

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland



BUSINESS MEETING

2024/25

15th May 2025 at 7.00pm

**2025 ABM Details and
Annual Report 2023/24**

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/members/events/abm/>

Rotary GB&I Business Meeting 2025 Agenda

1. Rotary GB&I Regional Board Progress & Forward Plans

Chair of the Regional Board, Nitesh Joshi to report on activity 2024/25; Chair-Elect Heather Stuart to present *The Year Ahead*.

2. Annual Report 2023/24

Highlights from the Regional Board 2023/24, Past Chair Robert Morris

- **Report of the Rotary GB&I Disaster Recovery Trust - to be taken as read with questions**
- **Report of the Rotary GB&I Premises Trustees - to be taken as read with questions**

3. Rotary International

RI Director Eve Conway to present highlights from 2023/24 Board of RI Directors

4. Rotaract GB&I MDIO Update

Past Chair Arianna Castro – report for Rotaract 2023/24

Chair Penelope Milner to present progress and activity for Rotaract 2024/25

5. Statements of Account for 2023/24

Honorary Treasurer Richard Campbell will present the annual accounts of the Association for the year 2023/24. After discussion the following resolution will be put to the meeting:

That the audited statements of account for the year ended 30th June 2024 be adopted.

6. Auditors

That Burgis and Bullock, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, be proposed for appointment as auditors to the Association for 2024/25.

7. Nominations

District Governors for 2027/28 are formally presented for nomination to the Board of Rotary International:

District Governors 2027/28:		
District 1010 – TBC	District 1110 – Kevin Flynn	District 1190 – TBC
District 1030 – TBC	District 1120 – Mark Underwood	District 1200 – Rachel Goodfellow
District 1040 – TBC	District 1130 – TBC	District 1210 – Roy Barber
District 1060 – Sushil Nand	District 1145 – Nana Opere	District 1220 – Robin Morrison
District 1070 – Parvez Bhatta	District 1150 – TBC	District 1240 – Sue Pipe
District 1080 – TBC	District 1160 – Michael Duke	District 1260 – Claudio Duran
District 1090 – TBC	District 1175 – Nigel Davey	District 1285 – James Anderton
District 1100 – Andrew Bartlett	District 1180 – Eryl Edwards	District 1320 – Colin Vooght

8. Proposed budget for 2025/26

Honorary Treasurer Richard Campbell will present the budget for the Rotary year 2025/26 and the triennial financial forecast. See Annual Report 2023/24.

After discussion, the following resolution will be put to the business meeting:

That the 2025/26 Budget incorporating an annual subscription of £86 per member, be adopted.

9. Resolutions to the Rotary GB&I Business Meeting 2025

Overview

Resolution Number with Purpose and Effect
<p>24/25:01 To amend the District Governor Forum as detailed in Bylaw 4</p> <p>The DG Forum is the representative body of the clubs in the Area and the District Governors are accountable to the Rotary GB&I Board. It is important that the Forum meets on a regular basis to ensure strong communication is maintained between the Forum itself and to/from the Board. Having the DG Board Member Chair the group and work in collaboration with the Board Chair, will facilitate stronger links between the two bodies.</p>
<p>24/25:02 To amend the Quorum for a Rotary Club as detailed in Bylaw 6 Clause 5</p> <p>Aligning the required quorum for each meeting of a Rotary Club to that of both the Rotary GB&I ABM and of District Councils' level of 25%, this resolution shall facilitate operations of the club and enable decisions to be taken.</p>
<p>24/25:03 To amend Proxy Voting as detailed in Bylaw 8.040.5</p> <p>Where District Council meetings are held in person or are hybrid, those who would normally attend in person but are unable to do so for whatever reason should still be entitled to vote by appointing a proxy in their place.</p>
<p>24/25:04 To amend Term of Office as detailed in Bylaw 12.30.3</p> <p>This resolution allows for a chair to serve for 3 years normally but with the option of a further one year where for example, they are training a successor in the role. It also brings the tenure requirements in line with the recent directive of the Rotary Foundation that District Foundation chairs shall serve for three years but may serve for an additional year where they are training a successor.</p>
<p>24/25:05 To amend Term of Office as detailed in Club Article 13</p> <p>The current provisions could result in a club president being required to remain in post indefinitely until a successor is found. That may dissuade members from standing for election. The proposal is to put a cap on the period that the president may be in post of a maximum of 3 years. WITHDRAWN</p>

CLOSE OF BUSINESS

Voting will open 11am Friday 16th May 2025, closing 7am Monday 2nd June 2025.

