

**REPORT OF THE 180th HIGH COURT HELD AT
 THE THEATRE AND CONVENTION CENTRE, SOUTHPORT
 FROM SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2019 TO MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019**

**High Chief Ranger Andrew Pooley
 Chairman John Instance**

A total of 271 Delegates representing 147 Courts assembled for the 180th High Court in the Society's 185th year to consider and vote on the elections and Propositions as listed on the AGM agenda in accordance with the Society's Rules.

A summary of the election results, resolutions passed and presentations made is given below:

Election Results

There were 260 Votes Obtainable i.e. the number of voting papers issued to registered Delegates.

Candidates Elected	Position	Term	Votes For	Votes Against	% of Votes For
Myles Edwards	Executive Director ¹	3 years	218	31	83.8%
John Instance	Non-Executive Professional Director ^{1, 6}	2 years ⁶	240	10	92.3%
Helen Mackinnon	Non-Executive Member Director ²	3 years	217	20	83.5%
John McLoughlin	Non-Executive Member Director ²	3 years	172	54	66.2%
Michael Charlton-Hubble	High Chief Ranger ³	1 year	Majority by show of hands		
Shirley Grealy	High Sub-Chief Ranger ⁴	1 year	154	n/a	59.2%
John Springham	Membership Committee ⁵	3 years	153	n/a	n/a

¹ There was only one candidate for the position. The election was carried out by paper ballot and in accordance with Society Rule 13.5. As each candidate received over 50% of the Votes Obtainable, they were duly elected.

² There were two candidates for two positions. The election was carried out by paper ballot and in accordance with Society Rule 13.5. As each candidate received over 50% of the Votes Obtainable, they were duly elected.

³ As the election to the position is not subject to receiving a minimum percentage of the Votes Obtainable, the Delegates voted by show of hands.

⁴ There were two candidates for one position. The election was carried out by paper ballot and in accordance with Society Rule 19.1; the vacancy was filled by the candidate obtaining the most votes providing they exceeded 50% of the Votes Obtainable.

⁵ There were three candidates for one position. One of the candidates withdrew their name from the election prior to the vote. Two candidates were submitted for election by paper ballot and the vacancy was filled by the candidate obtaining the most votes.

⁶ Society Rules require that Non-Executive Directors must cease to hold office upon the conclusion of the High Court meeting that is closest in time to the ninth anniversary of their initial appointment. John Instance was appointed to the Board in November 2012 and therefore will retire after High Court 2021.

Resolutions

The following Propositions were submitted by the Board and voted on electronically. Proposition 4 was rejected. All other propositions were carried.

Propositions		For	Against	Abstain
1.	2018 Directors' Remuneration Report That the 2018 Directors' Remuneration Report be approved on an advisory basis.	237	7	15
2.	Annual Report and Accounts That the Annual Report and Accounts 2018 be received and noted.	248	3	10
3.	To Appoint External Auditors That Grant Thornton be re-appointed as Auditors for the 2019 Annual Report and Accounts and that their remuneration be set by the Board.	247	8	6
4.	Member Care Benefit Fund (formerly Convalescent Home Benefit Fund) Levy That the Board be authorised to make a call upon each Court for payment of a levy of 10p per each £100 of the first £100k of the net assets and 28p per each £100 of the net assets over £100k as shown in its 31 December 2018 year end accounts received at Head Office for the Member Care Benefit Fund, such levy to be remitted to Head Office or deducted from the Courts' Investment Fund Account no later than 1 April 2020.	74	155	32
5.	Yorkshire Foresters Convalescent Home That in 2019 the Board be authorised to pay £3,315 from the Member Care Benefit Fund to the Yorkshire Foresters Convalescent Home.	227	8	26
6.	Foresters Homes, Bexleyheath That in 2019 the Board be authorised to pay £3,315 from the Member Care Benefit Fund to the Foresters Homes, Bexleyheath.	243	4	14
7.	Portsmouth and District Friendly Societies Homes That in 2019 the Board be authorised to pay £3,315 from the Member Care Benefit Fund to the Portsmouth and District Friendly Societies Homes.	236	10	15
8.	Foresters Heritage Trust Levy That the Board be authorised to make a call upon each Court for payment of a levy of 5p per each £100 of the net assets as shown in its 31 December 2018 year end accounts received at Head Office to help pay for the running costs associated with the Foresters Heritage Trust, such levy to be remitted to Head Office or deducted from the Courts' Investment Fund Account no later than 1 April 2020.	230	19	14
9.	Management Charge That in the year 2019 each Court shall be required to pay a Management Charge equal to £1.85 per £100 of the net assets as show in its 31 December 2018 year end accounts received at Head Office. The charge is to be deducted quarterly in arrears from the Courts' Court Investment Fund Account.	189	53	18

Presentations

The Membership Director provided an overview of Marketing and Membership matters. This was followed by presentations from the Membership Committee reflecting on its work during 2018, and an update on Foresters Care, Help at Home and the Membership Strategy. Delegates were asked questions on a number of matters including Court Income, the Management Charge, the Court Secretary's Honorarium and the management of the Discretionary Funds. The results from these sessions will feed into a wider consultation being led by the Membership Committee.

The Chairman reported on the Society's Strategy and the Chief Executive reported on 'How well the Society was doing against its Business Plan'.

Farewell

The Chairman informed the Delegates of the resignation of Paul Osborn, Chief Executive, who had served the Society for 13 years (formerly as Finance Director and the last 7 years as Chief Executive). Delegates were also informed of the resignation of John Garrett who had been a member of the Board and Membership Committee for 3 years. The Chairman thanked both Paul and John for their commitment to the Society and noted that they would both remain members of Foresters.

The Chairman announced that Erik Vynckier (Non-Executive Professional Director) would take the role of Interim Chief Executive effective 1 July 2019, providing leadership until a suitable successor to Paul Osborn was identified. Erik Vynckier summarised the key opportunities and challenges for the Society in the year ahead.

Charity Donation

Action on Hearing Loss was the chosen charity of the High Chief Ranger from June 2018 to June 2019. During this time, Society members raised a total of **£60,708** and a cheque for this amount was presented to Tim Willet from Action on Hearing Loss at the close of High Court.