

## **ROLE DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR THE RHS PRESIDENT**

### **Overall Purpose**

The President acts as the figurehead of the RHS, providing leadership and direction to the trustees to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the RHS and representing the charity externally as appropriate. The President oversees the development of the organisation's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the Charter and Bye-Laws and other regulatory and legal guidelines and provides support and guidance to the Director General to ensure that trustee decisions are acted upon and that the RHS is managed in an effective manner.

### **Accountability**

The President is accountable to Council and the Members of the RHS and, as a trustee, more generally to the Charity Commission and the public at large.

### **Main Responsibilities**

The main responsibilities of the President are to:

Oversee, in a non-executive capacity,

face for the charity

With the support of the Treasurer, oversee sound financial management of the RHS's resources, ensuring expenditure is in line with objectives and that investment activities meet accepted standards and policies

Monitor the work and activities of the RHS including approval of the annual accounts and undertaking an annual review of RHS performance

Support the Director General and other members of the Leadership Team and, through them, the RHS's staff in the achievement of its work.

Consider any other matters that affect the work, performance and reputation of the RHS

### **Carrying out the Role**

The President is expected to commit an average of one to two days per week to the RHS, which will vary over the course of the year, and to:

Chair meetings of Council which are held typically six times each year including annual strategic away days taking place over two days. Agree and manage the agendas for these meetings, ensuring that trustees have the necessary information and time for discussion of complex or contentious issues and that the style and tone of the debate invites open discussion and promotes effective decision-making. Promote a culture of collegiality, challenge, openness and trust with opportunities for full and frank, but constructive, airing of views.

Chair the RHS Annual General Meeting and ensure effective communication between the Members and Council.

Meet regularly with the Director General to give support and guidance and act as a sounding board and mentor

Actively support RHS fundraising activities; develop and build relationships with current and prospective donors

Represent the RHS from time to time at functions, external events and

## **Term of Office**