



County President and Vice Presidents Role Information

Most counties will have a county president and vice presidents. Their roles vary significantly across Scotland; however, the following principles should apply:

County president

Who can undertake this role:

- This role is open to anyone over the age of 18. They do not necessarily already need to be a member of Girlguiding but should be willing to become a member. They may pay their own membership fees, or the county may pay.
- They will be nominated by the county commissioner and their appointment will be ratified by the county executive.
- Whether they are external or internal to Girlguiding they should be someone who can 'see' the bigger picture for the county and its future.

How long is the appointment for:

- Their appointment should be for a fixed term e.g., 3 or 5 years. This can be renewed for a further fixed term.

What does the county president do?

- The primary function of the county president is to encourage and support the county commissioner and to act as her confidential listening ear as needed.
- They will not be a voting member of the county executive but may be asked to attend meetings.
- Where the county has a number of vice-presidents then it is the role of the county president to keep them up to date with news and events and ask for their help as required. They may also co-ordinate occasional meet-ups of the county vice presidents.

- The president will be expected to promote guiding within the county and their role may include external networking and introductions to assist the county.
- Other duties may include presenting awards, attending meetings and events etc.
- They will be asked to assist the Scottish chief commissioner in finding suitable applicants for the role of county commissioner.

County vice presidents

Who can undertake this role:

- This role is open to anyone over the age of 18.
- Vice presidents can be internal or external to guiding. Many are likely to have held senior roles in the county.
- They will be nominated by the county commissioner and their appointment will be ratified by the county executive.
- 'Active' vice presidents should be members of Girlguiding or be willing to become a member. For members, the county will need a policy to determine who pays membership fees. 'Active' vice presidents may be invited to contribute or the county may pay for them (maybe for the first 5 years). Inactive or 'honorary' vice presidents are not registered on go and therefore membership fees do not apply.

How long is the appointment for:

- Many of these appointments are currently not fixed term. Counties are encouraged to consider moving to fixed term roles with two stages – 'active' for the first 5 or 10 years then 'honorary/lifetime' after that.

What does a county vice president do?

- The vice president role is advisory, they do not hold an active governance role.
- They will support the county president and like the county president will be expected to promote guiding in the county.
- Counties may find it useful to ask for their ideas and input into any consultations. They may be asked to undertake specific assignments (where skills and experience fit) e.g. Resolution of sensitive concerns, fundraising, hosting an external networking event etc.