



## WI Resolution Training Transcript - Module 2

Slide 1 – Welcome Back



Welcome back to the WI Resolution Training. This module will focus on the Resolution Selection Process.

All resources referenced in the modules, as well as a transcript, are available under the 'Helpful Links' section below the video.

At the end of the module, you'll complete a short knowledge test. Upon successful completion of all four modules, you'll receive a certificate recognising your achievement.

Thank you for your interest in WI Campaigns, we hope you find the training useful.

## Slide 2 – The Resolution Selection Process



The Resolution Selection Process consists of five stages.

- **Stage 1: Submissions** - Between July and September, WIs and federations submit resolutions about current issues they are concerned about to the NFWI.
- **Stage 2: Shortlist** - In early autumn, the submitted resolutions are discussed and debated by federation and member representatives which are then reduced to a shortlist.
- **Stage 3: Individual Selections** - In late autumn and winter, federations and WIs hold meetings to discuss the shortlisted resolutions, giving every member the chance to have their say on the shortlist. Each member casts their selection for the resolution they support the most.
- **Stage 4: Board of Trustees and WI Discussions** - The NFWI Board of Trustees reviews the results of the member selections and agrees on the resolution or resolutions to go forward to the Annual Meeting. This is usually one resolution, but sometimes more than one is taken forward.
- **Stage 5: WI Voting** - At the Annual Meeting, delegates hear from the resolution proposer, seconder and experts on the topic/s. Votes are then cast on the resolution/s which, if selected, will go on to form the basis of a WI campaign.

Let's have a look at all five stages in more detail.

## Slide 3 – Stage 1: Submissions

Stage 1-Submissions	
Late June/early July 2024	Submission resources, incl. submission form and guidance shared on MyWI and in memorandum to federations.
31 July 2024	Deadline for members who wish to apply to be a member delegate at the Shortlist meeting on 3 October
1 September 2024	Closing date for resolutions to be submitted to federations for approval and checking.
8 September 2024	Closing date for resolutions to be submitted to the NFWI

The closing date for resolution submissions falls in September. Federation deadlines for sign off can often be earlier, so it's worth checking with them directly.

Federation Resolution Coordinators may be able to help developing your resolution, so it is advisable to contact your federation early on.

Approximately 7-10 days after the final deadline, Resolution Shortlist Selection Meeting representatives are sent the resolution longlist.

The resolution shortlist is then decided at the Resolution Shortlist Selection meeting, a meeting of federation and member representatives who debate and vote for the resolutions they believe should be put on the shortlist. The NFWI does not control which resolutions are put onto the shortlist, although the Public Affairs staff do support this process in an advisory capacity.

## Slide 4 – Stage 2: Shortlist

Stage 2- Shortlist	
20 September 2024	Resolutions longlist circulated to federation and member delegates attending the shortlisting meeting on 3 October
3 October 2024	Federation and member delegates meet virtually to compile a shortlist of resolutions, supported by NFWI trustees and staff

The Resolution Shortlist Selection Meeting (RSSM) takes place in October where the submitted resolutions are discussed and debated by member and federation representatives and reduced to a shortlist.

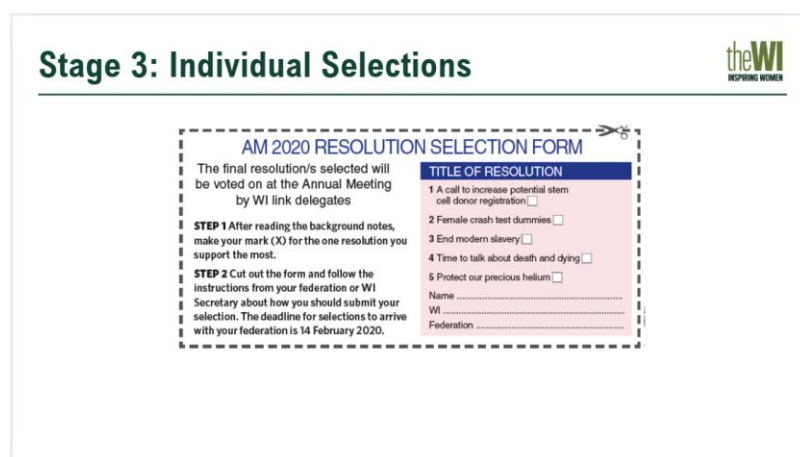
Resolutions are member-led, meaning they are written by members and voted onto the shortlist by members.

