HENRY ROYCE INSTITUTE

ADVANCED MATERIALS RESEARCH & INNOVATION

ROYCE

APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

March 2026

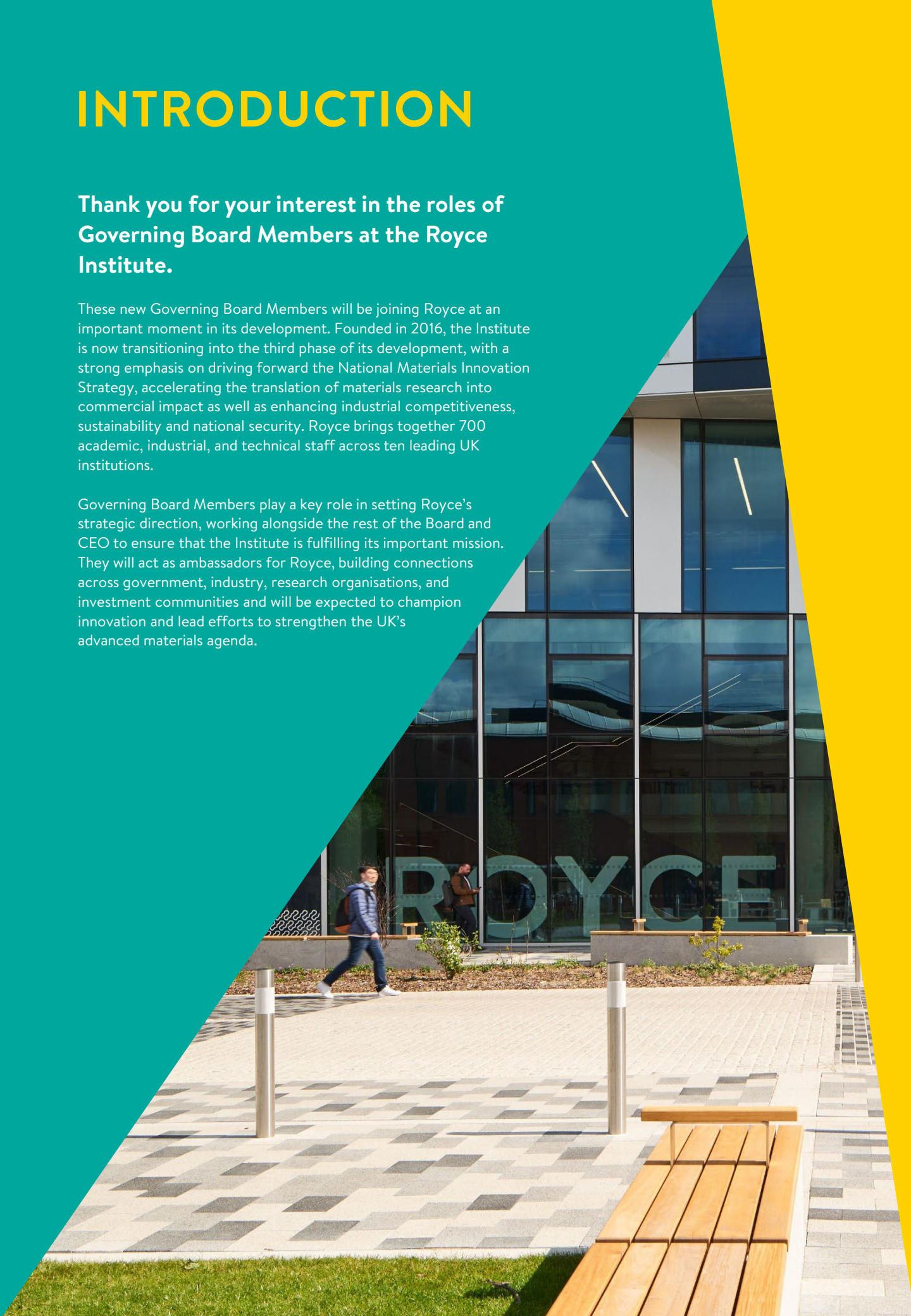
Saxton Bampfylde

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the roles of Governing Board Members at the Royce Institute.

