

Committee Rules of Procedure

Approved by the OfS Board on 22 September 2020 and updated to include changes to membership arrangements taking effect from 11 July 2024.

Part 1: Scope

1. These rules of procedure apply on and from 22 September 2020 to committees known as:
 - a. the Provider Risk Committee;
 - b. the Risk and Audit Committee;
 - c. the Quality Assessment Committee;
 - d. Remuneration and Nominations Committee (hereafter “Relevant Committees”).

Part 2: Provisions that apply to all Relevant Committees

1. The validity of any proceedings (including quorum) of any Relevant Committees is not to be affected by a vacancy among the members or by any defect in the appointment of a member.
2. All words and expressions in this document are to be interpreted in accordance with Part 9 of the OfS Scheme of Delegation.

Part 3: Particular committees

A. The Provider Risk Committee (‘PRC’)

Members

1. The PRC is to consist of up to eight members, including:
 - a. At least two ordinary members of the OfS; and
 - b. between zero and five persons that are neither members of the OfS nor OfS staff (hereafter ‘Independent PRC Persons’).
2. As at 1 November 2021, the ordinary members of the OfS which have been appointed to the PRC are:
 - Martin Coleman
 - Elizabeth Fagan

3. As at 1 January 2024 the Independent PRC Persons which have been appointed to the PRC are:

- Juliet Lazarus
- Nisha Arora
- Michael Grenfell
- Charles Ilako
- Simon Wilde

Chair

4. The chair of the PRC is Martin Coleman.

5. In the absence of the PRC chair, a meeting of the PRC will be chaired by another member that is also an ordinary member of the OfS.

Meetings, decision-making and quorum

6. The PRC is expected to meet at least four times a year. The chair of the PRC, chief executive, or director of regulation may convene additional meetings as they deem necessary.

7. Meetings of the PRC may be held in person or by video or teleconferencing (or any combination of such methods).

8. In lieu of a meeting of the PRC, decisions may be taken by correspondence (including by email).

9. Subject to paragraph 1 of Part 2, the quorum necessary for any decision of the PRC (whether taken during a meeting or by correspondence in lieu of a meeting) is two members, including at least one ordinary member of the OfS.

Reporting

10. The PRC is expected to provide a report to the board on the activities of the PRC after each meeting of the committee. The matters reported on may vary from time to time and may focus on matters the chair of the PRC considers of be of particular interest to the OfS board. However, any failure to provide a report to the OfS board will not in any way affect the validity of any decision taken by the PRC.

B. The Quality Assessment Committee ('QAC')

11. The QAC has responsibility for providing advice to the OfS under section 46 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017, regarding the quality of, and standards applied to, higher education provided by a provider, for which the OfS is considering granting, varying, or (in certain circumstances) revoking authorisation for degree awarding powers. The QAC is expected to formulate and confirm this advice having considered the assessment team's report.

12. The QAC's role is to provide advice to the OfS under section 46 and not to decide whether to grant, vary or revoke a DAPs authorisation. Those decision-making arrangements are set out in the OfS's scheme of delegation.

Members

13. The QAC is to consist of up to 11 members overall and no fewer than five members which include:
 - a. Up to three ordinary members of the OfS;
 - b. A majority (in number) of persons that are neither members of the OfS nor OfS staff and who appear to the OfS to have experience of providing higher education on behalf of an English higher education provider or being responsible for the provision of higher education by such a provider (hereafter 'Independent QAC Persons').
14. As at 18 October 2022 the ordinary members of the OfS which have been appointed to the QAC are:
 - Simon Levine
 - Dayo Olukoshi
15. As at 1 April 2024 the Independent QAC Persons which have been appointed to the QAC are:
 - Paul Grattrick
 - Dr Jagjeet Kaur Jutley-Neilson
 - John Kirkpatrick
 - Oscar Minto
 - Professor Graeme Pedlingham
 - Professor Deborah Rafalin
 - Dianne Rainsbury
 - Dr Ramita Tejpal
 - Tymon Zgorzelski

Chair

16. The chair of QAC (who must be an ordinary member of the OfS) is Simon Levine.
17. In the absence of the QAC chair, a meeting of the QAC will be chaired by another member that is also an ordinary member of the OfS.

