

Volunteer Role Profile

Volunteer Role

Committee Member

Volunteer Manager

Board Director

Where you will be based

Community

Why we want you

We are seeking Committee Members for our Advisory Committees to support us in speaking up for nature, to ensure that nature and green spaces are enjoyed by urban populations as well as those living in the countryside, and to help spread the word that everyone has a role to play in protecting the environment, as well as a right to enjoy and benefit from its natural beauty.

We will be bold and brave in our delivery, building a sense of urgency and hope for our teams, our supporters and the wider public.

The RSPB is the UK's largest nature conservation charity! Join our fantastic volunteers who are helping to inspire everyone to give nature a home and secure a healthy environment for wildlife. We will help you gain skills and give you an invaluable insight into our essential work.

What you will be doing

- Providing timely and effective insight on the views and interests of stakeholders and communities back to the charity - for the development of strategy and operational activity.
- Providing guidance and making recommendations to the Council and Executive Board on specific matters brought to the Committee's notice or any aspect of the Society's work.
- Providing independent insight, advice and guidance to our Council of Trustees and Executive Board on conservation strategy, approaches, policy, and programmes, and advises them on positioning, risks and opportunities related to specific projects or policy issues.
- In collaboration with the Executive Lead Director, assist with the identification of potential future candidates for the committee and for Council.
- We are open to discussing the length and depth of engagement of each Committee Member during the appointment process. We are committed to being inclusive and will do our utmost to ensure that the Committee meeting times are flexible. We will make every effort to prevent barriers to participation and support our Members to enable their participation.
- We are seeking members who are able to dedicate up to 10 days per year on these committee roles. The 10 days are made up of 4 Committee meetings, attendance of events, ad hoc attendance to Council meetings, and days for reading papers or responding to requests.

- The Advisory Committees meet at least twice each year (and in general quarterly). Meetings are held via video link and/or in a central location. The duration of the meeting will be informed by the agenda, but the meeting will not normally exceed 3 hours in duration. Ad hoc meetings may also be called when significant business arises outside the normal cycle of meetings, or for less formal workshops, visits and discussions. Papers are circulated a minimum of one week in advance of the meeting. An agenda is circulated from two weeks in advance of the meeting. Committee Members may also be invited to attend meetings along with the Executive Lead Director and other Directors and staff.

The skills you need

- We are looking for passionate individuals who are willing and interested in committing their time, thoughts and energy to the environmental movement. They engage their external networks and peers with enthusiasm, energy and champion the values and mission of the RSPB. Most importantly a committee member is able to act with accountability and in the best interests of the RSPB.
- It is important to us that our committee members have an understanding of diverse communities who may not have historically engaged with the RSPB, and a connection to those communities. The committees should aim to be reflective of the community and civil society within the jurisdiction where they are based.
- We want our Advisory Committee Members to reflect and uphold a commitment to diversity and inclusion. We aim to encompass and demonstrate great diversity of experience, psychology, perspective and community in our Committees, that reflects our operations across the UK, in both rural and urban areas, including areas of significant economic marginalization.
- Advisory Committee Members should be willing to build an understanding of RSPB's operating environment, from the perspective of a large and complex charity operating in challenging times and building resilience to managing change in a contested world, alert to the likely future trends in policy and practice.
- Committee Members are proactive and seek opportunities to work alongside the Governance Team in the promotion of interest in the work of the Society, including membership, to help promote the influence and policy agenda of the Society, and to represent the charity to its stakeholders.

What's in it for you

- Be the voice for the views and interests of stakeholders and communities back to the charity for the development of strategy and operational

activity, advising the Executive Director and their staff on specific matters brought to the Committee's notice or any aspect of the Society's work.

- Gain insight into the impact the charity is having on stakeholders and communities in the UK countries through the implementation of strategy and operational activity, with the chance to provide support and guidance on the delivery of the charities programme of work within the UK alongside the Executive Director.
- An opportunity to influence the operations of the charity where decisions will have a lasting impact on stakeholders and advise and influence the RSPB Council on the appropriateness of its policies, contributing to and influencing the development of the strategy and delivery of its charitable work where this will have an impact on stakeholders.
- Networking opportunities and opportunity to acquire practical experience of committee functions, decision-making process and further development of leadership skills, knowledge, and experience.

Disclaimer

Committee Members must be in sympathy with the purpose, strategy and values of the charity, act with integrity and objectivity, and they should also be able to undertake a representational role on behalf of the full range of the charity's stakeholders, including the membership, and act as an ambassador to stakeholders as and when appropriate.

Committee Members do not need to be RSPB members in order to be eligible for appointment but must demonstrate support for the overall mission of the RSPB; however, they are normally invited to join as a member on appointment.

The committees should aim to be reflective of the community and civil society within the jurisdiction where they are based, including younger members.

Appointments to the Committee are made by the Council, on the recommendation of the Chair of the Country Advisory Committee and the Country Director.

All new Committee Members will be offered a formal induction to the RSPB.

Out of Pocket Expenses will be reimbursed.