These new Governing Board Members will be joining Royce at an important moment in its development. Founded in 2016, the Institute is now transitioning into the third phase of its development, with a strong emphasis on driving forward the National Materials Innovation Strategy, accelerating the translation of materials research into commercial impact as well as enhancing industrial competitiveness, sustainability and national security. Royce brings together 700 academic, industrial, and technical staff across ten leading UK institutions.

Governing Board Members play a key role in setting Royce's strategic direction, working alongside the rest of the Board and CEO to ensure that the Institute is fulfilling its important mission. They will act as ambassadors for Royce, building connections across government, industry, research organisations, and investment communities and will be expected to champion innovation and lead efforts to strengthen the UK's advanced materials agenda.



ABOUT THE HENRY ROYCE INSTITUTE (ROYCE)

Royce is the UK's national institute for advanced materials and was established in 2016 through the support of The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

Royce is the front door to the UK materials research and innovation community open to academia, industry and the public. Our foresighting, training and research address some of the most pressing challenges facing today's society, ranging from providing reliable green energy to underpinning the quantum technology devices and next generation personal healthcare, all within a sustainable economy. Our materials facilities, translational funding schemes, roadmapping, national strategy and training initiatives are available to academia and industry alike.

Led from the dedicated Royce Hub Building at The University of Manchester, Royce's core capabilities (valued in excess of £200 million) are located at key laboratories across 10 leading institutions around the UK – the universities of Cambridge, Liverpool, Leeds, Oxford, Sheffield, Imperial College London, Cranfield, Strathclyde, the UK National Nuclear Laboratory and UK Atomic Energy Authority.

Royce coordinates activities through over 700 academic, industrial, technical and research staff, seeking to provide and support truly national research programmes and offering a joined-up framework that can deliver beyond the current capabilities of individual partners or research teams.

ROYCE'S VISION AND MISSION

Royce's vision 'Advanced Materials for a Sustainable Society' drives innovation to meet national needs and priorities. As a world-class institute, we enable excellent, fundamental and high-impact research achieved through excellent people, cutting-edge infrastructure, 'sprint project' support, partnering in major programmes and strategic investment. Our mission is to accelerate commercial exploitation, strengthen the ecosystem, and deliver positive economic and societal impact for the UK.

Royce delivers its mission through four pillars of activity that support both industry and academia:

Enabling national materials research, collaboration, fore sighting and strategy: Working to shape our materials research landscape by convening and connecting the UK materials community, engaging with government and policy-makers, and bridging industrial sectors to ensure maximum impact from the UK's research endeavour.

Providing access to world-leading facilities and research expertise: Providing fast and flexible access for the UK research community to cutting-edge equipment and highly-skilled technical staff to enable high impact research and innovation.

Catalysing industrial collaboration and accelerating translation: Implementing programmes and interventions that meet the challenges of advanced material translation throughout the value chain, from start-ups to SMEs and corporates.

Fostering materials science skills development, innovation training and outreach: Providing professional development to empower the next generation of materials researchers and leaders with technical and business skills through a comprehensive support and outreach programme.

These activity areas are underpinned by a culture and identity that is flexible, inclusive and collaborative, incorporating both industry and academia in the advanced materials community within and outside of the UK.

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ROYCE INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

Royce funding has supported a significant investment in new advanced materials research infrastructure across Royce Partner locations. These facilities provide an open and collaborative environment for cutting-edge materials research and innovation. They are open access to all academia and industry, including SMEs.

ROYCE HUB BUILDING, MANCHESTER

Together the Royce Hub Building and new equipment represents an EPSRC investment of £150m. The flagship building has been designed to foster world-class collaborative research in advanced materials.

SIR MICHAEL UREN HUB, IMPERIAL

Royce funding has been invested in Imperial's recently completed Sir Michael Uren Hub building, in which Royce occupies the eighth floor focusing on layered materials for electronic devices.

MAXWELL CENTRE, CAMBRIDGE

Royce has invested £10m in facilities at the Maxwell Centre which address energy generation, storage, and use.

REX RICHARDS BUILDING, OXFORD

The recently refurbished Rex Richards building is home to ~1000 m2 facilities for air-sensitive energy storage materials. Battery materials and modelling research groups are housed across four dedicated Royce floors.

ROYCE DISCOVERY CENTRE and ROYCE TRANSLATIONAL CENTRE, SHEFFIELD

The Royce Discovery Centre features specialist laboratories, workshops and office spaces focused on early-stage materials discovery and metals processing. The Royce Translational Centre is an open access centre of excellence.

