Memorandum of Understanding
between Council and the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is established under By-Law II of the Society's By-Laws. The Chair of the Nominating Committee is appointed by Council and one member of Council sits on the Committee, however generally the Committee is expected to act independently of Council. The purpose of this memorandum is to amplify the By-Laws by recording the normal responsibilities of the Committee.

The Committee nominates slates of candidates for vacancies on Council and on the Nominating Committee itself, but it does not otherwise manage the election process.

It will solicit suggestions for its nominations from the membership of the Society. It will aim to draw up slates which reflect a broad range of subject areas and experience, which represent all regions of the UK and which have an appropriate gender balance.

Usually the Committee will make more nominations for Members-at-Large of Council and for the elected members of the Nominating Committee than there are vacancies. For other Officers the Committee may make one or more nominations.

In accordance with By-Law II 5, the Committee will, in consultation with the current President, identify one person to be nominated for the position of President Designate. This will generally be done at least 18 months before the next President is due to take office.

Nominating Committee will normally approach any Incumbent Officer or Member at Large who is eligible for a further term to offer nomination, to ascertain their willingness to stand. When a new Officer is being sought, the Committee will take, though is not bound by, advice from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

The deadline for nominations is given in By-Law II 3. The Committee will usually inform the Executive Secretary and thereby the membership of its nominations at least a month before the deadline. The intention is that the nominations will be announced early, so as to give time for individual nominations to be made in accord with By-Law II 2, in the light of the Nominating Committee's nominations.

1 July 2011