



# RIAS

The Royal Incorporation  
of Architects in Scotland

## RIAS Presidential Election 2018 - Candidate

Gordon G Smith FRIAS RIBA

### Statement:

#### WHY ME?

The position of RIAS President requires an individual willing to spend time, engaging with and representing the diverse voices of its Members, understanding the challenges facing Architects today, to bring a broad and balanced perspective without agenda, be impartial, without conflict of interest, and promote Architecture in Scotland through a focused outlook in the best interest of its Members, the profession and the Incorporation.

As a Sole Practitioner with over 30 years' experience in practice, I recognise what is expressed by many Members; a perception of being disenfranchised and of alienation within a centralised system.



I understand fully the responsibilities of the position of President, having undertaken several roles at both Chapter and National level:

- Aberdeen Society of Architects Secretary 2001-09, President 2009-11
- Aberdeen Chapter representative RIAS Council 2007-12
- Nationally Elected RIAS Council 2016 to date
- Committees: Planning, PPC and Strategy 2007 to date
- RIAS (North Scotland) representative RIBA Council 2010-16

#### VISION

Recognising the benefits to the profession of the RIAS, an organisation of which I am proud to be a member of; its history, traditions, and core values should not be overlooked. It has changed and evolved significantly over my term. However, there are further challenges ahead of us, the most significant, taking forward and supporting current important initiatives in a new governance structure, reflecting on lessons of the past, what we do next and how we best strategically achieve this.

Collaboration and co-operation lie at the centre of successful outcomes. Working together we can continue to progress and develop new ideas for stability and inclusivity and continued growth of the Incorporation, responsive to changing needs.

**R** Represent  
**I** Inspire  
**A** Architecture  
**S** Support

**One RIAS.... RIAS without borders**



# RIAS

# The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

**Identified key objectives as a foundation to build upon:**

## **OBJECTIVES**

- **To LISTEN and LEAD**
- Implement recommendations of the Governance Review
- Build on and deliver the Strategy + Business Plan 2019-24
- Re-engagement and empower the Chapters and the Membership
- Inclusivity and engagement of diverse Groups through greater Council representation

## **GOALS**

- Champion the value of Architects
- Undertake Council and Committee effectiveness audit
- Industry Platform: A panel of influential and experienced Members representing RIAS
- Establish task group to explore public outreach
- Student Mentoring framework and apprenticeship scheme
- Campaign on collective behalf on Architects Fees and end 'Internships'
- Launch Schools Education programme
- Continue to lobby Government on Planning, Procurement + Brexit

## **WHAT NEXT?**

If elected, I will approach the task with enthusiasm, commitment and integrity, working tirelessly for you, at a time when it is needed more than ever. Building upon the momentum already developed by my predecessors, listening and responding to **ALL** Architects and Practices alike.

It cannot be done alone; but by working together we are stronger and striking a balance between practical realities and prioritising issues we can achieve your aspirations for a progressive RIAS.

**An organisation focused on the way ahead which you can be proud to be a member.**

Why me?

It's not about me, it's about you; the Members, your ambitions; ensuring your voices are heard.