MATERIALS RESEARCH FACILITY, UK ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY

UKAEA's Materials Research Facility (MRF) at the Culham Science Centre hosts a range of Royce equipment for processing and analysing radioactive samples, including microscopy and mechanical and thermo-physical testing equipment.

UK NATIONAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY

Capital funding from Royce has enabled UK NNL to extend its equipment portfolio for both academic and industrial research, including for glovebox micro-raman spectroscopy, plasma FIB with SIMS capability, hot cell optical microscopy and thermogravimetric analysis-mass spectrometry equipment for Pu science.

BRAGG CENTRE FOR MATERIALS RESEARCH, LEEDS

The Bragg Centre for Materials Research is home to an interdisciplinary laboratory space housing a range of Royce facilities enabling the discovery, creation, characterisation, and exploitation of materials engineered at the atomic level.

MATERIALS INNOVATION FACTORY, LIVERPOOL

Royce has invested £10m in Liverpool's Materials Innovation Factory (MIF) which is dedicated to the research and development of advanced materials. The site houses one of the highest concentrations of materials science robotics in the world, alongside a suite of advanced analytical equipment.

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OUR RESEARCH

The underpinning technology base within Royce is broadly arranged around eight key thematic areas (with new topics of Modelling and Simulation and Imaging and Characterisation being developed), each championed by a Research Area Lead and supported by a steering group.

Royce is aligned to the UK Industrial Strategy which singles out Advanced Manufacturing as a key technology, alongside health, energy and defence. Our research has the potential to transform the digital, engineering, energy, and health sectors. Royce's research areas are complementary, and our Partner institutions work collaboratively, sharing facilities and expertise.

Advanced Metals Processing provides state-of-the-art facilities in a collaborative environment to deliver innovative metals processing technologies and novel alloy solutions.

Chemical Materials Design accelerates the formulation of matter with tailored properties (sustainable, electric, magnetic, catalytic, mechanical, etc.). Materials robotics systems focus on automatic synthesis and formulation of molecular, polymeric, composite and inorganic materials, often guided by data-driven or physical models.

Atoms to Devices focuses on fundamental research into functional thin film materials. This class of material comprises a rich source of components for consumer electronics and communications.

Biomedical Materials aims to accelerate the discovery, manufacture and translation of biomedical materials, devices and Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products.

Material Systems for Demanding Environments delivers new understanding of performance and degradation of structural materials in application-relevant environments.

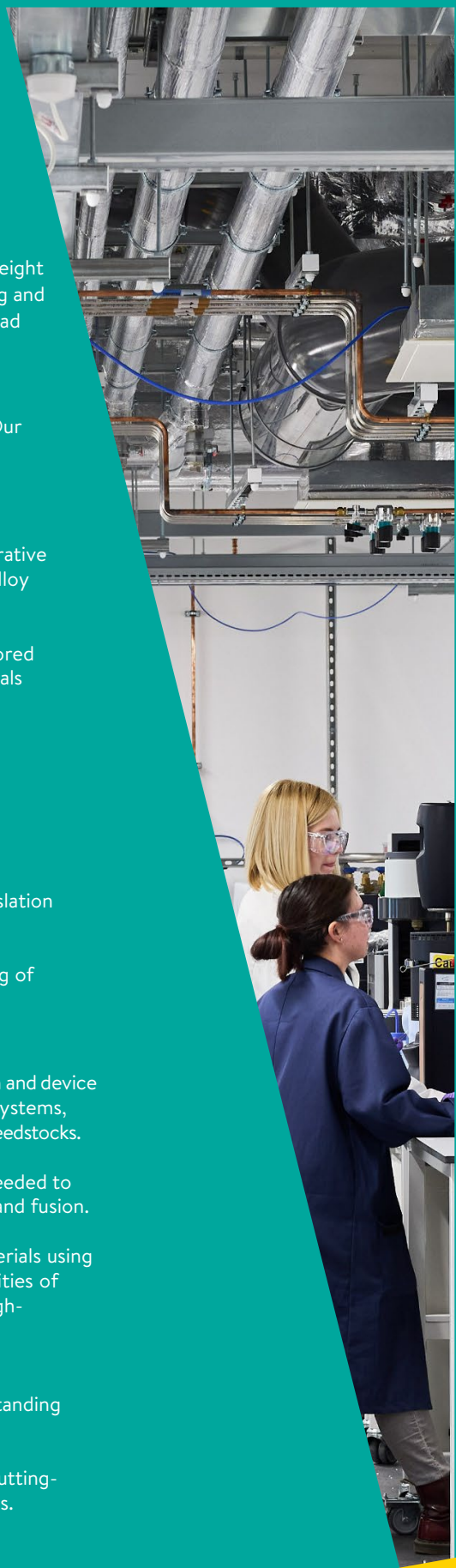
Electrochemical Systems focuses on fundamental electrochemistry research and device development to underpin scale delivery of batteries in transport and energy systems, and to drive economic supply of green hydrogen and sustainable chemical feedstocks.