1 **RESOLUTION 24/25:01**

2 To amend the District Governor Forum as detailed in Bylaw 4

3
4 **PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY GB&I BOARD**

5 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland that the BYLAWS
6 OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND be and are hereby amended as
7 follows:
8

9 **IF THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED THIS WILL RESULT IN:**

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11 **Bylaw 4 District Governor Forum**

12 There shall be convened a District Governor Forum comprising the RI Director for the Area,
13 and the district governors. The Forum shall meet not less than four times per annum,
14 provided that such meetings may be convened by electronic means unless otherwise agreed
15 by the Board.
16

17 District Governor Forum Representative Board Member shall be the Chair, working in
18 collaboration with the Chair of the Board, who may Chair meetings from time to time as
19 agreed between these two persons. The Chair of the Board shall be an ex-officio member of
20 the Forum.
21

22 The Forum shall:

- 23 a) Discharge the functions allocated to it in these Bylaws, including those granted
24 under the agreed scheme of delegation.
- 25 b) Be consulted by the Board as set out in Clause 2.20.2
- 26 c) Conduct such other business as the members of the Forum shall deem
27 appropriate, save those specifically reserved to the Board by the agreed
28 scheme of delegation.
29

30 **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

31 The DG Forum is the representative body of the clubs in the Area and the District Governors
32 are accountable to the Rotary GB&I Board. It is important that the Forum meets on a regular
33 basis to ensure strong communication is maintained between the Forum itself and to/from the
34 Board. Having the DG Board Member Chair the group and work in collaboration with the Board
35 Chair, will facilitate stronger links between the two bodies.
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37 **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

38 *No financial impact.*
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REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
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This Resolution will, to be adopted, require the votes of not less than two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting (RIBI Article 12 and 15 (1) and RIBI Bylaws 9 and 16).
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41 **The current version of the Bylaw(s) affected by this change may be read in The Rotary GB&I**
42 **Constitutional Documents available online.**

1 **RESOLUTION 24/25:02**

2 To amend the Quorum for a Rotary Club as detailed in Bylaw 6 Clause 5

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4 **PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY GB&I BOARD**

5 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the **Rotary Club of Titsey and District** that CLUB BYLAWS OF
6 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND be and are hereby amended as
7 follows:

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9 **IF THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED THIS WILL RESULT IN:**

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11 **Bylaw 6 Clause 5**

12 Except as provided in Bylaw 12 Clause 1(b), a minimum of one quarter of the members of the
13 club entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the club.

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15 **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

16 In May 2024, the Annual Business Meeting approved to reduce the quorum of clubs needing
17 to be present at any District Council from 33% to 25%.

18 By aligning the required quorum for each meeting of a Rotary Club to that of both the Rotary
19 GB&I ABM and of District Councils' level of 25%, this resolution shall facilitate operations of
20 the club and enable decisions to be taken.

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22 **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

23 *No financial impact.*

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
This Resolution will, to be adopted, require the votes of not less than two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting (RIBI Article 12 and 15 (1) and RIBI Bylaws 9 and 16).

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28 **The current version of the Bylaw(s) affected by this change may be read in The Rotary GB&I**
29 **Constitutional Documents available online.**

1 **RESOLUTION 24/25:03**

2 To amend Proxy Voting as detailed in Bylaw 8.040.5

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4 **PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY GB&I BOARD**

5 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland that the BYLAWS
6 OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND be and are hereby amended as
7 follows:

8

9 **IF THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED THIS WILL RESULT IN:**

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11 **Bylaw 8.040.5 Proxy Voting**

12 If the governor approves and voting is in-person, a club may designate a proxy for an absent
13 elector, who may be a member of any club in the district. The proxy designation must be
14 certified by the club president and secretary. The proxy may cast votes for an absent elector
15 in addition to any other vote the proxy may have. A proxy may only carry the vote of one
16 absent elector.

17

18 **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

19 Where District Council meetings are held in person or are hybrid, those who would normally
20 attend in person but are unable to do so for whatever reason should still be entitled to vote by
21 appointing a proxy in their place.

22

23 **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

24 *No financial impact.*

25

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REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
This Resolution will, to be adopted, require the votes of not less than two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting (RIBI Article 12 and 15 (1) and RIBI Bylaws 9 and 16).

28 [The current version of the Bylaw\(s\) affected by this change may be read in The Rotary GB&I](#)
29 [Constitutional Documents available online.](#)

1 **RESOLUTION 24/25:04**

2 To amend Term of Office as detailed in Bylaw 12.30.3

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4 **PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY GB&I BOARD**

5 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland that the BYLAWS
6 OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND be and are hereby amended as
7 follows:

8

9 **IF THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED THIS WILL RESULT IN:**

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11 **Bylaw 12.030.3 Term of Office**

12 No Rotarian shall normally hold office as chair of any one district committee or as district
13 extension officer for more than three consecutive years but in any event shall not exceed four
14 years. This period excludes any period served in filling a casual vacancy.

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16 **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

17 Districts have experienced difficulties in finding candidates for District Committee chairs and
18 extension officers. This resolution allows for a chair to serve for 3 years normally but with the
19 option of a further one year where for example, they are training a successor in the role. It also
20 brings the tenure requirements in line with the recent directive of the Rotary Foundation that
21 District Foundation chairs shall serve for three years but may serve for an additional year where
22 they are training a successor.

23

24 **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

25 *No financial impact.*

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REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
This Resolution will, to be adopted, require the votes of not less than two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting (RIBI Article 12 and 15 (1) and RIBI Bylaws 9 and 16).

