

## West Midlands Regional Elections 2020

### Returning Officer's report

Nominations for the West Midlands regional elections closed at 10pm on Friday 31 October.

#### *Post-deadline issues*

One candidate provided the name, but not the signature, of their seconder before the deadline. I subsequently received the signature and allowed the nomination. The consequence is that the candidate is elected unopposed and so I consider that no other candidate or member is disadvantaged by this decision.

Following the close of nominations two candidates withdraw from the contest for ordinary members on the Regional Executive. One candidate then sought to rescind their decision to withdraw. The other candidate who withdrew their nomination was made aware of this and raised no objection so I allowed the original nomination to stand. Again, I took into account that no other candidate or member is disadvantaged by this decision.

#### *Contested elections*

There are no positions where the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, therefore there is no requirement for a ballot.

#### *Results*

The following candidates have been elected:

Chair	<b>David Craddock</b>	
Vice-Chair (rural)	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Vice-Chair (urban)	<b>Nukey Proctor</b>	
Treasurer	<b>Joy Salaja</b>	
Secretary	<b>Rob Wheway</b>	
Candidates Committee Chair	<b>Jennifer Gray</b>	
Policy Committee Chair	<b>Yeow Poon</b>	
Conference Committee Chair	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Campaigns Committee Chair	<b>Phil Bennion</b>	
President	<b>Jock Gallagher</b>	
Ordinary members of the Regional Executive (4)	<b>James Belchamber</b> <b>Slawomir Adam Fejfer</b>	<b>John Kelly</b> <b>Richard Vos</b>
Candidates Committee (2)	<i>2 vacancies</i>	
Conference Committee (2)	<i>2 vacancies</i>	
Policy Committee (4)	<b>Abdur Rahman</b> <b>Morgan Ross-Inwood</b>	<b>Joy Salaja</b> <i>1 vacancy</i>

English Council representatives (8)

**James Belchamber**  
**John Kelly**  
4 vacancies

**Joy Salaja**  
**Morgan Ross-Inwood**

I understand successful candidates start their term of office on 1 January 2021.

#### *Vacancies*

The following positions that were up for election remain vacant and the regional executive will need to consider what action it should take:

- Vice-Chair (rural)
- Conference Committee chair
- 1 place on the policy
- 2 places on the Candidates Committee
- 2 places on the Conference Committee
- 4 places on English Council

Regarding the regional executive vacancies, section 4.7 of the regional constitution states: *"The Regional Executive shall fill any vacancy occurring among the Officers or Ordinary Members"*.

Under section 4.2 of the constitution the executive may also co-opt up to five additional members to the regional executive. *"The power of co-option shall be used, inter alia, to ensure that there is fair representation of under-represented communities in the Region, taking into account race, religion, age, disability, gender or sexual orientation and that this would create a composition of the Executive that reflects the community within the Region."*

#### *Finally*

Thank you to the regional secretary and development officer for their assistance in administrating this election and to Richard Vos for being willing to arrange the printing and despatch of postal vote mailings, if required.

As required by the constitution I will send a list of the names and addresses of officers to the Chair of the Party in England, to the Chief Executive of the Federal Party and to the Regional Secretary.

It is the responsibility of the regional party to ensure that Lighthouse is updated – see [www.libdems.org.uk/chapter-6-managing-member-roles](http://www.libdems.org.uk/chapter-6-managing-member-roles).

Please contact me if you have any queries.

**Jon Whitehouse, Returning Officer**

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3 November 2020