Nuclear Materials aims to develop the more resilient structural materials needed to withstand the high heat loads and intense radiation environments for fission and fusion.

Two-Dimensional Materials focuses on the smart design of functional materials using atomically thin layers as building blocks, exploiting complementary functionalities of different 2DM layers within a few- nanometre thick heterostructures for high-performance electronics.

Modelling and Simulation aims to support UK materials researchers across academia and industry to access the power of materials modelling in understanding and improving materials.

Imaging and Characterisation aims to provide and support access to the cutting-edge techniques applicable across the entire scope of Royce's research areas.



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

A central aspect of Royce's mission is to work with the research community to shape the national materials agenda, ensuring that the UK's activities have maximum impact through a cohesive and connected research community. Key activities include:

- Developing and supporting the maintenance of a National Strategy, feeding into the recently established Materials Innovation Leadership Group - setting the national agenda for advanced materials research and innovation
- Identifying and stimulating National Materials Challenges leading to impactful research programmes against UK and global priorities
- Providing a highly integrated materials R&D environment across the UK engaging both academia and industry
- Engagement in collaborative research programmes crossing UK national institutes to accelerate innovation
- Royce acting as an exemplar for the UK materials community on the global stage

Royce has recently led the development of an important National Materials Innovation Strategy, having launched a series of roadmapping exercises which targeted a number of pressing National Materials Challenges which is focussing and accelerating high impact materials research in the UK.

Further information about our roadmapping activities can be found **here** in addition to the recently launched **National Materials Innovation Strategy** which the Governing Board will play a crucial role in implementing.

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MAJOR PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

Royce is involved in a growing number of major collaboration programmes with the aim of leveraging the UK's infrastructure to tackle global challenges.

These projects bring together key stakeholders from across the materials community and government to stimulate and drive innovation that will lead to economic and societal benefits.

Many of these programmes create links between leading businesses, SMEs, Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs), local authorities and central government with goal of supporting the translation of research into new materials and technologies.

This collaborative model encourages a joined up ecosystem in materials innovation, providing a clear pipeline for the translation from fundamental research to technologies which can be scaled-up and integrated by industry.

We support projects at both national and regional scales in the UK to ensure our world leading facilities are being exploited by local innovation clusters while also providing impact at the national level.

OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES IN THIS SPACE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Identify tactical opportunities for innovation through foresighting activities and accelerate promising materials technologies by facilitating timely access to Royce capabilities and resources to solve problems for industry, especially the SME and start-up community.
- Act as the nexus or key partner for major programmes and initiatives aligned with national priorities where Royce can add key technical capability.
- Support and stimulate pilot initiatives that attract investment by promoting and fast-tracking of materials innovation in high-priority areas of importance for economic growth and societal benefit. These include the Royce Hydrogen Accelerator and MATcelerate *ZERO*.
- Build on our regions of best practice and develop a culture that is open and supportive of efforts to translate research into commercial opportunities and deliver impact.
- Developing a new cohort of Application Scientists across Royce who can work with industry and RTOs to develop and deliver short-term solution driven projects serving the fast-paced needs of the technology translation community looking to exploit innovation in materials.

