

# Inspiring great people



Get involved –  
how LI members can help  
grow the profession

## From the Chief Executive

I feel very privileged to be the CEO of the Landscape Institute. For a relatively small profession and organisation we play a hugely positive role in shaping landscapes and liveable places. Our 600 inspiring volunteers help make this happen. The time, dedication and enthusiasm that volunteers offer enables the LI to make its voice heard and exercise the influence it does. To our volunteers reading this, please accept my sincere thanks.

This booklet highlights how members can get involved with the LI and help shape the organisation. Volunteers are responsible for ensuring that well-rounded professionals complete the Pathway to Chartership; they champion the importance of landscape in government and local policy; they shape the future of the profession through the LI's strategic priorities and activities, and they share knowledge across landscape sectors to inform and unite fellow professionals.

The next few pages give an insight into the roles of our current volunteers, information on the requirements needed, and the benefits of getting involved with the LI – from career development and learning new skills to networking and making new friends.

I hope it inspires you to get involved.

**Phil Mulligan,**  
CEO



# Education

## Supporting the landscape professionals of the future

The future of the landscape profession depends on attracting new entrants into accredited university courses, and helping them become competent, well-rounded and skilful professionals. This section shows how you can help develop the next generation of landscape architects.

## Careers

We have developed a host of new materials to help promote the landscape profession and encourage prospective students to join a course. At the heart is our new Be A Landscape Architect website; it shows what landscape architecture is and the issues that landscape professionals work with, as well as providing information on accredited courses, funding, salaries, 'Day in the Life' profiles and much more. We encourage members to promote the profession to young people by downloading a Be A Landscape Architect presentation and visiting a local school or college, explaining what landscape architects do, and how landscape architecture provides a satisfying and worthwhile career.

## Pathway to Chartership

The Pathway to Chartership is the route to becoming a Chartered landscape professional, based on active learning, mentoring and an examination.

The Pathway shapes the next generation of professionals. It trains and tests licentiate members on the skills, knowledge and integrity required to practice as a landscape professional. And it gives formal recognition of professional standing, including rights across the EU. More than 3200 members proudly display CMLI after their names.

The roles within the Pathway are vital to ensuring that candidates learn and develop. Being a mentor, supervisor or examiner gives you the opportunity to support up-and-coming landscape professionals – as well to enhance your own leadership, management and communication skills.

“It’s a good opportunity to spot the rising stars and future employees!”

David Booth CMLI

### Mentors

A mentor is a qualified landscape professional nominated by a pathway candidate to provide guidance, support and feedback as they progress through the Pathway. Mentors can work with up to two active candidates at any time, and the position is unpaid. The time commitment depends on the mentor's approach and whether support is offered in person or remotely, via Skype, email and phone calls.



**Pathway to Chartership Mentor**  
Catherine Xavier CMLI  
Principal, JBA Consultancy Services

"Mentoring is a two-way street. I'm keen to pass on my knowledge, but mentors also develop as part of the process. It keeps you refreshed and up-to-date and enables you to question your own decisions and actions.

At the end of the day the Pathway to Chartership is not about passing an exam; it is about becoming a confident landscape architect and being able to take on projects on your own. As a mentor you can be a role model and inspiration and help build those solid foundations."

#### Get involved

Find out more about supporting Pathway candidates as a mentor, supervisor or examiner: email [pathway@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:pathway@landscapeinstitute.org)

### Supervisors

Supervisors monitor candidates' progress and provide support and independent feedback to mentors. Each supervisor commonly takes on 10-20 candidates and receives £12.50 per active candidate per quarter. Supervisors contribute flexible hours of their choice; meetings with candidates are not required.



**Pathway to Chartership Supervisor, Mentor and Examiner**  
Nigel Thorne FLI – Independent  
Landscape Management Consultant

"I've been a Pathway supervisor for many years because frankly, the profession is very important to me.

Being a supervisor ups your game as a professional. It means networking and being involved in the wider industry, which helps my professional life – as a sole practitioner, it can be tempting to become wrapped up in one's own way of approaching things. And it's always incredibly satisfying to see a candidate successfully come through the Pathway."

“Being a mentor is a chance to help the next generation of landscape architects and turn them into confident and competent professionals.”

Catherine Xavier CMLI

“It’s given me an opportunity to engage with the profession more widely, and work with people with a wealth of knowledge and different perspectives I would have never have encountered otherwise.”

