

## Role Description: MEMBER (Early Career Meteorologist)

### *Background*

The Royal Meteorological Society is the UK's Professional and Learned Society for weather and climate and its mission is **to advance the understanding of weather and climate, and application for the benefit of all**. The Society plays a key role as the custodian of both the science and the profession of meteorology in the UK and has an important role to play internationally as one of the world's largest meteorological Societies.

### *Role*

Members of Council are nominated and elected in accordance with the Society's Charter and By-Laws. The Society is a registered charity and as such, each elected Member of Council serves as a Trustee of the Society. Trustees play an important role in helping to shape and develop the future direction of the organisation and have responsibility to oversee activities to safeguard the Society. To strengthen the diversity of perspectives on Council, and represent a growing audience for RMetS, this is a role specifically for an early career meteorologist to help ensure that the Society's strategic decisions reflects the evolving needs, challenges, and opportunities facing the next generation of meteorologists.

### *Responsibilities*

The main responsibilities of a Member of Council are to:

- be a trustee of the Society attending three Council meetings each year;
- actively contribute to Society affairs. Each member of Council may be asked to take on specific responsibilities to forward the aims and objectives of the Society. These may be one-off activities (representing the Society at a national event, supporting an RMetS meeting) or a continuing activity or involvement with a project. It is important that elected Members of Council are actively engaged and willing to support the delivery of the Society's strategy;
- contribute to and respond in a timely way to Council communications on a range of issues (responding to consultations, approval of accounts, etc);
- act as an Ambassador for the Society by promoting membership, aims and activities as and when the opportunity arises;
- be the voice of those at the beginning of their careers to ensure that the Society meets the needs of the next generation of meteorologists;
- attend the Society's Annual General Meeting, usually held May/June each year.

In addition to the specific roles defined here, Members may take up membership of whichever of the Society's committees they wish to become involved with.

### *Requirements*

The successful candidate will ideally have:

- commitment to the purpose, objects and values of the organisation;
- understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship;
- ability to complete tasks in timely manner;
- willingness to ask questions;
- met the Society's 'Early Career' definition<sup>1</sup> detailed here <https://www.rmets.org/news/rmets-revises-definition-early-career-researchers-and-professionals>;
- a demonstrated commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion within the sector;
- act as a liaison between Council and early career meteorologists;
- willingness to gain an understanding of the organisational and financial position of the organisation;
- ability to maintain confidentiality on sensitive and confidential information;
- ability to analyse information and, when necessary, challenge constructively;
- willingness to devote the necessary time and effort.

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<sup>1</sup> For those on an "academic" career pathway, Early Career is now defined as someone who is within 15 years since starting their first higher education qualification, or first further education qualification if a higher education qualification has not been obtained.

For those on an "industry" career pathway, Early Career is now defined as someone who is within 10 years since starting their first higher education qualification, or first further education qualification if a higher education qualification has not been obtained.

In addition, it would be desirable if the candidate had experience or knowledge of the charity or voluntary sector, and experience of developing or delivering equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives.

#### *Term of Office*

A Member of Council serves a three-year term of office.

#### *Support*

The role will be supported by the Chief Executive and the Executive Team, with an additional opportunity of support and mentorship from a senior Trustee on Council. This is a voluntary role and expenses will be reimbursed in line with the Royal Meteorological Society Expenses Policy.