PROJECTS

Over the last three years Royce has developed a substantial portfolio of research projects working with industry and RTOs to support translational research. This has been both as a national and regional level to further accelerate technology translation. This has included:

- EconoMISER programme with the Foundation Industries Sustainability Consortium (FISC).
- Defence Materials Centre of Excellence (with Dstl).
- EPSRC centre for doctoral training in developing national capability in materials 4.0 with the Henry Royce Institute.
- Centre of Expertise in Advanced Materials and Sustainability (working with Greater Manchester Combined Authority, National Physical Laboratory and Catapults).
- Centre for Innovation in Advanced Materials (with Tata Steel).

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GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

As a national facility, Royce is overseen by clear and transparent governance processes:

The present structure of the Institute comprises a confederation of the Royce Partners operating under the terms of a Collaboration Agreement. Funding for Royce's core activities, supported by EPSRC, currently flows through the Institute via The University of Manchester as the Lead Partner.

The strategic and operational delivery of Royce is through the Royce Executive who report to the Governing Board (GB). They are supported by an independent Strategic Advisory Board (SAB), whose prime focus is the Institute's science delivery and open facilities access.

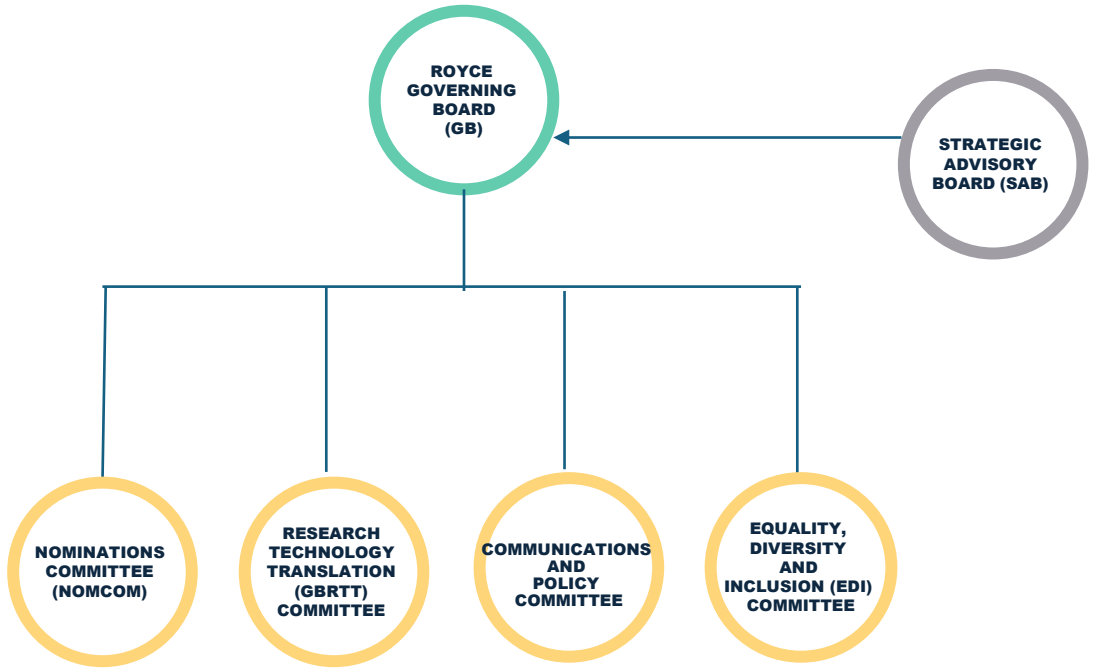
The GB provides oversight, ensuring Royce delivers significant impact for UK plc through its pre-eminence in the field of advanced materials research, creating and drawing on the synergies and advantages of the Partners and wider materials community in working towards common goals.

The GB also works proactively with the Executive, through subcommittees, to explore new initiatives and activities both nationally and internationally, with the public and private sector, which will bolster materials innovation, collaboration and translation activity across the UK.

MEETINGS

The Board usually meets four times a year and the location of the meetings rotates around the various spokes of the Institute.

ROYCE NATIONAL GOVERNANCE ORGANOGRAM



KEY

- GOVERNING BOARD (GB)
- STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD (SAB)
- GOVERNING BOARD COMMITTEES

The Governing Board Chair, supported by the Vice Chair, oversees Royce's national governance. The Chair of the SAB and all Committee Chairs sit on, and report into, the Governing Board. The Royce CEO serves across all governance structures including Boards and Committees and provides strategic leadership to the Executive and Extended Leadership Team (ELT). The Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) is a member of both the Governing Board and SAB and also chairs the Science Board, ensuring strong scientific oversight. The Chief Technology Officer (CTO) is also a member of the SAB.