Michelle Bolger CMLI

### Examiners

Pathway examiners maintain the Chartered standard. Examiners work in pairs, testing the strength and breadth of candidates' knowledge and experience in oral exams. The time commitment is 1–4 days annually, based on the examiner's availability for exams in London or Manchester in May and November each year. An additional preparation day also may be required.



#### Pathway to Chartership Examiner

**Ian Hingley CMLI**  
Principal landscape architect,  
Urban Movement

"Being an examiner helps me to keep up with new legislation and current issues within the profession. You have to be knowledgeable across all of the syllabus areas, some of which you may not be involved with on a daily basis within your practice.

There's a social component as well, and you get to catch up with what people are doing across the country and in other areas of the profession. The exams themselves can be very rewarding, especially if you come across a really good candidate. It's exciting to meet junior members of the profession who are knowledgeable and highly competent."

### Professional Review Groups

The LI's relationships with accredited courses and schools are vital in ensuring that a healthy number of skilled graduates enter the job market each year. Every LI-accredited course has a Professional Review Group (PRG), comprising members from industry and academia.

The PRG acts as a critical friend, offering a link to the professional world, advising on current landscape practice, and reporting back to the LI. The commitment for PRG members is about three days a year.



#### PRG Chair

**David Booth CMLI**  
University of Gloucestershire

"A good PRG is drawn from all the sectors of the profession. At the University of Gloucestershire, practitioners visit the university three days a year, for student presentations, lectures and student critiques, while the panel meets formally twice a year.

We find that many practitioners say they want to engage with the course to give something back to the profession and to new students who can benefit from their experience. Without exception they all say it is really rewarding and satisfying for them. It's also a good opportunity to spot the rising stars and future employees!"

# Governance

## Shaping strategy, championing landscape

Volunteers help shape the LI's strategic direction, provide thought leadership, and advocate for the profession. Here's how you can contribute – or stand for election.

## Branch Committees

The Landscape Institute has nine regional branches and a branch for each devolved nation. Each provides membership services, events and support to Institute members including CPD talks and seminars, P2C workshops, and social events, led by a branch committee. Branches also promote the landscape profession to a range of audiences, including other professionals.

Each branch has a representative on the LI's Advisory Council, and develops a yearly Action Plan, guided by the current LI Strategic Plan.



### Branch Chair

**Krishanthi Carfrae CMLI MRTPI**  
Senior Environmental Planner,  
GL Hearn

"I joined the North West branch five years ago and took up the role of branch Secretary. Once I gained my Chartership, I then became the branch Council representative, and found it fascinating to understand how the Landscape Institute works. And now I'm branch Chair.

Volunteering for the branch is great for CPD. The networking opportunities strengthen your communication skills, and I've met a mentor who has given me invaluable advice about my career. The networking element is so useful, and I've made friends along the way too."

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#### The regional branches are:

East of England  
East Midlands  
London  
Midlands  
Yorkshire & Humber

North East  
North West  
South East  
South West

#### Devolved nations:

Northern Ireland  
Scotland  
Wales

#### The Branch Committee roles include:

Chair  
Vice Chair  
Secretary  
Student representative

Treasurer  
Council representative  
Events  
Website co-ordinator

Committee  
member

“The networking element is so useful, and I have made friends along the way too.”

Krishanthi Carfrae CMLI MRTPI

### Standing Committees

Three Standing Committees lead on delivering key aspects of the Institute's objectives and promoting high standards of practice. Each committee has a representative on Advisory Council, and the committee chairs sit on the Board of Trustees. Licentiates, CMLIs and Fellows can join committees, with the time commitment depending on your specific areas of expertise and the committee's current priorities. All committees meet a minimum of three times a year and have between 10 and 16 members, supported by a member of LI staff.

#### Education and Membership Committee

The Education and Membership Committee provides expertise on the education and continuing professional development of LI members, and on the standards of entry for the LI's membership grades. Responsibilities include careers and progression, the accreditation and review of higher education programmes, qualification for Chartership, and the promotion of a culture of lifelong learning in the profession.

#### Policy and Communications Committee

Policy and Communications Committee directs the LI's policy priorities, leading the LI's responses to national public consultations and providing the direction and content of the Institute's policy publications. It also has oversight of the LI's digital and print communications.

