



Rules governing elections to NPA Producer Group

TIMING OF ELECTIONS

- October 2, 2017 Nominations open
- January 8, 2018 Nominations close at noon
- January 22, 2018 On-line voting available (NPA website)
- February, 2018 Candidates published (Pig World, NPA website)
- February 5, 2018 Postal ballot papers issued
- February 23, 2018 Poll closes at noon
- March 2018 Results published (Pig World, NPA website)

CANDIDACY

- The entire NPA Producer Group committee is subject to renewal by election every three years (at which time co-opted members and regular invitees are subject to renewal of their co-option or invitation).
- Only current Producer members of NPA may offer themselves as candidates for election to the Producer Group.
- Unless he or she holds office in the third term, a Producer Group member may serve no more than three consecutive terms (nine years) but may stand for election again after a break of one term.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

- The nomination form must be completed correctly for a nomination to be accepted.
- Candidates are required to provide information for personal profiles to be published, as part of the election process.
- The nomination paper must clearly name the candidate, the NPA region in which he or she farms and lives, and his/her NPA Producer membership number.
- The nomination must be supported by two current Producer members of NPA.
- The nomination papers must be received by the NPA office on or before the closing date for nominations.
- The decision of the appointed NPA election scrutineers will be final and only written correspondence will be entered into.

LIST OF CANDIDATES

- A list of qualifying candidates will be published on the NPA website and in Pig World. The list will also be available from the NPA office.

CAMPAIGNING

- Each candidate will be required to contribute up to 150 words in support of his/her candidacy, to be published on the NPA website.
- Each candidate will be required to provide NPA with a suitable head and shoulders photograph.
- If NPA Producer Group elections coincide with NPA regional meetings, candidates for that regional will be invited to address the meeting.
- Employees of NPA may not express support for or resistance to any candidate.
- Board members and regional chairmen may express support for any candidate, other than at one of the meetings hosted by NPA, in any NPA publication, or in Pig World.

BALLOT PAPERS

- Ballot papers will list all candidates in alphabetical order, showing surname, forename and the NPA region they are seeking to be elected for.
- Each current Producer member of NPA is eligible to vote.

VOTING

- Voting is online at www.npa-uk.org.uk.
- Postal voting forms will also be available.
- A current Producer member of NPA may vote for up to twelve candidates, by placing a cross against each of twelve names.
- A voter is not obliged to use all twelve votes.
- A candidate may vote for himself/herself.
- More than twelve crosses will mean a spoiled paper.
- Any other mark on the paper other than twelve crosses will mean a spoiled paper.
- Only ballot papers returned by the published closing date for voting will be eligible.

COUNTING AND VERIFICATION

- Counting and verification of votes will be by NPA staff or their appointed agents.
- All votes will be tallied into a national total for each candidate.
- Candidates will be ranked in descending order of total number of votes.
- Candidates receiving zero votes will be struck from the list.

IDENTIFICATION OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

- A total of twelve candidates will be elected to the Producer Group.
- Each region will have one guaranteed place on Producer Group and will be allowed a maximum of four places, to ensure that each region is represented but no region is over-represented.
- In the event of there being fewer than twelve candidates in total, all candidates receiving a vote will be elected, and any deficit in the number of elected places may be made up by co-option, at the discretion of the newly-elected Producer Group.
- All successful candidates shall accept that, once elected, he/she should stand down if his/her circumstances change such as he or she is no longer eligible as a Producer Group member.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

- The results of the election will be announced on the NPA website and in Pig World.

FORMATION OF THE NEWLY-ELECTED PRODUCER GROUP

- A meeting of the successful candidates will be called within four weeks of the publication of the election results.
- At that meeting, the NPA chairman will accept the resignation of the outgoing chairman of Producer Group, and will conduct the election for a new Producer Group chairman.