

Catherine Birkin CMLI

All candidates are required to provide a manifesto/candidate statement of no more than 250 words that must address the 2 questions below

- 1 How would you support delivery of the LI corporate strategy whilst living the LI core values?
- 2 Please summarise your skills and experience relevant to the role for which you are standing

Candidate Statement:

I recently moved from working within a large practice of landscape architects, to lead a small team of designers where I am the sole CMLI. This experience has highlighted to me how important the LI is to support, promote and develop our profession across a broad spectrum of practices. The profile of Landscape Architecture needs to be raised within our industry and society, and the quality and relevance of our work recognised and celebrated.

If elected, I would champion the value and significance of our profession. I would utilise colleague's skills to promote and demonstrate the benefits and importance of our industry. I advocate excellence and am an active supporter of professional development. The skills of our members need nurturing and I would cultivate strategies and find platforms to attract diverse members and encourage landscape professionals to become thought leaders.

I'm a member of Design Review Panels, the RHS and a mentor on the Pathway to Chartership. I work in wide-ranging scales, from urban planning to garden design. I've worked within large multidisciplinary organisations, local authorities, leading landscape architectural practices and currently, in a predominantly garden design studio. I can see where gaps lie, opportunities exist and where the LI can help.

I firmly believe that whilst landscape is of its place, we can learn from best practice worldwide. Developing opportunities to share knowledge elevates both expertise and awareness. We are integral to enhancing lives by creating successful places and I can assist in positioning ourselves to exert greater influence