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30 **The current version of the Bylaw(s) affected by this change may be read in The Rotary GB&I**
31 **Constitutional Documents available online.**

1
1 **RESOLUTION 24/25:05 WITHDRAWN**

2 To amend Term of Office as detailed in Club Article 13

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4 **PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY GB&I BOARD**

5 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland that the CLUB
6 ARTICLES OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND be and are hereby
7 amended as follows:
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9 **IF THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED THIS WILL RESULT IN:**

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11 **Article 13 Officers, Council Members and Committee**

12 **Section 5 - Election of Officers**

- 13 b) *Term of President* - The president-nominee shall be elected as provided in the Bylaws, not
14 more than two years but not less than eighteen months prior to the day of taking office
15 and shall serve as president-nominee upon election. The nominee shall take the title of
16 president- elect on 1st July in the year prior to taking office as president. The president
17 shall take office on 1st July and shall normally serve for a period of one year or until a
18 successor has been duly elected and qualified and in any event shall not exceed three
19 years.
- 20 c) *Qualifications* - Each officer and council member shall be a member in good standing of
21 this club. A candidate for the office of president shall have served as a member of this
22 club for at least one year prior to being nominated for such office, except where service
23 for less than a full year may be determined by the district governor to satisfy the intent
24 of this requirement. The president-elect shall attend the presidents-elect training
25 seminar and the training assembly unless excused by the governor-elect. If so excused,
26 the president-elect shall send a designated club representative who shall report back to
27 the president-elect. If the president-elect does not attend the presidents-elect training
28 seminar and the training assembly and has not been excused by the governor-elect or,
29 if so excused, does not send a designated club representative to such meetings, the
30 president-elect shall not be able to serve as club president. In such event, the current
31 president shall continue to serve until a successor who has attended a presidents-elect
32 training seminar and training assembly, or training deemed sufficient by the governor-
33 elect has been duly elected, notwithstanding clause (b) of this section.
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35 **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

36 The current provisions could result in a club president being required to remain in post
37 indefinitely until a successor is found. That may dissuade members from standing for election.
38 The proposal is to put a cap on the period that the president may be in post of a maximum of
39 3 years

40 **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

41 *No financial impact.*

42 *The current version of the Article(s) affected by this change may be read in The Rotary GB&I*
43 *Constitutional Documents available online.*
44
45

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
This Resolution will, to be adopted, require the votes of not less than two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting (RIBI Article 12 and 15 (1) and RIBI Bylaws 9 and 16).

Appendix 1 – Business Meeting Information

These introductory notes are for the benefit of all voting delegates attending the online business meeting.

The meeting will be regulated under the Association's Standing Orders, which are contained in the Rotary GB&I Constitutional documents pages 33 to 39 (issued July 2024).

The 2025 Business Meeting is being conducted online, using the **Zoom** platform for all voting delegates. The facility to address the meeting will be made available and full instructions will be issued in advance.

The proposer for each resolution will be allowed **5 minutes** to state their case. All other speakers will be allowed **3 minutes**. The proposer will be allowed a **further 3 minutes** to exercise their right of reply. The reply shall be strictly confined to answering previous speakers, and any new matter shall not be introduced into the debate.

As with a face-to-face business meeting, warnings will be issued when one minute of speaker time remains. The audio will be switched off when the permitted time has expired unless the business meeting approves an extension in advance. The Moderator has indicated that these rules will be enforced.

Use of the 'question' facility within the online webinar environment may also be used to raise points for debate. These will be reviewed by the Constitutions Committee and brought forward for the Moderator to reference back to the participating delegates.

Standing Order 16 Amendments to be in Writing – Every amendment shall be moved and seconded by a duly accredited voting delegate and shall be reduced to writing, signed by the mover, and forwarded to the General Secretary of the Association not later than seven days before the date of the business meeting, and shall be read before it is further discussed or put to the meeting. However, the Moderator may waive such requirement on the basis that the proposed amendment is clearly understandable and straightforward as orally stated by the proposer of such amendment and a written copy is submitted via the online question system. No voting delegate shall move or second more than one amendment to any individual resolution.

Standing Order 4 Rules as to speeches – reply – A Rotarian shall not, unless by leave of the Moderator, address the business meeting more than once on any proposed resolution or amendment, but the mover of an original proposed

resolution, or of an amendment which has become the substantive resolution, may reply.

To clarify any matter, the Chair of the Constitutions committee and General Secretary are permitted to address the meeting.

We realise that voting delegates may not be able to attend the meeting as it happens live. Therefore, the following provisions have been made to be as inclusive as possible:

- Text based questions and some audio questions can be raised throughout the live meeting and will be responded to by the constitutions Committee in real time.
- Questions can also be submitted by email to governance@rotarygbi.org until Thursday 1st May. A complete list of those questions, along with responses from the Constitutions Committee will be posted [here](#) the following week. Text questions and responses from the live meeting will also be included in this list.
- All voting will take place in the 2 weeks immediately following the meeting via Electronic Ballot.

Voting will open 11am Friday 16th May 2025, closing 7am Monday 2nd June 2025.