

General Council Elections 2023

Trustee, Members & Groups and Safeguarding Portfolio Nomination Form

Name: Joshua House



Why are you standing for election to GC?

I would like to continue my role as Trustee - after two years of being on General Council I feel as though I've only just got to grips with being a trustee. It is a process that has taken me time to understand the formalities of, but at the end of these two years, I feel as though I have so much more to give. I would like to give more to SCM.

What portfolio are you standing for?

I would like to continue to stand for portfolios of (1) Members and Groups and (2) Safeguarding. Having worked on this for the last two years, I believe that I can continue to contribute to this area of SCMs work by holding the trustees to account on behalf of the members and groups who we are there to provide and support.

Similarly, as a teacher I have dealt with safeguarding issues on a daily basis - it is literally second nature to me now. I think that supporting the organisation with this element of our work would complement my skills and experience.

Tell us a bit about yourself:

I am currently in my second year of teaching Religious Studies in a central London Catholic School. I am intending to return to university next year to complete a masters in Sociology. I'm avoiding answering the prompt 'You could tell us how you spend your time' because I think a lot of it is teaching, but as I move away from that lifestyle I'm looking forward to being involved in community gardening, travelling more and running!

What skills would you bring to General Council?

I think I would bring the following skills to General Council:

- Big picture thinking; I think this is a great skill that I can offer SCM to support our continued focus on the strategic vision of the organisation.
- Empathy: This skill is key to understanding how decisions made by GC and the staff team might impact our members. Members are core to the work of SCM and I always have them front and centre of my work.
- Analytical Skills: Key to governance of a charity is have an analytical eye for detail, this is one of my strengths in asking critical questions in meetings to support the governance of movement.

How have you been involved in SCM as a member?

I have been a member of SCM for 5 years now. I was an active member of SCM Leeds (now ICM Leeds) and was Secretary in my final year. Throughout my time at university SCM was a core community for me and I have given the last two years to working on GC as a trustee.

What would you like to achieve if you are elected?

I would like to focus on the following:

- Enabling local SCM groups to flourish in their unique contexts.
- Enabling members and SCM groups to grow and become sustainable for the future.
- Ensuring that the staff team are supported and valued in the vital work they contribute to the movement.