London Mathematical Society  
Education Sub-committee on Mathematics Teachers  
Terms of Reference

1. Constitution and Purpose

1.1 This is a Sub-committee of Education Committee.

1.2 This Sub-committee shall formulate and implement the Society’s response to the national shortage of suitably qualified mathematics teachers in the UK.

2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1 The Sub-committee will have the following roles and responsibilities.

Advice to Education Committee

2.2 The Sub-committee shall provide advice to Education Committee by:

i) developing a position statement from the Society to be used to inform government and national assemblies on teacher training in mathematics;

ii) ensuring that Education Committee is kept informed of matters relevant to the supply of suitably qualified mathematics teachers in the UK; and

iii) acting on behalf of Education Committee in such matters when authorized to do so.

Activities

2.3 The Sub-committee shall set up a national forum for HE mathematics departments on supporting students to consider teaching mathematics as a career, the aims of which will include:

i) developing a community of practitioners;

ii) engaging mathematics and related departments in HE;

iii) identifying and disseminating successful initiatives for recruitment into teaching;

iv) supporting colleagues to develop new activities and initiatives;

v) gathering opinion from undergraduate students in mathematics departments;

vi) monitoring recruitment data.

2.4 The Sub-committee shall develop a Code of Practice that HE mathematics departments can sign up to in order to demonstrate their commitment to encouraging students to consider teaching mathematics as a career.

Budgets and Reporting

2.5 The Sub-committee is responsible for:

i) keeping within any budget delegated to it by Council and spending it effectively;

ii) advising Education Committee on budget forecasting and expenditure; and
iii) providing regular reports to Education Committee.

3. Membership

3.1 The Sub-committee shall consist of 5 members, and shall include the Education Committee Chair. The remaining 4 Sub-committee members shall be appointed by Council.

3.2 The Sub-committee’s Chair, who may not necessarily be the Education Committee Chair, shall be proposed to Council by the Education Committee.

3.3 Members of the Sub-committee will normally be members of the Society and shall each serve a term of office of no longer than 6 years in total (2 terms of 3 years).

3.4 The Sub-committee will have the right to invite non-members to attend for specific discussions. Such guests will not have voting rights.

4. Frequency and format of meetings

4.1 The Sub-committee shall meet as required in execution of its duties under section 2 above, although not normally more than 4 times per year, following the schedule of Education Committee meetings.

4.2 Participation in meetings via video-conferencing or telephone-conferencing is acceptable on occasion.

4.3 Each Sub-committee member shall be expected to take an active role in electronic discussions.

5. Attendance

5.1 If a member is absent without reasonable cause for three or more consecutive meetings the member will be considered to have resigned from the Sub-committee.

5.2 The secretariat support for the Sub-committee shall normally be provided by the Society and Research Officer.