LI Election 2025 - Candidate Statement

President-Elect:
Paj Valley FLI

All candidates are required to provide a candidate statement of no more than 250 words that must address the 2 questions below

1. Please summarise your skills and experience relevant to the role for which you are standing
2. Why are you standing for this position and what would you hope to achieve as a President and Chair of Council

Candidate Statement:

As a Chartered Member and Fellow of the Landscape Institute, I am deeply passionate about our profession and its vital role in shaping resilient, inclusive and sustainable places. I value the breadth and diversity of our discipline, which empowers members to define their own unique paths, whether as Landscape Designers, Planners, or Managers. This diversity strengthens our profession and enhances our ability to address the complex challenges facing our communities and the environment.

Over the course of my career, I have led multidisciplinary teams and practices of varying scales, delivering landscape-led masterplanning and public realm projects across the UK and internationally. I have always been dedicated to nurturing the next regeneration of Landscape professionals and hence taken active roles in Academia to disseminate knowledge, as either a Visiting Lecturer or External Examiner.

My longstanding engagement with the Landscape Institute reflects a commitment to advancing our profession. I have contributed to shaping its direction through roles such as P2C examiner, Supervisor, Awards Steering Group, Chair of the College of Fellows, Members Panel, Branch involvement and LI Ambassador. These experiences have allowed me to understand key opportunities and the requirements for continued future development.

If elected, I will work collaboratively with the Advisory Council, allied institutes, public bodies, and our diverse membership to help build a forward-thinking, inclusive, and resilient Institute. I will champion design excellence, support emerging professionals, and advocate for our critical role in addressing urgent global challenges including climate change, biodiversity loss, and social inequality.

Current membership of any other organisations:

Royal Town Planning Institute - Chartered Member
Urban Design Group - Recognised Practitioner
Royal Institute of British Architects - Affiliate Member
Royal Society of Arts - Fellow