

Election of the 5th Vice-Chair of the Governance Committee

Robert Saunders UNITED KINGDOM (ECR)

Curriculum vitae



I joined the Congress as a substitute member in October 2015, translating to a full member in October 2016.

I have been a district councillor for 8 years and previously served as Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance. My areas of responsibility included oversight of code of conduct investigations, electoral services and developing charters of co-operation with other tiers of local government. I was Mayor of Alton, Hampshire (famous as the hometown of Jane Austen) from 2010-2011. My profession is a Registered Social Worker working in a team that assess and support service users who lack mental capacity to make best interest decisions for themselves and do not have a court appointed attorney. A key value of this role is upholding the ECHR Articles (especially no.s 5 & 8).

I am currently training to become an Approved Mental Health Practitioner (AMPH) who will work under the auspices of mental health legislation with the power to detain people suffering from an acute mental health disorder. I have a particular interest in supporting homeless people and have volunteered at a homeless shelter.

I am a Governor of South Eastern Hampshire NHS clinical commissioning group.

I am a senior steward and equalities representative (with special responsibility for disability and LGBT issues) for the *Unite* trade union.