Any changes to a submitted resolution can only be made with the permission of the original proposer. The NFWI works with proposers to ensure the wording is as strong as possible prior to the resolution being considered at the RSSM.

During the RSSM, delegates will often agree to put a resolution onto the shortlist following a change in wording. At this point, the NFWI Public Affairs team will work with the proposer to make the wording stronger or clearer.

Once the shortlist has been decided the NFWI sends the list to the NFWI legal advisors who will check that all proposed resolutions meet the WI's charitable objectives as stated in the constitution. The solicitor will not check the grammar, or the strict wording of the resolution itself, just whether or not it meets those objectives.

### Slide 5 – Stage 3: Individual Selections

The image shows a slide titled "Stage 3: Individual Selections" with the "theWI" logo in the top right corner. The slide contains a form titled "AM 2020 RESOLUTION SELECTION FORM". The form is divided into two main sections. The left section contains instructions: "The final resolution/s selected will be voted on at the Annual Meeting by WI link delegates", "STEP 1 After reading the background notes, make your mark (X) for the one resolution you support the most.", and "STEP 2 Cut out the form and follow the instructions from your federation or WI Secretary about how you should submit your selection. The deadline for selections to arrive with your federation is 14 February 2020." The right section is titled "TITLE OF RESOLUTION" and lists five resolutions with checkboxes: "1 A call to increase potential stem cell donor registration", "2 Female crash test dummies", "3 End modern slavery", "4 Time to talk about death and dying", and "5 Protect our precious helium". Below these are fields for "Name", "WI", and "Federation".

In November, shortlist resolution resources including videos and PowerPoint presentations are published on the NFWI website.

In the November edition of WI Life, the shortlisted resolutions, further facts and points, and selection slips can be found.

The titles and wording of shortlisted resolutions along with key points to consider are published by the NFWI in WI Life and circulated to federations and WIs through the NFWI website and My WI. A selection slip for each member to make their selection is included in the magazine. Every member has the opportunity to select which resolution they would like to see put forward for voting at the Annual Meeting.

Selection slips are collated by federations. WIs and federations may wish to hold a meeting to discuss the shortlisted resolutions using the resources provided by the NFWI.

## Slide 6 – Voting on the Shortlist



Once the shortlist has been published, every member has the opportunity to make a selection individually. It is best if WIs can hold a meeting during November, December or January so that members can learn more about each resolution. However, if this is not possible, members can research the issues themselves and make their selection. The resources (PowerPoint, videos, quiz and briefing notes) will be available for members to use to help make their selection.

WIs and members send their selections to their federation, who tally up all the results and send them on to the NFWI.

The NFWI sets an organisation-wide deadline for selections to be returned to federations. Please refer to the relevant resolution timetable. WIs must liaise with their WI Secretary about arrangements for selections to be sent.

## Slide 7 - Stage 4: Board of Trustees and WI Discussions



The results are then considered by the NFWI Board of Trustees in early spring for them to take into account any developments since the resolutions were submitted and agree the final resolution/s that will go to the Annual Meeting. This includes

looking at the external context before confirming how many to put to the Annual Meeting. In past years, when one resolution is a clear favourite among members then it has been brought forward alone, but when two or more are close in level of support, then multiple resolutions can be put forward.

The Annual Meeting resolution/s briefings and wording are sent to federations, WIs and WI Advisers and published in the April edition of WI Life.

#### Slide 8 - Ahead of the Annual Meeting



Ahead of the meeting, WIs come together to debate whether or not they wish their delegate to vote for or against the resolution/s. They can also choose to give their delegate discretion to decide how to vote after listening to the debate at the Annual Meeting.

