



Governing Board Paper

Agenda number:	8.2.2 [2018-EDIN-8.2.2 Consent Agenda Item]
Agenda item:	Report on the 2018 Board election
Submitted for Governing Board meeting:	Edinburgh, September 2018
Submitted by:	Lucie Binder
Sponsored by:	Governance Committee
Access:	Open
Decision or information:	Information
Resolution for the minutes:	
Executive summary:	This report provides an overview of participation in the recent election of a member of the Governing Board. The issues raised will be addressed in the first instance by the Governance Committee.
Consultation with Cochrane Council:	May be required with the Governance Committee.
Financial request:	

1 Summary of participation:

Election	July 2018	July 2017	December-Jan 2016-17
Number of candidates	5	4	11
Number of individual votes	456	298	1,223

Notes and observations:

- The 2018 election was the first to take place under the new Membership scheme, so for the first time only those people who had accepted the Terms & Conditions of Membership, and had opted in to receive communications, were contacted directly. This equated to just over 8,100 people from a total membership of just over 11,200 (correct July 2018) and communications were therefore [GDPR](#) compliant.
- As a result of initially being denied voting rights (only Members who have accepted the Terms & Conditions of Membership are eligible to vote), over 100 eligible members who had not previously activated their Cochrane Membership asked to do so during the election and most are now signed-up to receive communications.
- Although an improvement on the 2017 election, voter turnout remains low (a 5.6% voter turnout).

- Limited information is available on initiatives taken by leaders and others outside the Central Executive Team to encourage Members to vote. There is evidence that a targeted e-mail communication may have some effect.

2 Recommendation:

The Governance Committee will address the issue of lower voter turnout and make recommendations to the Board.