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GROUP & BRANCH CIRCULAR 996/26

To: Groups, Branches and Executive Council **October 2026**

Dear Colleague

1. 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING [AGM] - ELECTION RESULTS AND DECISIONS ON MOTIONS

2. 2026 AGM PRESENTATIONS – SPEAKERS' SLIDES

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1. 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING [AGM] - ELECTION RESULTS AND DECISIONS ON MOTIONS

The results of the elections that were announced at the 2026 AGM on 7/8 October 2026 and the outcomes of the debates on motions are detailed below:

1.1 ELECTION RESULTS

This year, CSPA introduced an all-member ballot, the first stage of a two-year trial approved by members at the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

During the two-year trial, members can vote directly to elect the Chair, Vice Chair and five nationally elected members of the Executive Council where an election is required. The election processes for branches, local groups and regional representatives remain unchanged.

Thanks to all the candidates who put themselves forward by agreeing to their nominations to EC posts this year.

The Chair and Vice Chair positions each received a single nomination, so those positions were not contested in the ballot. The ballot was for the five nationally elected Executive Council members.

1.1.1	**Chair**	Les Priestley	**Elected unopposed**
1.1.2	**Vice Chair**	Roisin Lilley	**Elected unopposed**

1.1.3 Executive Council (EC) ballot results

Candidate	Number of votes	Percentage	
Linda Ridgers-Waite*	1,705	81.8%	**Elected**
Mike Buckley	1,519	72.9%	**Elected**
Charles Cochrane	1,355	65.0%	**Elected**
Richard West	1,296	62.2%	**Elected**
Pam Flynn*	1,205	57.8%	**Elected**
Stuart Tarr	996	47.8%	
Sonny Ali	931	44.7%	

Linda Ridgers-Waite, Mike Buckley, Charles Cochrane, Richard West and Pamela Flynn are duly elected to the five EC **National Executive Member** posts.

Congratulations to all five elected candidates. We look forward to welcoming them to the Executive Council and working together to represent CSPA members and make sure their voices are heard.

This election is an important step in giving CSPA members a direct say in who represents them nationally. Thank you to everyone who took part.

1.1.4 Regional EC Members

Eastern Region	**Vacancy**
Greater London Region	Dr David Owen **Elected Unopposed**
Midlands Region	Kevin Billson **Elected Unopposed**
North East Region	Andy Aitchison **Elected Unopposed**
North West Region	Harry Brett **Elected Unopposed**
Southern Region	Greg Mountain **Elected Unopposed**
South West Region	Les Calder **Elected Unopposed**
Wessex Region	John Clarke **Elected Unopposed**

Wales Region	**Vacancy**

1.1.5 Branch Representatives

The Scotland Branch is entitled to nominate two members to the Executive Council and the Northern Ireland Branch one member; those nominated to serve on the Executive Council for 2026/2027 are:

Christine McGiveron	**Scotland**
Alistair Marquis	**Scotland**
Tony McMullan	**Northern Ireland**

1.1.6 Standing Orders Committee

Eileen Turner	**Elected Unopposed**
Keith Yallop	**Elected Unopposed**
Roy Lewis	**Elected Unopposed**

1.2 DECISIONS ON MOTIONS

SECTION A.1 CSPA BUSINESS - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Motion	Decision
A1	Carried
A2	Lost

SECTION A.2 CSPA BUSINESS - OTHER CSPA BUSINESS

Motion	Decision
A3	Lost
A4	Carried
Composite A5 (A6 & A7)	Carried

SECTION B: Pensions & Related Matters – Civil Service Pensions

Motion	Decision
Composite A8 (A9, A10, A11, A12 & A13)	Carried
A14	Lost
A15	Carried

SECTION B: Pensions & Related Matters – State Pensions, Taxation of Pensions and Other Pension Related Matters

Motion	Decision
EM2	Carried
A18	Carried
A19	Carried
A20	Carried
Composite A21 (A22 & A23)	Carried
A24	Lost

SECTION C: Health and Social Care

Motion	Decision
Composite A25 (A26)	Carried
A27	Carried

SECTION D: Digital Exclusion

Motion	Decision
A28	Remitted
A29	Withdrawn
A30	Carried
A31	Remitted

SECTION E: General Matters

Motion	Decision
A33	Remitted
A34	Carried
A35	Remitted
A36	Carried
A37	Remitted
A38	Carried
A39	Remitted
A40	Carried
A41	Carried
A42	Carried
Composite A43 (A44)	Carried

At its meeting on 3 December 2026, the Executive Council will consider and agree the actions required on all Motions that were either carried or remitted.

For ease of reference, a copy of Supplementary Standing Orders Committee (SOC) Report No.1, which was made available at the AGM, is enclosed with this Group Circular.

2. AGM Speakers – Presentation Slides

Please find downloadable versions of the following presentations made at the AGM below.

a) Bernard Seymour - Regulatory Solutions

Incorporation

https://members.cspa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Bernard-Seymour-CSPA-Incorporation-QA.pdf

b) Matthew Boyd – Connect

The work of Later Life Ambitions and Connect's Support for the CSPA

https://members.cspa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/LLA-Connect-slides-CSPA-AGM-2026.pdf

c) Jonathan Safir – CSPA Deputy General Secretary

Organisation and Recruitment

https://members.cspa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Jonathan-Safir-OR-Report-AGM-2026.pdf

d) Morgan Vine – Independent Age did not do a slide presentation but has provided the following useful links to Independent Age resources that she highlighted in her talk:

- **Please sign and share Independent Age's petition for a national social tariff for water**, to make discounts consistent across England and Wales for people of all ages on a low income: Sign our petition for a single social tariff for water | Independent Age. The petition will close at the end of October.
- Independent Age has an e-campaign network. They send emails updating on our campaigns and how people can get involved by emailing an MP or answering a survey etc. Anyone of any age, can get involved with this: Join our campaigns network | Independent Age
- Independent Age's free information is available online: Information and advice | Independent Age. They also produce paper-based guides. If people just want one, they can call their free helpline

number **0800 319 6789.** If someone wants to order multiple copies they can call the helpline or make an order on Independent Age's website: Order Independent Age guides | Independent Age.

- Independent Age has telephone advisers who support older people living on a low income to navigate the social security system and get all the money they're entitled to, as well as housing advice and cost reductions. Their advisers can be accessed via their free helpline **0800 319 6789**.

If you would like printed copies of any of the presentations to be sent to you in the post, please contact Katrina Hicks by telephone on the number below or by email (katrina.hicks@cspa.co.uk).

If you have any questions or require any further information about the matters covered by this Group Circular, please don't hesitate to contact me, either by email at josie.irwin@cspa.co.uk or by telephone on **020 8688 8418 (Office).**

Yours sincerely

Josie Irwin

Josie Irwin
General Secretary