal will be reported by the Professional Secretary to the next meeting of the Professional Committee and subsequently to Council. The Professional Committee and Council may overturn and reverse any decision taken by the Professional Secretary and any fee if paid will be refunded and the applicant informed within 14 days of the Committee’s or Council’s decision.

9 PROPOSERS

Applicants are normally required to find two proposers who are Fellows of the Society. For applicant’s resident overseas and for others who have difficulty in identifying Fellows to act as proposers, Council will act as their proposers.