

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Member Communities Board (MCB)

Purpose

The Member Communities Board is established by the Board of Trustees to ensure that the RSC has a clear voice and associated strategies for its Subject Communities, Interest Groups, Local Sections and other member networks. It is consulted on and contributes to RSC strategy, strategic initiatives and relevant policy. It has oversight of the strategic development of Subject Communities, Interest Groups, Local Sections and other member networks, monitors activities and services and evaluates plans for improvement and change. It is also accountable, through powers delegated by the Board of Trustees, for the formal governance of member groups and networks as set out in the By-laws.

Delegated Responsibilities

Under authority delegated by the Board of Trustees, the Member Communities Board will:

- Periodically review the effectiveness, relevance and future sustainability of the Subject Communities, Interest Groups, Local Sections and other member networks.
- Contribute to the development of RSC strategy and policy positions as relevant to the Subject Communities and member groups*.
- Approve and review funding mechanisms for the distribution of grants or allocation of budgets to member groups.
- Review annual financial and activity reports from Interest Groups, Local Sections and other member groups.
- Approve, or appoint time limited working groups, to develop policy positions or approve consultation responses, ensuring appropriate expertise informs our positions.
- Oversee the operation of RSC programmes, as specified by the Board of Trustees, such as RSC Prizes and Awards, conferences, certain national and international activities and grants*.
- Share best practice and identify opportunities for links between Subject Communities and other member groups.
- Create or dissolve Interest Groups of the Society.
- Approve the admission and subscription model for membership of Interest Groups.
- Authorise the establishment of joint Interest Groups with other bodies.
- Approve the formation and dissolution of Local Sections and Local Section Committees.

*Specific strands of this oversight may be undertaken by a sub-committee/time-limited working group.

Composition

The Board reports directly to the Board of Trustees and shall comprise:

- Chair (Appointed Trustee, RSC member)
- One representative from the Science and Innovation Leadership Forum, appointed from within the Forum.
- 2 Local Section Representatives (Elected, RSC Members, must be active within the Local Section networks)
- 2 Interest Group members (Elected, RSC members, must be active within the Interest Groups)
- 2 Early career Representatives (Elected, RSC members, must be active within the Early careers network)
- 3 Appointed members (RSC members)
- Chair of Chemists' Community Fund Committee (ex-officio)

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