



Chartered
Institute of
Housing

Vice president 2026

Nomination information pack

April 2026

Foreword

Thank you for your interest in becoming vice president of the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) in 2026.

This is a significant voluntary role. Working closely with the president-elect, Evie Copland, nominees must show they can provide effective leadership for the profession and act as an ambassador for CIH across the UK and the Republic of Ireland (ROI).

You will inspire CIH members and the wider housing sector, challenge for improvement, and be a confident and willing champion for housing issues.

"The housing sector plays an essential role in society and in our economy. Being CIH president is an amazing opportunity to promote the critical role of housing and echo CIH's purpose in inspiring, equipping and supporting housing professionals who can deliver positive change to the lives of individuals, communities, and wider society.

"I am incredibly passionate about the importance of resilience and mental wellbeing, which need to be recognised as both, personally, and organisationally critical. My presidential campaign, Rooted in Resilience, has given me the opportunity to show that resilience belongs at the heart of housing strategy, housing leadership, culture and professional practice - providing the tools and conversations to make this change a reality.

"Think about what is important to you and how as the next CIH president you could bring focus to an issue which you are passionate about. I encourage members to apply to be the next vice president, it is a fantastic opportunity to make a positive impact on our sector."



Julie Haydon
Current CIH president (2025/26)

Nominees who meet the agreed person specification will go forward to an election by CIH members. Voting will take place from June 2026. The successful candidate will take office from the CIH annual general meeting (AGM) on 6 October 2026 and is expected to become CIH president at the 2027 AGM. Nominations open at 9:00am on Wednesday 15 April and close at 5:00pm on Wednesday 13 May. Voting opens at 8:00am on Monday 8 June and closes at 5:00pm on Monday 13 July.

1. Introduction to the role

The vice president supports the president during their term of office and is normally expected to succeed to the presidency when the president's term ends. For that reason, the person specification for vice president is the same as for the president.

The president's core responsibility is an externally facing ambassadorial role on behalf of members in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, and the wider sector. The president also strengthens CIH's effectiveness by acting as a key link between the membership and CIH's governing board.

On appointment as president (and throughout the term), the president becomes a CIH trustee and a member of CIH's governing board. In the year before taking office as president, the vice president may also be invited to join the governing board as a co-opted member. The governing board meets at least four times a year, and additional time is required to read papers and consider information circulated between meetings.

The time commitment is typically around two to three days per month, although this will vary and may be higher in some months.

2. Role description

CIH is seeking a vice president who can readily step into the president role and meet the full requirements of that post.

The vice presidential year provides an opportunity to support the president and - most importantly - to build a detailed understanding of the role and prepare to take office as president.

Role and purpose

The president should:

- Provide effective leadership for the profession and act as an ambassador for CIH
- Inspire CIH members and the wider housing sector across the UK and ROI, and challenge for improvement
- Champion CIH's equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) framework
- Advocate for housing issues and for professionalism within the sector
- Be one of the public faces of CIH, including acting as spokesperson for the agreed presidential campaign and objectives (including media and PR activity)
- Promote CIH's charitable objects, ensuring any charitable activity during the presidency aligns with them and supports positive change in the sector
- Help protect the reputation of CIH and the profession and avoid bringing either into disrepute
- Support effective governance within CIH
- Be regarded as a trusted, impartial presence within CIH's governance framework.

Task requirements - president

It is expected that the president will:

- Promote the housing profession
- Deliver a presidential campaign that highlights an important aspect of housing policy and/or professionalism that is currently underrepresented. The president is not ordinarily expected to represent CIH's policy work but may reference agreed CIH policy positions and statements in presidential speeches, including the Presidential Address and the Appeal
- Act as an advocate for CIH's charitable objects and for equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) principles
- Promote compliance with CIH's EDI framework across trustees, members and the senior executive
- Attend CIH and external events as a speaker and spokesperson
- Support international liaison when requested by CIH, to help achieve CIH's objectives
- Participate fully in governing board meetings, with the right to attend and speak, and be bound by board decisions
- Support the recruitment and appointment of trustees and executive officers
- Agree a set of strategic objectives or priorities for the term of office, in consultation with the governing board.

Task requirements - vice president

It is expected that the vice president will:

- Work with CIH communications and policy teams to understand CIH's principles and key messages
- Develop and refine presidential campaign ideas, in collaboration with CIH, in preparation for the term as president
- Engage with members and act as a feedback link between CIH and members in the UK and ROI
- Support members in the UK and ROI to maximise the benefits of CIH membership
- Attend governing board meetings as a co-opted member, if appointed
- Work with the president to cover events when the president is unable to attend.

Find out more about the current CIH presidential campaign: [here](#).

Previous CIH presidential campaigns: [here](#).

3. Person specification

In your covering letter, please provide evidence of the following:

- Ability to advocate for the profession and for professionalisation within the sector
- Demonstrable understanding of CIH's charitable objects and strategy
- A distinguished career in the profession, with evidence of exemplifying the professional standards
- Senior (management) expertise and evidence of inspirational leadership
- Substantial commitment as a CIH member, with clear contribution to CIH

Please submit your CV and a covering letter explaining how you meet the criteria above.



4. Election and term of appointment

- a) Any CIH member (of any grade) may stand for election as vice president, provided they meet the agreed person specification. Only nominees who meet the specification will be put forward for election by the recruitment panel.
- b) Members will elect the vice president based on how well each candidate meets the role requirements and person specification.
- c) The only ballot held is for the vice presidency. Subject to formal confirmation by the governing board (and unless there are exceptional circumstances), the vice president will then succeed to the presidency.
- d) The president serves a one-year term. A second year is possible, but only if requested and agreed by the governing board; in that case, the president would be elected unopposed for the second year. The length of the vice president's term will therefore depend on whether the president serves one or two years.
- e) A former president cannot be elected as vice president.
- f) The selection process will be robust and will test candidates against the person specification, to ensure only suitable candidates go forward to the ballot.
- g) The recruitment panel will assess all nominations against the person specification and decide which candidates should stand for election.
- h) Candidates will be required to develop a campaign and may be asked to take part in hustings as part of the election process.
- i) The election will be conducted using an "alternative vote" system.

The post is voluntary and unremunerated, but reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

5. How to apply

Submit your nomination, covering letter and CV via: <https://cih.org/vice-president-nomination>

If you would like an informal conversation about the role, please contact CIH's governance team at governance@cih.org.

In your application, please confirm your preferred contact details.

The deadline for nominations is **5:00pm on Wednesday 13 May 2026**.

Thank you for your interest, and good luck.



Gavin Smart

CIH CEO, April 2026



John Hannigan

Chair of CIH's governing board, April 2026