

Constitutional amendments proposed by the executive committee for consideration at the 2017 annual general meeting:

- In clause 3(a) and throughout, for 'full member' substitute 'group or society member'.
- In clause 3(b) and throughout, for 'associate member' substitute 'individual member'.

*The purpose of the above two amendments is to use the expressions 'group or society member' instead of 'full member', and 'individual member' instead of 'associate member.' The intention is to treat all members, groups or societies or individuals, as members.*

- In clause 4(a), after 'The Officers of the Association shall consist of' insert 'a President'.

*The intention is to make good an omission in the list of officers.*

- In clause 5(a), delete first sentence and substitute: 'There shall be an Executive Committee whose duty it shall be to implement the charity's objects and, subject to that, to determine the charity's general policy, to undertake the administration, management and control of the affairs and property of the Association.'

*The intention is to reflect the law by making it clear that the trustees of the charity are the executive committee, and that they are responsible for determining the charity's policies and managing its activities.*

- Delete clause 5(e) and substitute: 'The Executive Committee shall meet not less than twice a year and at such other times as the Officers consider necessary or expedient.'

*The intention is to remove the need to have 4 meetings a year, which has not always proved necessary.*

- In clause 8(e) delete and substitute: Each group or society member by its appointed representative, and each individual member, may cast one vote on any matter put to a vote at a general meeting.

*At present each member group or society has one vote, but individuals need to get together in groups of 10 to cast a vote. The intention is to avoid having to distinguish between groups and individuals, and to have a principle of one member, one vote.*

- Delete clause 9 and substitute: 'The quorum at a meeting of the Association shall be 10 members and at a meeting of the executive committee one third of the members.'

*The present quorum for a general meeting is representatives of a quarter of the group and society members. As there are nearly 90 group and society members, the quorum is not always achieved. The intention is to set the quorum low enough to enable valid decisions to be made. The quorum for the executive committee is not changed.*

- In clause 13, delete first sentence and substitute: 'Alterations to the Constitution may be passed by simple majority of the eligible votes at a meeting of the Association.'

*At present a two thirds majority of the eligible votes is required to alter the constitution. A simple majority is proposed instead.*