THE ROLE

The Governing Board is responsible for overseeing the Institute's activities, directing and influencing its policy, strategy, and the evolution of its operating model as it continues to grow. In doing this it provides oversight, governance and strategic input. The Board and its subcommittees work with the Royce Executive Team to develop diverse aspects of the Institute's work, seeking mechanisms to grow investment and accelerate technology translation, establish major programmes, build relationships across the international community, and advise on communication and engagement.

Members of the Governing Board act as ambassadors for the Institute, helping build connections across government, industry, research organisations and the investment community. They are expected to be passionate about technical innovation and its benefit for the UK, its economy and the wider world.

For the right candidate, in addition to becoming a Governing Board Member, there is the possibility to take on the role of Royce Hydrogen Accelerator Chair. Please see separate Royce Hydrogen Accelerator Chair appointment brief for further details.

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Guide and support the Royce executive as they deliver the future vision for the Institute from 2027.
- Attend and contribute to the Board meetings – usually 4 per year.
- As a member of Governing Board, ensure decisions made advance the purpose and values of Royce.
- Identify key governance decisions to be made and ensure decision making is sound, timely and well informed.
- Manage potential conflicts of interest to ensure probity and appropriate transparency.
- Join and contribute to at least one of the GB's proactive subcommittees working closely with the Royce Exec.

THE BOARD SUPPORTS THE ACTIVITIES OF ROYCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

- Agree and review the vision, strategy, and deliverables of Royce to ensure the Institute continues to deliver pre-eminence in advanced materials research and to generate significant impact for UK plc by harnessing the synergies and advantages of Partners working toward shared goals.
- Bring relevant insights, experience and interests to bear on the effective delivery and operation of Royce.
- Ensure that Royce meets national needs and competes internationally in translating research discoveries into applications and securing growing private investment.
- Ensure that Royce remains complementary to, and aligned with, the existing and emerging networks across Universities, Catapults and RTOs.

SUPPORTING ACTIONS

- Act as a compelling advocate for Royce's mission to the broader national and international materials community.
- Advise on communications, industrial engagement, technology translation and outreach strategies to enhance Royce's profile and visibility.
- Maintain relationships and communication with relevant UK/ local Government departments and relevant international bodies as appropriate.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND ADVICE

- Set and monitor the key performance indicators (KPIs) for Royce outputs and impact.
- Approve funding proposals for any substantive capital investment, informed by advice from the Strategic Advisory Board.
- Consider and approve applications from new parties seeking to become Partners
- Review and agree the allocation of funding
- Consider and approve large-scale bids to Industry, DSIT, EPSRC and other relevant government departments for substantive programmes.
- Approve and monitor plans to secure the long-term sustainability of Royce.

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THE PERSON

IDEALLY THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE/HAVE:

- An experienced strategic and creative thinker having held senior executive roles, with an interest in Royce's vision, mission and strategy.
- A highly regarded leader experienced in shaping significant organisations.
- Skilled in stakeholder management and experienced in engaging and influencing at the highest levels of government, industry and academia.
- The seniority, communication skills and gravitas to act as an ambassador to the Institute's key stakeholders, helping to forge and foster increased collaboration and to promote Royce externally.
- Detailed knowledge of interfacing with government/industry/universities as part of a technology or R&D leadership role.
- Experience of working with the innovation and investment community, with the ability to navigate funding/private investment landscapes and foster partnerships
- A strong network within their relevant sectors, as well as with the academic and wider Research/Innovation Communities, that can be utilised for the benefit of the Institute.

DIVERSITY

Royce welcomes applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability.

We particularly welcome applications from women and the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic community, who are currently under-represented on the Board.
All appointments will be made on merit, following a fair and transparent process.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Governing Board Members will be expected to allocate sufficient time to Royce to discharge their responsibilities effectively. It is anticipated the role will require a minimum of eight days per year for the Governing Board, as well as participation in at least one subcommittee. The position is appropriately remunerated. The appointment will be for an initial 3-year term which can be renewed for a further 3 years.

