



RIAS

The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

Karen Pickering FRIAS RIBA

Nominated by:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. David Page FRIAS RIBA | Page\Park |
| 2. Richard Murphy OBE FRIAS RIBA | Richard Murphy Architects |
| 3. Nicola Walls RIAS RIBA | Page\Park |
| 4. Andrew Bateman RIAS RIBA | Page\Park |
| 5. Russell Baxter FRIAS RIBA | Norr |
| 6. Oliver Chapman RIAS RIBA | Oliver Chapman Architects |
| 7. Jane Paterson RIAS RIBA | Paterson Architects |
| 8. Nick Paterson RIAS RIBA | 7N Architects |
| 9. Antony Newman RIAS RIBA | Michael Laird Architects |
| 10. David Jamieson RIAS RIBA | Zone Architects |



Election Statement:

I am passionate about architecture and about the business of architecture. I have worked at Page \ Park for 28 years and as chair of the board of directors I understand the governance and responsibility that is required for leading a successful organisation.

I am extremely grateful to my colleagues at Page \ Park, who are fully supportive of me standing for the role President. And therefore I would be able to commit the necessary time to this role.

I would not have put myself forward if I didn't believe that now is the time for proper change for the Incorporation. The world of architecture is changing every day and the RIAS need to be more relevant to the architects of today. The RIAS has been inward focused for too long. It now needs to be outward focused. To reach out to all its members, of all ages, all genders, in all of the Chapters.

I want to energise the RIAS and make a big change in how it is perceived. And I would work closely with the RIAS team that have been leading the change so far.

If I were voted to become President my three main aims would be:

1. Architecture First

I propose the RIAS re-focus on promoting great architecture in Scotland. Re energise the RIAS convention. Get great speakers to Scotland.

Improve our linkages with the RIBA, and such organisations as the V&A, and get great exhibitions to Scotland.

I propose the RIAS engage more in competitions, which will unite the architect and client together at the beginning of a project.

2. Supporting architects in every day practice

The business of architecture is hard. I know because I head a team that run a practice of 36 architects.

We need to address the issue of the procurement process. Public or contractor lead procurement at present does not get the best architect for the project.



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I am on the board of Scotland for Employee Ownership, which has links with the Scottish Government Committee for Fair Work and Skills. Engagement with this committee could help bring about change in procurement.

I am passionate about promoting and encouraging women in our profession and this would be a theme I would champion if I became President.

3. Promote education in architecture

We need to engage at three levels: schools, schools of architecture and the profession.

I am involved with the groups Women in Property and the contractor led Make It group. These groups are actively engaging with schools about the opportunities there are in construction.

We need to promote lifelong learning within the profession, especially in relation to the climate emergency. We need to change the way we view the buildings we create, as the most sustainable building already exists.

In summary, if I became President I would ensure the RIAS makes a difference for all of our businesses and helps us to deliver the best architecture we can in Scotland.