

To: All WI Secretaries Action
All Federation Secretaries Action

Cc: Federation Chairmen Information
Federation Treasurers Information
WI Advisers Information
NFWI Board of Trustees Information
NFWI Senior Staff Information



July 2024

Dear Secretary

ELECTION OF NFWI BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JUNE 2025 – JUNE 2027

The NFWI is committed to making its election process inclusive, and continually reviews its internal practices. Research has been undertaken by the NFWI staff team to identify best practice in trustee nomination and selection, to benchmark with other similar organisations and to identify ways in which the NFWI can adapt its processes to reflect its strategic ambitions.

The NFWI is also committed to equality and diversity and welcomes applications from all eligible members, particularly from those currently under-represented, which includes younger women, women with disabilities and women from minority ethnic groups. Whilst NFWI Trustees do not act as 'representatives' of their own federation or WI, we are also keen to encourage applications that ensure our board is made up of Trustees from different geographical areas and a range of different WI experiences.

You must be a current member of the WI and have at least two years federation board service to be eligible to stand for election.

The process for the election of NFWI Board of Trustees is set out below. Kindly note stage one is slightly changed (from 2023) in that it allows both self-nominations and recommendations by others.

STAGE ONE

Eligible members are invited to register their own interest in standing for election. Alternatively, if there is a member you believe will make an excellent Trustee, let them know by completing the 'recommend a candidate' form on the election website; the candidate will then be invited to complete the registration form which includes creating an election profile.

The website for registering interest and recommending a candidate is now live and can be reached at – <https://www.mi-nomination.com/wiselfregistration>

The deadline for registrations of interest is **2 September 2024**.

Candidate profiles will focus on inclusivity and ensure that where possible we are removing invisible barriers, ensuring no candidates are knowingly disadvantaged by or benefitting from the process, and to continue to ensure that WIs and federations receive sufficient information to cast their votes in the final stage of the election.

Important to note

Federations and WIs will still retain the power to 'nominate' and all candidates will require the support of at least one federation or WI in stage two (set out below) to move forward in the process, but setting out a willingness to stand will be the first step. This is in line with our commitment to encouraging women to celebrate their skills and put themselves forward for roles they are interested in.

STAGE TWO

In the next NFWI mailing (September 2024), federations and WIs will be invited to support those candidates they wish to progress to the final voting stage of the election process. The list of candidates will be made up of those eligible members registered in stage one as detailed above.

The deadline for expressions of support is **4 November 2024**; these can be submitted online (preferred) or by post (on request). Dedicated website and postal request details will be shared in the September NFWI mailing. Candidates who receive the support of at least one federation or WI will be shortlisted for the election and will progress to the third and final ballot stage. Candidates who do not receive the support of at least one federation or WI will be eliminated from the rest of the election process.

STAGE THREE

In the January 2025 NFWI election mailing, federations and WIs will be invited to cast their votes for twelve elected members of the NFWI Board of Trustees for the period 2025 – 2027.

The deadline for voting is **31 MARCH 2025**; votes can be submitted online (preferred) or by post (on request). Dedicated website and postal request details will be shared in the January NFWI mailing.

Secretaries are urged to share this important information as quickly as possible to ensure that those eligible members who would like to register their willingness to standing for election can do so in a timely manner.

Yours sincerely



Edward Adomako
Company Secretary