#### Technical Committee

Technical Committee provides technical and practice expertise in responding to national consultations, working with government bodies and agencies to influence legislation and guidance, and helping develop LI members' technical knowledge and professional practice

“There's a status and recognition attached to being involved with the Landscape Institute as well, which I have seen recognised since I've joined.”

Richard Sumner CMLI



#### Policy and Communications Committee member

Richard Sumner CMLI – Landscape Architect, Natural Resources Wales

“The committee articulates the value of landscape and the profession to important audiences across policy agendas and contemporary issues. It's given me an opportunity to engage with the profession more widely, and work with committee members with a wealth of knowledge and different perspectives I would have never have encountered otherwise.”



“What I have learnt is that there are new and different ways of being involved with promoting the profession. The more you care, the more it makes an impact. Every contribution you want to make is worthwhile.”

Brodie McAllister FLI. Director, Brodie McAllister Landscape Architecture

“Promoting landscape architecture, and everything that landscape architecture can do for the environment, and for improving people’s lives is a mission for a lot of our members.”

Michelle Bolger CMLI



### **Education and Membership Committee Chair**

**Michelle Bolger CMLI**  
Senior Associate, Gillespies

"Everyone believes that things could be improved, and getting involved with the LI can be a proactive way of putting your ideas into action. Joining a committee means you've got a chance to change things. I find Education and Membership Committee a worthwhile thing to do because we're helping ensure that landscape education gives future graduates the skills they need."



### **Technical Committee Member, BIM Working Group member**

**Anna Dekker CMLI** Technical Information Research Manager, RIBA Enterprises

"The Technical Committee looks at trends in the profession and the industry, and identifies gaps that need filling in terms of technical guidance. I've learnt a lot while on Technical Committee – it covers such a wide range of topics. There are members out there that know so much, and the committee is all about disseminating knowledge. It's really good for networking as well."

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## **Working Groups**

Standing Committees have working groups and sub-committees tackling specific themes and areas of work.

### **Education and Membership Committee**

- Fellowship Admissions Board
- Membership Panel
- Accreditation Sub-committee

### **Policy and Communications Committee**

- Editorial Advisory Panel
- Awards and Competitions Committee
- Specific policy areas such as: housing, water, public health

### **Technical Committee**

Specific technical areas such as:

- BIM
- Biosecurity
- BREEAM
- GLVIA
- Procurement
- Visualisation
- Water

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## **Get involved**

### **Committee contacts**

#### **Education and Membership:**

**Chris Sheridan**

[chriss@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:chriss@landscapeinstitute.org)

#### **Policy and Communications:**

**Stephen Russell**

[stephenr@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:stephenr@landscapeinstitute.org)

#### **Technical:**

**Simon Odell**

[simono@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:simono@landscapeinstitute.org)

### Advisory Council

Advisory Council gives a voice to members, representing members around the country and across the profession, including students and licentiates. It helps set the LI's strategic objectives, meeting three times a year. Council members are elected every two years.

There are up to 30 Council members:

- Five directly elected Honorary Officers (President, Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Immediate Past President / President Elect)
- Three representatives of the Standing Committees
- 12 branch representatives
- Seven directly elected corporate members
- Two directly elected licentiate members
- One directly elected student member



**Elected Corporate Council member**  
**Adrian Wikeley CMLI**  
**Director and Head of Design, LUC**

"Council is a very representative group – it's important that it reflects the diversity of the LI membership. Being an elected Council member has developed my professional skills and given me a better understanding of the role of LI members within local authorities and non-commercial organisations. It's a great way of supporting the activities of the profession, and it's also an excellent opportunity in terms of one's own professional development."

### Register of Interest

We encourage members to inform us of their areas of professional expertise and skills. This enables us to contact people who can help us respond to consultations or contribute to policy work when the need arises.

#### National level consultations

We are currently focusing on four main policy areas; housing, green infrastructure, water and public health. We emphasise our messages on these issues in government consultations to order to influence policy.

We want to be able to access a range of views across the profession to inform our position when the government consults on proposals to change or introduce policies. Members are welcome to send us their responses to national consultations to help shape and inform our own response. Providing input to consultations is an opportunity for members to help develop the policy context that often shapes landscape architects' working lives.

