



Standards of Conduct Committee Member

Role Description

1. Background

The Royal Economic Society (RES) is the principal learned society and membership organization for economics in the UK. It was founded in 1890 and has over 6000 members worldwide.

The Society has recently adopted a [Code of Conduct](#) and agreed a [Complaints Procedure](#) for investigating complaints in relation to the Code. It is now establishing the RES Standards of Conduct Committee, which will report to the Trustee Board. Through its roles in overseeing the investigation of complaints and assisting in the development of associated processes, the Committee will help the Society to ensure that high standards of conduct are the norm across the economics profession.

The Committee will have six members and will choose its own chair. Committee members are not required to be members of the Royal Economic Society; it is anticipated that some will be from outside the economics profession.

2. Committee member responsibilities

In line with the RES Complaints Policy, members of the Standards of Conduct Committee are expected to:

- Attend the annual meeting of the full Standards of Conduct Committee;
- Contribute to the further development of processes for the review and investigation of complaints in relation to the Society's Code of Conduct;
- Contribute to the Committee's annual report that provides an overview of all complaints received during the year;
- Participate, as appropriate, in the review of individual complaints to determine whether these fall within the Code and warrant further investigation as Serious Complaints;
- Participate, as appropriate, as members of Complaints Committees that investigate individual Serious Complaints;

- In conjunction with other members of the Committee, make recommendations to the RES Trustee Board on changes in the Code of Conduct and/or the Complaints Policy that arise as a result of investigations or from other sources.

The Society will organize training for all members of the Committee prior to them taking up their roles. The RES office will provide administrative support to the Committee.

3. Time commitment and length of term

The time commitment involved will vary over different members of the Committee, depending primarily on the extent to which they are members of Complaints Committees that investigate individual Serious Complaints.

In order to stagger the dates at which Committee members stand down, initial appointments to the Committee will be for terms of three, four or five years, beginning in Spring 2022.

4. Person specification

The role will appeal to people who wish to contribute to the establishment and maintenance of high professional standards in any discipline, those interested in the health of UK economics, and/or people who would like to contribute to the work of the Royal Economic Society. Committee membership will also provide useful experience for individuals who may wish to take up a charity trustee role in the future.

Members of the Standards of Conduct Committee will normally:

- Have experience of dealing with the conduct of others, for example in a current or previous academic, administrative, supervisory, managerial, trustee or volunteer role;
- Be based in the UK;
- Be aware of, and sensitive to, different cultural norms of behaviour;
- Be ready to consider evidence and draw conclusions based on this.

5. Further information

For any enquiries or further information, please contact Denise Osborn, RES Secretary-General, by email at secretary-gen@res.org.uk.