

## **2022 BALLOT TO APPROVE THE TRUSTEE BOARD REGULATIONS**

### **Message from the President**

Dear Members

From 4 February – 28 February 2022 the Institution is conducting a ballot of its voting members to approve the new Trustee Board Regulations (TBRs).

This ballot follows on from the members' approval in May 2021 of changes to our Royal Charter and By-laws (RC&BL), which included removing from the By-laws into new Regulations detailed rules for the Trustee Board sub-structure.

The rationale for this change was for the Institution not to spend time and money on seeking Privy Council approval for future sub-structure changes such as for modifying the names of Trustee Board positions.

Instead, a new By-law (57.2) places the introduction of the TBRs and approval of any future change to the Regulations under the direct control of voting members.

In May 2021 these and other proposed changes to our Royal Charter and By-laws received overwhelming support from members participating in the RC&BL ballot and, in November 2021, the Institution received the Privy Council's ratification of the amended Royal Charter & By-laws.

At the time of last year's RC&BL ballot members could view an initial draft of the TBRs to assist their general understanding of what might replace the By-laws they were voting to remove. More recently Council's Governance sub-group requested the inclusion of additional text to add clarity to the proposed TBRs.

From my discussions with the Chair of the Governance sub-group, Dr Sylvain Jamais, we agreed proposed amendments to the initial draft of the TBRs. These changes are supported by the Trustee Board and by Council.

If voting members approve the introduction of the TBRs then the upcoming 2022 Trustee Board elections will reflect the changes to Board positions – replacing the single position of President-Elect with two Deputy Presidents; reducing by one the number of Vice-President positions.

I agreed also with Sylvain and, through him, with Council the Institution will conduct a longer term review of the Royal Charter and By-laws since it is many years since our governing document was considered holistically. This work will commence with a scoping study beginning in March 2022.

For now, approving the first edition of the Trustee Board Regulations is the next step in the journey to make the Institution's governance arrangements more efficient, effective and responsive as the organisation evolves.

I encourage you to vote for the Trustee Board Regulations, and to remind you this ballot closes at noon on 28 February 2022.

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Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Peter Flinn  
MA MBA CEng FIMechE  
President  
Institution of Mechanical Engineers

24 January 2022  
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