

In response to your questions:

1. The President and Senior Vice President of the Association are required to be members of the Silk Selection Committee, under paragraphs 8(a) and (b) of the attached Senior Counsel Protocol (as at 27 April 2023). That Protocol is published on the Association's website and is available to applicants for Senior Counsel.
2. The Silk Selection Committee adapts its procedures to the circumstances of the number and range of practice areas of applicants in a year: see paragraph 6 of the attached Guide to Practical Aspects. That Guide is published on the Association's website and is available to applicants for Senior Counsel. Those procedures include taking steps to avoid any conflicts of interest.
3. To ensure the independence and integrity of the process, four other members of the Inner Bar nominated by the President, and approved by the Bar Council, also comprise the Silk Selection Committee, along with one person who is not a practising barrister, but who by virtue of his or her qualifications is an appropriate person to be the non-barrister representative on the Committee and one non-lawyer community representative: see paragraph 9 of the Guide to Practical Aspects. This year those two members were, respectively:
 - a. Dr Anna Cody, Sex Discrimination Commissioner, and Dean of the School of Law, Western Sydney University; and
 - b. Mr Richard Neville, the Mitchell Librarian.
4. Silk Selection Committee decisions are made by consensus: see paragraph 30 of the Guide to Practical Aspects.
5. Each applicant is considered in his or her own right in accordance with the Protocol and in particular, the essential criteria. The fact that an applicant is a member of a particular floor does not, and must not, count either in favour of, or against, his or her application.