#### External representation

Our policy publications and resources create new opportunities to disseminate the LI's messages and represent the Institute. We welcome members who want to promote the profession and communicate our messages on landscape within policy areas, reflecting the needs and aspirations of the wider membership. This could mean for example, taking part in roundtable discussions, developing partnerships with other organisations or speaking at events.

To register your interests or get involved, contact Stephen Russell, Head of Policy: [stephenr@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:stephenr@landscapeinstitute.org)

## Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees oversees the strategic direction and function of the LI, ensuring that the core values and purposes of the organisation are reflected in operational processes. The Board has legal responsibility for the Institute as a charity and its compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

It meets about six times every year and has up to 12 members:

- Five directly elected Honorary Officers (President, Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Immediate Past President / President Elect)
- The chairs of the three standing committees
- Independent trustees who may or may not be LI members, appointed for their particular skills and experience.

Elections are held every two years to appoint new members, and independent trustees are appointed for two years via the Appointments and Selection Committee.

### Get involved

To find out about standing for election for Advisory Council or the Board of Trustees, contact Andy Wallace: [andyw@landscapeinstitute.org](mailto:andyw@landscapeinstitute.org)



### Board of Trustees member

**Noel Farrer PLI – Founding Director, Farrer Huxley Associates**

“By being on the Board, you’re thrown into thinking about a wide range of things. There is a lot of negotiating agreements, and really listening and understanding alternative points of view. The Board is about a diversity of thinking and facing up to sector-wide challenges. Through effective discussions, a good board comes to collective agreements which it implements; it provides clarity of direction.”

“It is a great way of supporting the activities of the profession, and it’s also an excellent opportunity in terms of one’s own professional development.”

Adrian Wikeley CMLI

# Fellowship

## Ambassadors of the profession

Fellowship of the Landscape Institute (FLI) is awarded to innovators, leaders and ambassadors who have made a significant contribution to the development and promotion of the profession. It is given in recognition of individual talent, expertise and active involvement with the Landscape Institute, regardless of age or job title.

Every Fellow becomes a member of the College of Fellows. The time commitment required is flexible, but all Fellows are encouraged to support the College's work in promoting landscape and disseminating knowledge, and to attend its annual event.

The College of Fellows' current aims and activities include:

- Lobbying local authority chief executives to promote landscape that encourages healthy activity for children
- Promoting messages on public health and landscape to local authorities
- Inspiring young people to study landscape architecture at degree level
- Briefing Fellows on LI policy and working on dissemination
- Developing a peer learning scheme linking Fellows with local CMLIs, to provide guidance on professional development



**Fellow of the Landscape Institute**  
**Johanna Gibbons FLI**  
**Partner, J & L Gibbons**

"The status of Fellow helps set you apart. It gives an indication of your experience when bidding for work or when giving advice, especially when impressing on other professionals and clients the critical role of the Landscape Architect in design and environmental matters.

Fellows should act as an inspiration for others, as ambassadors for the profession and be innovative in approach and performance."

The Landscape Institute is expanding its Fellowship scheme: all experienced CMLIs may apply directly, or be nominated by one or more CMLIs or Fellows.

“Fellows should act as an inspiration for others, as ambassadors for the profession and be innovative in approach and performance.”

Johanna Gibbons FLI

## Anything else I can do?

If you'd like to get involved but none of these roles are quite what you're looking for, there are plenty of other ways you can contribute. All LI members have something to offer, whatever stage you're at in your career, and whatever type of work you do.

CB300 volunteers – if you'd like to get involved in the 2016 Capability Brown Festival we'd love to hear from you

Visit a school – give a talk about your work and get children thinking about landscape

Pitch an article for Landscape journal to the editor

Blog for us – suggest a post you could write for the LI website

Get your practice in the news – send the news editor details of your achievements, new projects and events

Showcase your work – submit a case study for the LI case studies library

Walks and talks - we're always happy to hear from members who can speak at our events or give guided walks

Any other ideas? Get in touch and tell us what you would like to do.

# Find out more

Inspired? The full list of Landscape Institute roles, the criteria and application processes are on the LI's website:  
[www.landscapeinstitute.org/getinvolved](http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/getinvolved)

Volunteer positions are unpaid unless otherwise stated: expenses incurred working for the LI will be reimbursed (our expenses policy applies).

Volunteering counts towards CPD hours.



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**Landscape  
Institute**  
Inspiring great places