

THE MEMBERS' PATHWAY

A guide to help lodges attract, introduce and retain members

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We hope you find this at-a-glance guide to the Members' Pathway helpful.
To get a more in-depth view and to download documents, go to

b.ugle.org.uk/membership

In order to secure the future of Freemasonry, one objective of the UGLE's 2015-2020 *Our Strategy at a Glance* is to improve our structure for the attraction and retention of members.

In order to deliver on that objective, we have prepared the Members' Pathway, which provides a structured approach for lodges to follow in order to attract and encourage potential new members while at the same time retaining and adding value to the existing membership.



THE PATHWAY STEPS 1-11

1. Lodge planning

When a man is known by existing members

The lodge prepares a plan comprising a review of its current practices, a lodge profile, a profile of its 'ideal candidate' (if appropriate), how it will increase its visibility in its local community, and the assignment of specific responsibilities related to the introduction of new members.

3. Approaching prospective candidates

A member or members approach a prospective candidate to find out whether he might be interested in Freemasonry and to help him learn enough about us to decide whether he wishes to pursue membership. Note: this is not an invitation to join; the candidate must still ask to become a Freemason, and acceptance will depend upon suitability.

5. Preparing the prospective candidate for interview

Sponsors discuss Freemasonry and membership in detail, to screen the prospective candidate, to determine whether he meets the qualifications for membership.

7. Preparing the candidate for Initiation

If the Interview Panel recommends him as a suitable candidate, then he is proposed, balloted for and prepared for initiation.

9. Introducing the Royal Arch

At an appropriate point after the new member has taken his Third Degree and has some understanding of the Craft, he is introduced to the Royal Arch and encouraged to consider membership.

11. Retrieving our members

In the regrettable event that a member submits his resignation, there are activities to retrieve his membership. This step is coordinated by Metropolitan / Provincial / District Grand Lodges.

2. Identifying prospective candidates

From a collated 'longlist' of family members, work colleagues, social-club members, friends, fellow worshippers and so forth, and using the profiles compiled in Step 1, lodge members should prepare a shortlist of people who could be approached with a view to joining the Lodge.

4. Responding to enquiries from potential candidates

When a man is not previously known by existing members

Alternatively, a 'potential candidate' approaches the lodge, or is referred to the lodge, with an expression of interest. Such approaches need to be validated and sponsors found.

6. Interviewing the applicant

If sponsors and candidate both wish to proceed, the prospective candidate is now an 'applicant'. He completes a Grand Lodge Registration Form and goes to formal interview. A small permanent interview panel conducts the interview on behalf of the lodge committee.

8. Supporting the new Freemason

The Personal Mentor, whether he is a sponsor or another experienced Freemason, provides the new member with support tailored to his individual needs as he goes through the ceremonies and experiences aspects of Freemasonry for the first time.

10. Retaining our members

Retention involves a series of positive activities a lodge can undertake to help the new member gain enjoyment and satisfaction and to grow in his commitment, and preventive activities to respond to any signs of dissatisfaction.