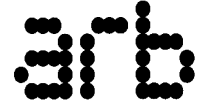


Response Form - Consultation paper 2008/02



Architects Registration Board

Consultation 2008/02 - Amendments to the Electoral Scheme

Response from:

(Name)
(Job Title)
(Organisation)
(Postal address)
(email address)

Please complete and return to Architects Registration Board, Ability House, 7 Portland Place, London W1B 1PP, by 5pm on Friday 4 July 2008

This response form is also available to complete electronically at www.arb.org.uk/news/consultations and may be submitted by email to info@arb.org.uk

Responses may also be returned by fax to 020 7436 5269

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
Title of scheme: Electoral Scheme for the Election of Architect Members to the Architects Registration Board	Grammatical change only	
<p>Interpretation</p> <p>“Ballot material” means the ballot papers, the internet voting website, the candidates’ election statements and the envelopes for the despatch and return of ballot papers</p>	Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility	
<p>Interpretation</p> <p>“Registered Person” means an individual whose name appears in the Register of Architects established under the Act</p>	Deletion made in anticipation of the Statutory Instrument for amending the Architects Act in line with the EU Directive on Mutual Recognition of Qualifications	
<p>Interpretation</p> <p>“Register” means the Register of Architects established under the Act excluding any person who registered only either in Part 2 thereof or (for the avoidance of doubt) in the list of visiting EEA architect</p>	Amended in anticipation of the Statutory Instrument for amending the Architects Act in line with the EU Directive on Mutual Recognition of Qualifications	
<p>Interpretation</p> <p>“Returning Officer” means an individual appointed in accordance with Paragraph 2.1 of this scheme</p>	Clarification	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>2.2</p> <p>The Returning Officer shall appoint an independent body to supervise the conduct of the election. The independent body so appointed shall be responsible for arranging the printing and distribution of ballot material and for counting the votes cast in accordance with this Scheme. The independent body shall arrange for the printing and distribution of the ballot material by the most cost effective method deemed appropriate by the Returning Officer. The Board shall provide the independent body with sufficient financial resources for the independent body to carry out its functions described in this paragraph.</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	
<p>4.2</p> <p>The election notice shall specify the following information:</p> <p>(f) the date upon which the ballot material for the election shall be distributed;</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>(g) the date upon which the votes for the candidates shall be received;</p> <p>(h) the name of the independent body which is responsible for arranging the printing, distributing and counting of the ballot material;</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	
<p>5.5 The candidate shall sign the nomination paper to confirm that:</p> <p>(a) the information provided is correct; and</p> <p>(b) he or she is willing to serve as a member of the Board; and</p> <p>(c) he or she undertakes to observe and comply with the Board's General Rules and Board Members' Handbook.</p> <p>Any nomination which does not comply with these requirements shall be deemed invalid.</p>	<p>Grammatical change</p>	
<p>5.7 A candidate is permitted to provide an election statement, accompanied by a passport-sized photograph if they so wish, which shall be circulated to all Registered Persons entitled to vote in the election in which they are a candidate</p>	<p>Grammatical change</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>7. Conduct of the Election</p> <p>7.1 In accordance with paragraph 2.2, an independent body shall be responsible for arranging the printing and distribution of ballot material and the counting of votes cast in accordance with paragraph 2.2, subject to the provisions of paragraphs 7.2 to 8.6.</p> <p>7.2 The independent body shall prepare ballot material for the election and shall cause sufficient numbers of such material to be printed for distribution to the persons on the electoral roll.</p> <p>7.3 The ballot paper shall include the following information:</p> <p>(a) the surnames of the candidates listed in random order;</p> <p>(b) instructions on how to vote (both via post and online);</p> <p>(c) the name and address of the independent body to which the ballot paper shall be returned; and</p> <p>(d) the date and time by which the votes shall be received by the independent body.</p>	<p>All changes in paragraph 7 are as a result of the introduction of online voting</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>7.4 Each ballot paper shall be sequentially numbered for the purpose of security and shall contain security codes to provide voters with secure access to the online voting site. The ballot shall be secret and the serial number and security codes of the ballot paper issued to any person shall not be recorded.</p> <p>7.5 Any person on the Roll who has not received a voting paper, or who inadvertently spoils or destroys his or her voting paper shall, on requesting a further voting paper from the independent body, be sent another voting paper. The independent body, when sending a replacement voting paper, shall include a form of undertaking for that person to sign saying that he/she will not submit more than one voting paper in the election. Duplicate papers shall be marked as such, and any votes that are received without the signed undertaking will be deemed invalid.</p>	<p>Changes are to reflect introduction of online voting.</p> <p>Final sentence of 7.5 deleted as a result of the introduction of online voting</p>	
