



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Appointment of members to the Social Science Expert Group (SSEG)

We are recruiting five members with expertise in the social sciences and closely related disciplines to join Defra's Social Science Expert Group (SSEG), a sub-group of the [Science Advisory Council](#) (SAC). Members would start in early 2023 and spring/summer 2023.

We particularly welcome applicants from across the full spectrum of ethnicity, gender, lived experience and career stage. We guarantee to interview anyone with a disability who meets the minimum criteria for the post (see candidate pack).

Defra's vision statement: We are here to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, leaving it in a better state than we found it.

SSEG brings high quality external social science expertise to the Defra group to complement existing capacity and to ensure social science can inform policy development, delivery and decision making. It aims to influence and improve Defra's policies and their impact through effective advice and use of high-quality social science evidence.

The group's role covers Defra's social research, evaluation and critical analysis needs throughout the policy and evidence process, including:

- Linking to wider external networks and expertise
- Providing expert advice and independent challenge
- Identifying research needs
- Quality assuring social science products
- Championing social science and promoting inter-disciplinarity

Candidates must be based at a UK academic institution, have significant expertise in social science or closely related disciplines, be able to provide strategic advice,

analyse issues in an impartial way and work across a range of topics (see candidate pack for essential criteria).

SSEG members are remunerated for attending and preparing for meetings and are reimbursed for reasonable travel costs. **Further information about the role specification, essential criteria, time commitment and terms and conditions of appointment can be found in the candidate pack.**

To apply, please complete the Expression of Interest (EOI), attached to the covering email, outlining how you meet the essential requirements for the role (please see candidate pack), attach a short CV (2 page maximum) and send to matt.ensor@defra.gov.uk. Short-listed candidates will be invited to interview prior to appointment.

Deadline: 10th October 12am

For further details or an informal conversation with an existing member of the group or Defra secretariat please contact Kieron.stanley@defra.gov.uk or Rachel.peden@defra.gov.uk



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