

A guide to standing for election for a CDI Board Director or Chair position

The Code of Ethics is at the heart of everything we do in the CDI, including our Governance and elections processes. Written as a series of FAQs, this document is aimed at helping you to stand for a position as an Officer, Director, or Chair of PSC or a Director on the Board of the CDI including how to campaign as necessary.

1. Ask yourself, “why am I standing?”

If you haven't already done so, spend some time thinking about why you are standing, how you can contribute and how it can help your career too is a good investment in the nomination process. Doing so will help you explain to others when seeking nominees and is also invaluable in writing a compelling nomination form which reflects the experience you bring to the role.

2. How do I find people to nominate me?

The starting point is to think about who you know in the different member constituencies of the CDI and who knows you.

You may well find it helpful to take soundings with these individuals as a great way to test the water before you commit. And by the end of your conversation, you may well find that you have five keen supporters who are happy to nominate you too!

3. Can I ask current postholders to nominate me?

For reasons of fairness, it is not considered appropriate for Officers, Board members or the Chair of PSC to nominate or support the nomination of someone for election to a post with which they have direct association. For example, the current Chair of PSC would not normally nominate or support someone to be either the Chair or a member of the Professional Standards Committee, and current Board members would not normally nominate or support the nomination of someone to the CDI Board. Please avoid asking for such support.

4. How do I write a good personal statement?

It is helpful to treat your nomination personal statement as you would advise a client to do when applying for a job. Taking this approach will help you to identify relevant information to show what you can bring to the role you are interested in.

Ask one or two of your nominees to give you feedback on your draft submission, so you have another perspective to ensure it comes across well and is as complete as possible.

5. How do I seek support from members?

Nominees are welcome to seek support for their nomination, however this should not be done using any contact information that may have been gained through doing work under contract for the CDI or through having been on a CDI Committee. The use of such information for canvassing purposes would be a breach of GDPR.

Please do not lobby publicly on social media but rather use the direct messaging option to reach individuals and ask them to support you.

You may find it helpful to ask those who have nominated you to spread the word too, in which case, please share this guidance with them too.

6. Where can I get further information?

Please remember that the people currently in the various Officer, Chair of PSC and Board member roles are very happy to answer questions relating to what they do, so do get in touch with them if you feel they can help in any way.