When two resolutions go forward to the Annual Meeting WIs should consider them both independently, not choose between them. This means that your WI should vote for or against each one in turn.

If both resolutions achieve a majority of votes 'for' at the Annual Meeting, then the NFWI will pass the two resolutions and the NFWI will work on both issues.

Don't forget: At the Annual Meeting stage each WI has a vote on the resolution, not individual members.

## Slide 9 - Stage 5: WI Voting



WIs are represented at the Annual Meeting by a delegate, who will cast votes on behalf of a number of WIs in their federation.

Before the Annual Meeting delegates need to make contact with each of these WIs who will tell them which way they would like their vote to be cast. WIs can ask them to vote for the resolution, against the resolution, or they can give the delegate discretion.

Only votes cast for and against the resolutions will be counted, in accordance with the voting procedure set out in the NFWI Memorandum and Articles of Association. Abstaining means that a delegate would not cast a vote, and therefore this abstention would not be counted.

At the Annual Meeting delegates will first hear from the resolution proposer on why they have proposed this resolution. Next a seconder will discuss why they think the resolution should be passed. Then experts on the topic will discuss important information about the resolution. The resolution will then be debated, including discussion on points to consider as well as the 'for' and 'against' of the resolution. Finally, the votes are then cast on the resolution.

## Slide 10 - Unsuccessful Resolutions



Every year the NFWI receives many resolutions from WIs. RSSM delegates face the difficult task of shortlisting these down to a few for all members to consider. The NFWI understands that WIs put a huge amount of work into resolutions, and that it can be disappointing if they are not chosen to go forward.

The Public Affairs team are sometimes able to capture feedback from the resolutions shortlist meeting which could be helpful in considering what to do next with your resolution. The team may also be able to advise on whether there are parts of the shortlisting criteria that your resolution did not meet.

As long as your resolution is within the WI's charitable objects (as stated in the Constitution and Rules for WIs), your WI can still work on your resolution in your local community. This means that you can set up and run your own local WI campaign to raise awareness about an issue that you feel strongly about, or approach other local organisations to partner with you.

Here are some ideas about how your WI could keep working on the issue:

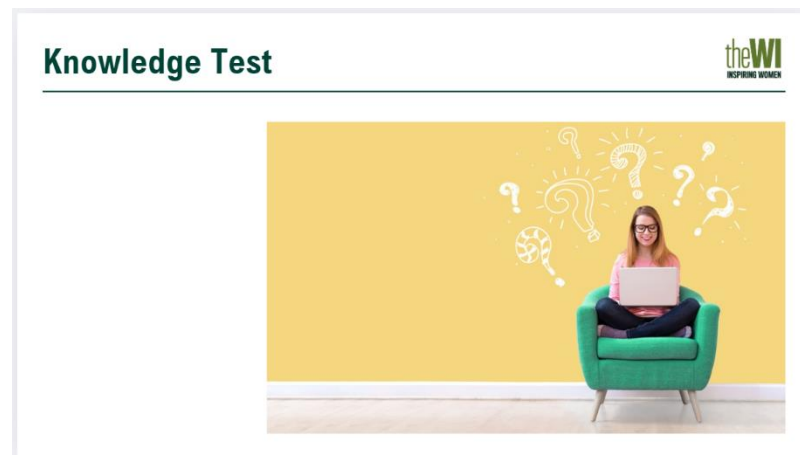
- Approach local organisations to partner with you on the issue.
- Hold a discussion event, debate or awareness day in your local community. You could invite expert speakers to attend and provide information materials.
- Start a petition online or on paper to gather support.
- Hold a stall for your campaign at a summer fete or fair.

We also have a resource document on 'How to Campaign Locally' which you might be interested in.

This brings us to the end of module 2, we hope you now have a good understanding of the resolution process.



## Slide 11 – Knowledge Test



Congratulations on completing this module! Now, it's time for the knowledge test. There are five questions based on the material covered. If needed, feel free to review the slides to refresh your understanding.

Thank you for undertaking this training.