

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DOWNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION RULES

At the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 28 September 2024, the members of the Association approved several amendments to the rules of the Association. At the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 27 September 2025, the Executive Committee will invite the members to approve further amendments to the rules to cater for a particular situation that has arisen this year.

At the AGM in September 2024, the members approved the appointment of the President-Elect for 2024 / 2025 with Julia Harrison (1981) as President for that same period.

At the AGM in September 2025, the members would ordinarily be invited to approve the appointment of the President-Elect as the President for 2025 / 2026. Unfortunately, and for understandable professional reasons, the current President-Elect is now unable to put himself forward at the AGM for election as President of the Association having served for a year as President-Elect.

Julia Harrison is willing to serve another one-year term as President, subject to the approval of the members at the AGM. The members will also be invited to approve the appointment of Anne Mitchener as President-Elect for 2025 / 2026. In the usual way, the members will be invited to approve Anne's appointment as President at the AGM in 2026.

In order for the members to be able to revoke the President-Elect's appointment as President-Elect and to approve the appointment of Julia Harrison for another year as President of the Association, it will be necessary to make a small adjustment to the rules by inserting a new rule 9A and adding some qualifying words to the beginning of rule 10. The proposed amendments are set out below in red:

*9. The President and other officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall nominate a President-elect for the ensuing year to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The President shall chair the Executive Committee and the Annual General Meeting.*

*9A. Where the President-elect is no longer able to stand for election as President, their appointment as President-elect can be rescinded at the Annual General Meeting and the President can be elected to serve a further one-year term as President.*

*10. Subject to paragraph 9A, the President shall serve for one year and shall not normally be eligible for re-election for at least one year. The Secretaries and the Treasurer shall serve for four years and shall be eligible for re-election.*

The Executive Committee is currently engaged in a wider discussion between its members about term lengths for the President, the President-Elect, the officers and the Committee members themselves with a view to placing further proposed rule amendments before the general membership of the Association at the AGM in 2026. If

those proposed amendments are approved in 2026, that will allow experienced members of the Executive Committee to remain in post for longer rather than losing that expertise within a relatively short period of time.