



## **What does being a Central Council of Church Bell Ringers Representative for my Association mean?**

The Council would encourage all Society Representatives to help promote the work of the Council to their Society and membership, including providing updates on the work of the Workgroups, services and products that the Council offers and to, where practicable, actively participate in Workgroups to help support the Council's, and by extension the Societies', aims.

The Central Council currently has 65 affiliated Societies who can look to the Council for guidance and support, and it aims to provide that support and encourage ringing by:

- helping to find alternative long-term sources of recruits who have the potential to be good ringers;
- ensuring no ringer should hit a barrier to their own progression;
- promoting the pursuit of excellence in everything we do;
- ensuring that the sound of church bells remains part of our cultural soundscape and is appreciated and understood;
- recognising that the pursuit of method ringing is not the only measure of success for a ringer; and
- ensuring that the Church continues to value our contribution.

There are three main requirements to being a Central Council Representative for your Society:

- 1) holding the Council's Executive to account;
- 2) assisting with the work of the Council if appropriate; and
- 3) promoting the Council and its work

### **Holding the Council's Executive to account**

The number of representatives a Society can have depends on the number of members that Society has and by attending the Council's annual meeting can hold the Council's Executive and Workgroups to account by being assured that the Council Strategy being followed by the Executive on behalf of the Council is adequate.

While the Society Representatives may not be involved in every piece of fine detail of the Strategy, they do need to be content that the Council is heading in the right direction. The annual meeting is the time when Society Representatives have the opportunity to quiz the Executive and Workgroup leads on progress.

Continual, two-way dialogue throughout the year is encouraged.

### **Assisting with the work of the Council**

Affiliated Societies are able to access that knowledge, expertise and assistance to disseminate those aims at a more local level by having a network of people who can be called upon for advice, and a central body can manage that and share that expertise widely, plugging gaps in local knowledge. If you have an interest or specific knowledge that the Council would benefit from, joining a Workgroup is a great way to share that.

### **Promoting the Council and its work**

The Society only benefits if its Representatives find out what is going on, report back to the members they represent, and take the opportunity to raise questions either from themselves or on behalf of their members. Pulling together is likely to be more effective than territorial societies doing their own thing, good ideas can be shared, and cross border initiatives developed to recognise ringers' mobility and willingness to travel to learn.