

GUIDELINES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF GROUP / DISTRICT / COUNTY / AREA HONORARY PRESIDENTS



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Item Code FS330080 Mar/05 Edition no 1

The following are offered as guidelines only to the role, appointment and term of office of an Honorary President. These should be adapted to suit local circumstances.

Role

This role is honorary. The individual should have no executive function or role.

The role could include the promotion of the wellbeing of Scouting in the wider community by assisting to develop relationships between Scouting and other institutions and associations as appropriate. Activities could include 'ceremonial' duties such as presenting awards, hosting receptions, proposing toasts or attending events as an official representative of Scouting. It would also be possible to negotiate a very specific role during the period of a project, e.g. to assist with introductions to potential local funders.

Selection

The Executive Committee may wish to establish a search group to seek potential candidates. The candidate could be someone who by their dedication, contribution and approach is acknowledged as an individual who could provide inspiration, guidance and support, e.g. a former Leader. Alternatively it could be a prominent individual in the community who, because of their profile, work and relationship with Scouting, will benefit the Movement.

Suitable individuals might include well-known local business people or a Lord Lieutenant. The person's ability to 'get things done' that would be beneficial to Scouting might be a consideration.

Length of appointment

Presidents should not be appointed for life. Appointments should be time limited. The Executive Committee could make a recommendation to the Council for the maximum term of appointment, e.g. three to five years. The term of appointment should be reviewed at the

end of the term and could be renewed for one more term.

The actual term of appointment could be negotiated with the individual approached. The period could also be limited to a specific period of a project with which a President has agreed to be associated, e.g. a three year project to develop a local Business Trust. The appointment should also be reviewed on the appointment of a new Group Scout Leader, District Commissioner or County/Area Commissioner.

Appointment

The Executive Committee should propose a nomination to the Council for approval at an Annual General Meeting. If it is agreed by the Council that the post is to be ex-officio by virtue of an individual holding another role (e.g. it is agreed to invite the currently serving local Mayor), then the invitation could be extended by the Executive Committee at the point at which the individual takes up that role without reference to the Council. The Council would be informed that the individual had accepted the invitation.

The appointment should be advised to the Secretary of the next level, e.g. Group to District, District to County/Area, County/Area to Headquarters so that an appropriate letter of welcome can be sent.

Appointment Checks

The role carries no Trustee responsibility. A Personal Enquiry is required if the individual is to have unsupervised access to youth members.

Records

The appointment should be added locally to the Membership Services System.

The appointment of Deputy and Vice Presidents should follow the same guidelines as for Presidents.