

Canvassing Code of Practice: RCoA Elections

This code on electoral canvassing aims to provide a fair process for all candidates. Please read it before submitting your application. While the broad intention is clear, it can be difficult to define canvassing, so if you have questions at any point during the election process please contact the Governance Team in the first instance to discuss.

- Canvassing by candidates is allowed, subject to compliance at all times with this code
- Canvassing by way of social media is allowed, subject to this code and the RCoA's values and social media policy
- The RCoA does not provide funding for candidates' canvassing campaigns
- Any and all canvassing should be positive in nature
- There should be no negative campaigning about other candidates

The following restrictions apply to canvassing by candidates:

- candidates must not use any RCoA email (or related) address, RCoA social media accounts, branding or stationery or any RCoA resources to conduct canvassing, including any contact information from databases held by the RCoA
- candidates must not conduct any canvassing through the national media or press, nor should any comments or responses be made to journalists, the national media or press by candidates. Any enquiries received must be referred immediately to the RCoA via governance@rcoa.ac.uk and comms@rcoa.ac.uk
- candidates must not pay or engage agents or other third parties to act for them in the conduct of their canvassing. This includes other Members or Fellows of the College.
- candidates must at all times maintain the confidentiality, integrity and good standing of the election and its process and the RCoA, and not bring the election or the RCoA itself into disrepute
- The RCoA Chief Executive Officer, acting as Returning Officer, reserves the right to determine whether or not a candidate is complying with this code, in consultation with the College's Officers and / or the Risk and Internal Audit Committee
- Candidates may be liable to a warning to cease an activity up to and including disqualification from the election by the RCoA Chief Executive Officer acting as Returning Officer if found to be in breach of the spirit and terms of these guidelines, who will have consulted as above
- These guidelines apply to all candidates, and the RCoA reserves the right to amend these guidelines as it sees fit should an unanticipated issue arise during an election

Contact Information:

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