

RFS PRESIDENT ROLE

The RFS President is the most senior non-executive role. It is both a leadership and representational role which carries considerable influence with members and the external world. The RFS President's duties include to:

- Chair the RFS Council meetings twice a year, including discussions with the Chief Executive about the agenda and any matters arising from the meetings.
- Attend Board of Trustee meetings three times a year and fulfil the duties of a trustee as set out below.
- Represent and lead proceedings for the RFS at major events such as conferences and Whole Society Meeting.
- Present the Society's most prestigious awards (Excellence in Forestry, Long Service, Gold Medal).
- Visit the 20 Divisions during the four years as Vice President and President to support and encourage our volunteers and listen to members.
- Support RFS fundraising by opening doors to potential donors, attending occasional donor meetings and events and supporting the stewarding of donors.

Qualities of the President

- Credibility in forestry and sympathy with the range of forestry represented in the society.
- Respect in the wider sector and able to hold the leadership role with partner bodies &c.
- Organisational nous, given we are more complex and ambitious an operation than previously.
- Genial in Council and the Divisions. Empathetic with members. Willing to push educational / charitable aims.
- Able to provide the time and confidence for fundraising and other ambassadorial aspects of the role. This is a not insubstantial requirement.

General duties of RFS trustees

- To support the development and implementation of RFS strategy and plans.
- To oversee resource allocation, priority and target setting and monitoring progress.
- To ensure the RFS is managed efficiently and effectively for the exclusive benefit of its beneficiaries and in compliance with charity law and good practice.
- To seek external advice and guidance in matters where the Board lacks specific expertise.
- To take collective responsibility for the decisions of the Board.

The President is nominated by the RFS Council for election at the AGM. The President normally stands for a period of two years. This is preceded by two years as Vice President (also elected) and is followed by two years as Immediate Past President (ex officio).

The role of President is voluntary and carries no remuneration. Expenses are reimbursed.

June 2018