

Governance and Policy Report

Elections:

Since the 2018 AGM, five elections for UK Executive posts have been held. This has led to the appointment of Vice Chairs for Governance & Policy, Training, Communications, and Group Development as well as a new HELOA Chair.

A priority for the next month will be to appoint a Vice Chair for Finance. A call for nominations for this position has been sent to the membership three times, but no nominee is yet to come forward. The UK Executive are exploring how to proceed to ensure this post is not left vacant.

A new election template has been developed in response to feedback that election communication was difficult to distinguish from other HELOA communications.

Across all elections the average number of voting institutions has been 46 (out of a possible 147). As it is important to secure as many votes as possible, a reminder has been sent to Primary Contacts about their voting responsibilities.

Charity status application:

The Vice Chair for Governance & Finance has been working with HELOA's solicitor to prepare HELOA's application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Although progress has been slow due to difficulties with the solicitor, the application is ready to submit. Submission has had to wait until the AGM's vote on amendments to HELOA's constitution, changes which the Vice Chair for Governance & Finance has overseen.

The Charity Commission is currently taking around four months to process applications and we are hoping to have a decision around the beginning of the new financial year.