Meetings, decision-making and quorum

18. The QAC is expected to meet at least four times a year. The chair of the QAC, chief executive, or director of regulation may convene additional meetings as they deem necessary.
19. Meetings of the QAC may be held in person or by video or teleconferencing (or any combination of such methods).

20. In lieu of a meeting of the QAC, decisions may be taken by correspondence (including by email).
21. Subject to paragraph 1 of Part 2, the quorum necessary for any decision of the QAC (whether taken during a meeting or by correspondence in lieu of a meeting) is three members, including at least one ordinary member of the OfS.

Reporting

22. The QAC is expected to provide a written report to the OfS board on the activities of each QAC meeting. The matters reported on may vary from time to time and may focus on matters the chair of the QAC considers of be of particular interest to the OfS board. However, any failure to provide a report to the OfS board will not in any way affect the validity of any decision taken by the QAC.

C. The Risk and Audit Committee ('RAC')

Members

23. The RAC is to consist of up to eight members overall and no fewer than five members which include:
 - a. Up to three ordinary members of the OfS; and
 - b. Up to five persons that are neither members of the OfS nor members of OfS staff ('Independent RAC Persons').
24. It is expected that at least one member of the RAC will have relevant qualifications and experience in accounting and finance.
25. As at 1 January 2024, the ordinary members of the OfS which have been appointed to the RAC are:
 - Katja Hall
26. As at 11 July 2024 the Independent RAC Persons which have been appointed to the RAC are:
 - Nick Gash
 - Satish Jeram
 - Dirk Kahl

Chair

27. The chair of the RAC is Katja Hall.
28. In the absence of the RAC chair, a meeting of the RAC will be chaired by another member that is also an ordinary member of the OfS.

Meetings, decision-making and quorum

29. The RAC is expected to meet at least three times a year. The chair of the RAC, chief executive, or Director of Resources and Finance may convene additional meetings as they deem necessary.

30. Meetings of the RAC may be held in person or by video or teleconferencing (or any combination of such methods).
31. In lieu of a meeting of the RAC, decisions may be taken by correspondence (including by email).
32. Subject to paragraph 1 of Part 2, the quorum necessary for any decision of the RAC (whether taken during a meeting or by correspondence in lieu of a meeting) is three members, including at least one ordinary member of the OfS.

Reporting

33. The RAC is expected to provide a written report to the OfS board on the activities of each RAC meeting. The matters reported on may vary from time to time and may focus on matters the chair of the RAC considers of be of particular interest to the OfS board. However, any failure to provide a report to the OfS board will not in any way affect the validity of any decision taken by the RAC.

D. Remuneration and Nominations Committee ('RNC')

Members

34. The RNC is to consist of up to five members, including:
 - a. Up to three members of the OfS (including the chair, but excluding the chief executive and director for fair access and participation).
 - b. One person that is neither a member of the OfS nor a member of OfS staff (hereafter 'Independent RNC Person').
 - c. Zero or one person that is a member of the OfS student panel (but is neither a member of the OfS nor a member of OfS staff).
35. It is expected that the Independent RNC Person will have relevant experience of human resource matters or remuneration committees.
36. As at 10 July 2024, the ordinary members of the OfS who have been appointed to the RNC are:
 - Rachel Houchen
 - Caleb Stevens
37. As at 22 September 2020, San Johal has been appointed the Independent RNC Person.

Chair

38. The chair of RNC is Rachel Houchen.
39. In the absence of the RNC chair, a meeting of the RNC will be chaired by another member that is also an ordinary member of the OfS.

Meetings, decision-making and quorum

40. The RNC is expected to meet at least two times a year. The chair of the RNC, chief executive, or director of resources and finance may convene additional meetings as they deem necessary.
41. Meetings of the RNC may be held in person or by video or teleconferencing (or any combination of such methods).
42. In lieu of a meeting of the RNC, decisions may be taken by correspondence (including by email).
43. Subject to paragraph 1 of Part 2, the quorum necessary for any decision of the RNC (whether taken during a meeting or by correspondence in lieu of a meeting) is two members, including at least one ordinary member of the OfS.

Reporting

44. The RNC is expected to provide a written report to the OfS board on the activities of the RNC after each RNC meeting. The matters reported on may vary from time to time and may focus on matters the chair of the RNC considers of be of particular interest to the OfS board. However, any failure to provide a report to the OfS board will not in any way affect the validity of any decision taken by the RNC.