<p>7.6 The independent body shall prepare a document containing the election statements submitted by the candidates in accordance with paragraph 5.7 and shall ensure that sufficient numbers of each are printed for distribution to the persons on the electoral roll.</p>	<p>Grammatical changes</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>7.7 The independent body shall despatch to each person on the electoral roll by the first of February in an election year:</p> <p>(a) a ballot paper prepared in accordance with paragraphs 7.3 and 7.4;</p> <p>(b) an election statement document prepared in accordance with paragraph 7.6, which will also be posted on ARB’s website, together with any other information which the Board may from time to time deem to be appropriate;</p> <p>(c) an envelope pre-addressed to the independent body for the purpose of returning the ballot paper; and</p> <p>(d) instructions for voting by internet.</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	
<p>8.2 In accordance with paragraph 7.7, each voter shall have one single transferable vote and shall mark numbers against the names of the candidates either on the postal ballot paper or via the internet voting site, to indicate the order of his or her preference for the candidates.</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>8.3 If voting by post, each voter shall place the completed ballot paper in the reply envelope provided and post it so that it is received by the independent body by noon on the first of March in any election year, subject to the provisions of paragraph 10.1. Internet voters must also cast their votes by this time and date.</p> <p>8.4 After the last date for the receipt of votes cast, the independent body shall determine the validity of each vote cast and shall proceed to conduct the election in accordance with the rules specified in the Appendix.</p> <p>8.6 By not later than the tenth day of March in each election year, the independent body shall provide the Returning Officer with a certified report specifying the following particulars:</p> <p>(a) the total number of ballot papers distributed;</p> <p>(b) the total number of valid votes received by post and by internet;</p> <p>(c) the total number of invalid votes received by post and by internet; and</p> <p>(d) the names of the candidates who have been elected.</p>	<p>Amendments reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>Appendix to the Electoral Scheme</p> <p>1.1 The votes cast shall be sorted into parcels according to first preferences, any invalid papers being set aside.</p>	<p>Amendments reflect online voting facility</p>	
<p>3.1 In the case of a surplus arising at the first stage, all the votes received by a candidate shall be examined.</p> <p>3.2 In the case of a surplus arising at a later stage consequential on the transfer of another surplus or from the exclusion of a candidate or candidates, only the last parcel of votes, all of one value, which gave rise to the surplus, shall be examined.</p> <p>3.3 The votes to be examined shall be sorted into sub-parcels according to next available preferences for continuing candidates, any papers on which no next available preference is expressed being set aside.</p> <p>3.4 The number of votes in each sub-parcel, the total number of transferable votes, and the number of non-transferable votes shall be determined.</p>	<p>All amendments in paragraph 3 of the Appendix reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>3.5 If the present total value of the transferable votes exceeds the surplus, the transfer value of each vote shall be determined by dividing the surplus by the number of transferable votes to two decimal places. The votes shall be marked with the new transfer value. Otherwise the transfer value of each vote is its present value.</p> <p>3.6 Each continuing candidate shall be credited with the value of any votes received, and any non-transferable difference between the total value of such votes and the surplus shall be added to the previous non-transferable total.</p>	<p>All amendments in paragraph 3 of the Appendix reflect the introduction of online voting facility</p>	
<p>4.1 The votes for the excluded candidate or candidates, together with any votes held in suspense, shall be arranged in descending order of transfer value.</p> <p>4.2 The parcel of votes of highest transfer value shall be sorted into sub-parcels according to next available preferences for continuing candidates, any votes on which no next available preference is expressed being set aside.</p> <p>4.3 The number and value of votes in each sub-parcel, and the number and value of non-transferable votes, shall be determined.</p>	<p>All amendments in paragraph 4 of the Appendix reflect the introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>4.4 Each continuing candidate shall be credited with the value of any votes received, and the value of any non-transferable votes shall be added to the previous non-transferable total.</p> <p>4.5 Any candidate who is now credited with a number of votes equal to or exceeding:</p> <p>(a) the quota; or</p> <p>(b) the sum divided by one more than the number of places remaining to be filled, of the votes credited to continuing candidates the value of any parcels of votes not yet transferred, and any untransferred surpluses</p> <p>shall be deemed to be elected, provided that the number of candidates deemed elected does not exceed the number of places to be filled.</p> <p>4.6 Any remaining parcels of votes shall be sorted and transferred in turn in descending order of transfer value in the same way, and candidates deemed elected where appropriate.</p>	<p>All amendments in paragraph 4 of the Appendix reflect the introduction of online voting facility</p>	

Proposed amendments	Notes	Comments
<p>4.7 After the transfer of a parcel of votes of any one value, if the total value of the remaining votes of lower value does not exceed the difference between:</p> <p>(a) the number of votes credited to the candidate with the smallest number of votes and the number of votes credited to the candidate with the next smallest number of votes; or</p> <p>(b) the total number of votes credited to the two or more candidates with the smallest number of votes and the number of votes credited to the candidate with the next smallest number of votes</p> <p>the transfer of the remaining parcels of votes may be deferred and their value held in suspense.</p>	<p>All amendments in paragraph 4 of the Appendix reflect introduction of online voting facility</p>	
<p>5.2 If at any stage the number of candidates deemed to be elected is equal to the number of places to be filled, no further transfers of votes shall be made, and the remaining continuing candidate(s) shall be formally excluded.</p>	<p>Amendment to paragraph 5.2 of the Appendix reflects the introduction of online voting</p>	

