



Presidential confirmatory vote FAQs

All members are invited to participate in a confirmatory vote for the next President of CIEH. The recommended candidate is Rachel Flowers.

What is the President's role?

The role is primarily an ambassadorial role. Presidential duties include:

- High level advocacy and promotion of CIEH, its mission, aims and values
- Acting in an ambassadorial capacity to support CIEH key messages, policy and campaigns
- Meeting with governments and other key stakeholders on behalf of CIEH
- Providing a focal point for CIEH in the media
- Contribution to debates and decision making within the Board
- Representation of CIEH, nationally and internationally

The President is also a member of the Board of Trustees. The initial term of office is one year; the maximum term is three years.

Our first President was Edwin Chadwick. A complete list of all past presidents can be found on our website: [Past Presidents of CIEH](#).

Why is a confirmatory vote being held?

The President is appointed by the Board of Trustees following an open recruitment process and led by our independent Appointments and Remuneration Committee.

A change in the process (made by our Board, at the request of members) means that all members can now have a say in whether the recommended candidate is confirmed as the next President of CIEH.

How is the vote being conducted?

All members can vote for or against the appointment of the recommended Presidential candidate between 27 July – 28 August 2026.

Voting will be overseen by Mi-Voice independent election specialists, who also manage the voting at our Annual General Meeting and Board of Trustee elections. Mi-Voice will be contacting members with their unique code to enable them to vote.

Who is Rachel Flowers?

Rachel started her professional career as environmental health officer in the 1980s, after working in enforcement, community development, and wider public health roles she obtained registration as a public health specialist through a retrospective portfolio in 2007. In her career Rachel has had paid roles in local government, NHS, GLA, Public Health England and a University. She has been a Director

of Public Health twice, stepping down after 8 years as DPH for Croydon in 2023 to focus on her own academic work around health protection at a professional doctorate level. She is now a public health academic at London Southbank University working on public health workforce professional competency development. Rachel is currently Vice-Chair of the UK Public Health Register Board, a member of the Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) Health Protection Policy Advisory Group, a member of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Environmental Health Services Committee and Public Health Advisory Group.



PRESIDENT DESIGNATE

Rachel Flowers

CIEH President Designate

“ I am so delighted and deeply humbled that I have been chosen to stand as CIEH, President Designate, subject of course, to members’ vote.



The CIEH is the professional organisation that I have been part of since the start of my career in 1982, and one that I annually return my CPD to and I am proud to be a Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner.

Having been actively involved in the work of CIEH on and off since 1999, most recently as a member of the Environmental Health Services committee, I am aware of the long history of the CIEH and the fantastic members that it represents.

I am also aware of the significant opportunities and challenges for members and CIEH. Throughout my career I have been a long-standing advocate of the value of EHPs and our professional body and have highlighted the significant, but often, unnoticed, role that EHPs play in reducing health inequalities, and protecting the public health.

It is such a privilege to be considered as the CIEH President Designate, and if voted in, I could contribute in a more visible way to the fantastic work that CIEH - through its trustees, staff, volunteers and members have been developing over the last few years. I plan to connect with members, and future members, our many stakeholders being a visible, and vocal, advocate not only with people who believe or understand the role, and the value, of environmental health including those brilliant EHPs who are getting on and doing within our profession. This will provide me with the strong narrative to others who are yet to get, or have forgotten, our value.

In a time of significant change and uncertainty the policy makers and purse holders need to see the worth of EHPs and the risk if these roles and functions aren't funded.

There are many highlights in my career, however this opportunity to be voted as the President Designate, for an organisation that has been such an important and valued part of my own career journey is truly the pinnacle of anything I could have wished for in my working life. And if successfully voted in I will do everything I can to give value for members and CIEH. I feel incredibly fortunate.

Rachel Flowers

CIEH President Designate

What will happen after the voting has been concluded?

If the majority of votes have been cast in favour of the appointment of the recommended candidate, the Board will appoint Rachel as the next President in September and Rachel will take up office as President from 1 January 2027. If the majority of votes have been cast against the appointment of the recommended candidate, the process of recruitment will recommence.

Where can I get more information?

Mi-Voice will assist with any queries about the voting process.

Email: support@mi-voice.com