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HOW TO APPLY

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to the Henry Royce Institute on this appointment. Candidates should apply for this role through our website at roles.saxbam.com using code **IMNZ**. Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Tuesday 7 April 2026**.

Please make clear in your application if you are also interested in the role of Chair of the Royce Hydrogen Accelerator.

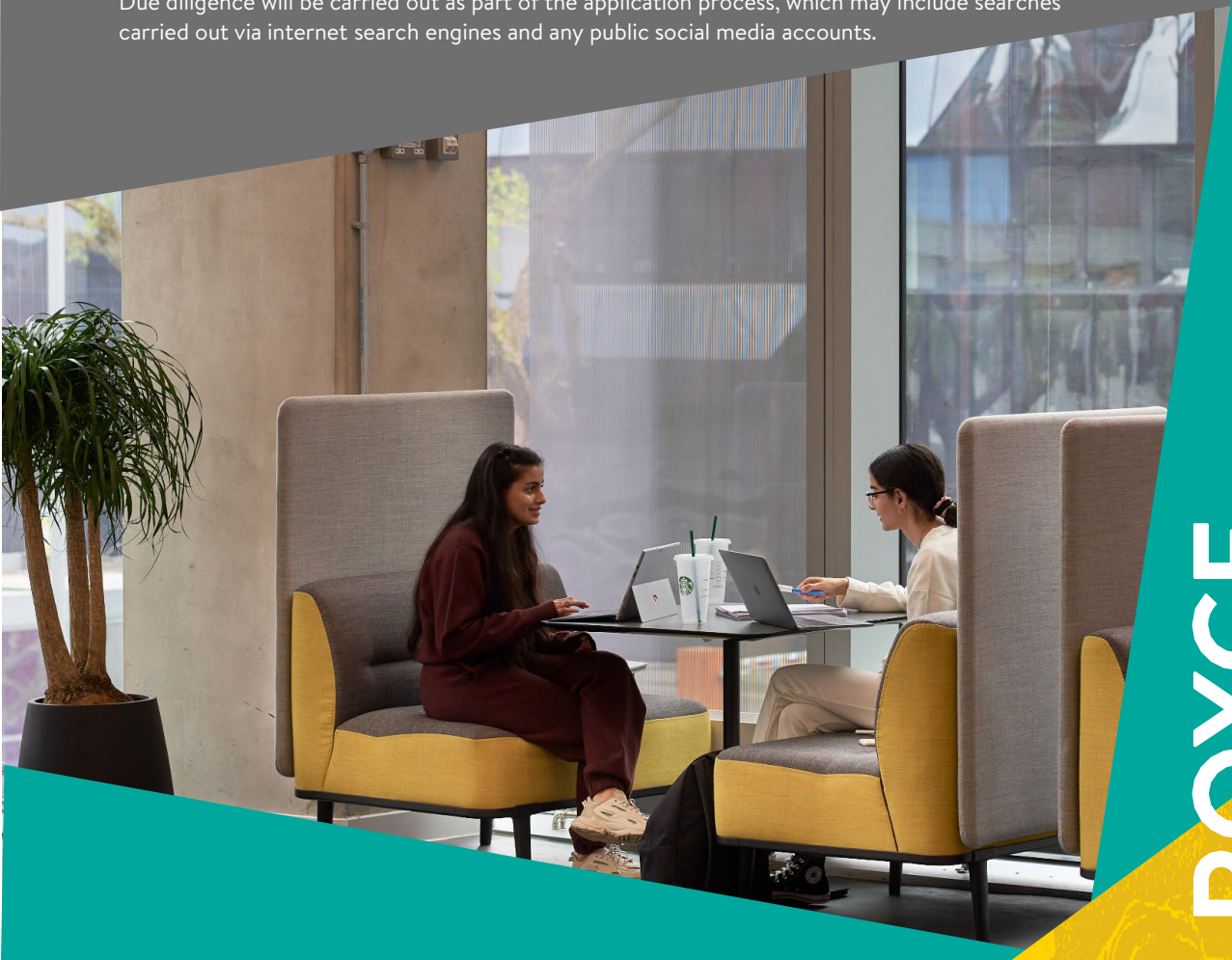
* The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

GDPR PERSONAL DATA NOTICE

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

DUE DILIGENCE

Due diligence will be carried out as part of the application process, which may include searches carried out via internet search engines and any public social media accounts.



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