

The Rating Surveyors' Association
(Founded 1909)

Supporting Information in respect of RSA Committee Elections
for the period from 27th April 2017



Individual	Statement
Gareth Buckley	<p>I have had the privilege of serving the Association in the capacity as Honorary Secretary and as an elected committee member.</p> <p>I would welcome the opportunity of being re-elected by the membership to serve on the committee.</p> <p>I have over 30 years' experience in the field of rating working initially for the VOA but also in private practice, based in London and more latterly in a regional practice in Manchester. I believe that my experience in the field of rating, advising owners and occupiers, would be of benefit to the work of the Committee and Association. I hope that I would effectively reflect the views of rating surveyors in these incredibly challenging times for all practitioners and ratepayers.</p> <p>I would endeavour to represent the interests of all rating surveyors and could add a regional perspective.</p>
Sandra Clark	<p>I have over 20 years' experience in the profession starting at the Valuation Office Agency, Richard Ellis (CBRE), Edward Symmons, Lambert Smith Hampton and have recently joined Montagu Evans as a partner.</p> <p>Over the years I have advised on a wide variety of properties and in recent years I have specialised in the hospitality and leisure industry, particularly hotels throughout England, Scotland and Wales, and have been involved in agreeing the hotel scheme for 2017.</p> <p>As all the recent controversy in the press has shown rating is at a critical period and I wish to be more involved in the wide ranging changes occurring in the rating system, and to aid the RSA in ensuring the proposals and reforms in the rating system are discussed and implemented to be fair to all parties recognising its evolving nature. Rather than continue the negative view of rating currently being highlighted in the media, its strengths should be pushed.</p>
Myles O'Brien	<p>I have been involved in valuation and Business Rates for over 19 years having started my rating career at Conrad Ritblat in 1998, moving to The Business Rates team at GVA Grimley in 2002. I joined Jones Lang LaSalle in 2007 in the Valuation Portfolio team before joining Aitchison Raffety. I became Head of Business Rates at AR in 2013 and joined the Board in January 2016.</p> <p><u>Achievements:</u></p> <p>During my time at JLL I was been responsible for the quarterly, biannual, and annual valuation coordination for a number of direct property investment funds ranging from £20m to c£1bn. I specialised in dealing with prime industrial property having regularly valued Sainsbury's distribution hub in Dartford during a very difficult time in the economy 2008.</p> <p>At GVA I was involved in agreeing the basis of value for local authority Schools in Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>At Aitchison Raffety, I was involved in the 2010 list coordination of secondary industrial properties in both Watford & Hemel Hempstead. I was also involved in establishing the 2010 list tone of value for period offices in St Albans.</p> <p>I have advised and provided rating advice for number of national and international brands, including the likes of Toll Global Forwarding, Ropes & Gray LLP, Jimmy Choo and M & Co. I have also been involved in coordinating and providing appeal advice to Government agencies. Since 2004 I have also actively been involved in the mentoring and training of Graduates who have gone onto pursue a career in surveying generally and also Rating.</p> <p>I believe that this a critical time for the industry and I would like to show my support for an excellent trade association at a crucial time.</p> <p>I would like to be included in the process to become a committee member of the RSA as I would like to put back into the Association what I have benefited from professionally and personally in previous years in terms of support and advice over the years.</p>
James Thompson	<p>33 years' experience as a rating Surveyor, initially in the Bedford Office of the VO before moving into the Private sector in 1986. Past chairman of the RICS Rating Diploma Holders' Section. Now serve on the Education subcommittee and as a mentor, tutor and assessor for the Rating Diploma Study Course.</p> <p>Chaired the RSA town committee for Milton Keynes for 2005 and 2010 List helping to secure some significant tone reductions. Also dealt with a number of rating appeals in Scotland and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>With Check Challenge and Appeal due to be implemented close co-operation will be needed between ratepayers advisers across a wide range of property types, not just retail, to ensure that all the available evidence is brought to bear at the challenge stage and I believe that the RSA will have an important role to play in this process and if elected I will work to promote this wider approach and to try to ensure a fair division of effort amongst members and their firms.</p> <p>I believe that with the major changes to the rating system being proposed in England that the RSA should robustly challenge the government and the VOA where necessary to maintain a fair and workable system of local taxation whilst engaging on a professional rather than adversarial basis.</p> <p>I hope to promote this approach as a member of the committee and bring the benefits of the contacts I have built up in Land and Property Services and the Scottish assessors as well as the VOA.</p>