APPENDIX 2: TERMS AND TERM LIMITS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Rules allow for an aggregate maximum term on Council of nine years. There are certain exemptions (for Council members elected to the Board, President, international representatives) and some transitional provisions. For details on how long incumbent Council members may serve, please contact Angus Bujalski, the RFU Executive Director of Legal and Governance (angusbujalski@rfu.com).

Generally, elections should be held for three-year terms. In exceptional circumstances a candidate could stand for a shorter period.[1] Examples of exceptional circumstances may be:

- an incumbent Council member only having a shorter time left to serve on Council (i.e. he or she would be timed out within three years);
- if the CB elects two Council members, and the CB wishes to stagger the appointments (meaning for example that one Council member would serve initially for a three year term, and another for a two year term – once that staggering is established, then each Council member can revert to three year terms); or
- the election is for a casual vacancy mid-year.

Note that this may result in candidates standing for different terms, for example an incumbent Council member standing for a one- or two-year term, and a potential new Council member standing for a three-year term. This is perfectly permissible. Suggested ballot forms are set out in Appendix 4. A CB or NRB need not use these forms; they are suggested but are not mandatory. If votes are to be entirely by email, then these can be adapted as necessary.

[1] Rule 18.2