

Advisory Group Member - Invitation for Expressions of Interest

About the Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (Modern Slavery PEC, or the Centre) was created by the investment of public funding to enhance the understanding of modern slavery and transform the effectiveness of laws and policies designed to overcome it.

It's designed to provide independent, impartial and authoritative insight and analysis on modern slavery based on high quality collaborative research it facilitates, aiming to have a transformational impact on the understanding of modern slavery and the responses to it. The Centre brings together academics, policymakers, parliamentarians, businesses, civil society, survivors and the public on a scale not seen before in the UK to collaborate on solving this global challenge. The Modern Slavery PEC's approach is rooted in human rights.

Led by the [Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law](#) (part of the [British Institute of International and Comparative Law \(BIICL\)](#)) and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council on behalf of [UK Research and Innovation](#) (UKRI), the Centre is a consortium of universities and Independent Research Organisations consisting of the [Rights Lab](#) at the University of Nottingham, the [Wilberforce Institute](#) at the University of Hull, the [Centre for the Study of International Slavery](#) at the University of Liverpool, the [Bonavero Institute of Human Rights](#) at the University of Oxford and the [Alan Turing Institute](#).

Read more about the Modern Slavery PEC at www.modernslaverypec.org.

About the Advisory Group

- The Modern Slavery PEC's Advisory Group consists of members with extensive experience relevant to the work of the Modern Slavery PEC. The group exists to act as a critical friend to the Centre Director and the Centre as a whole. Members are asked to give advice and guidance on a number of important matters which are fundamental to the delivery of the Modern Slavery PEC's objectives.
- To find out more about the mission, vision and objectives of the Modern Slavery PEC you can read our strategy at <https://modernslaverypec.org/resources/strategy>.
- Expressions of interest for membership of the group are being invited following the successful completion of a first term by our initial Advisory Group, membership of which can be found at <https://modernslaverypec.org/people>. For continuity, it is expected that some members of the initial Advisory Group will continue into a second term. Members of the initial Advisory Group wishing to serve a second term will submit an expression of interest through this invitation process.

Membership

This invitation for expressions of interest is open to individuals at a senior level with substantial demonstrable expertise in work related to modern slavery, of working with multiple stakeholders and of providing strategic advice at an organisational/sector level.

The Modern Slavery PEC is committed to being inclusive and diverse, and particularly encourages expressions of interest from women, people with disabilities, black, Asian and minority ethnic applicants, LGBT+ applicants and other minorities. The Centre would especially welcome expressions of interest from those who have lived experience or who have been directly affected by modern slavery. The Centre is committed to being a values-based organisation and has integrated equity and survivor-involvement into its strategic delivery plan. In the spirit of our values, we therefore commit to proactively challenge bias and offer a fair and equitable process in relation to all of our appointments.

We are seeking to appoint a maximum of 12 members, with representation in each of the following categories:

- Up to 3 members from relevant areas of the research community (both within the arts and humanities and beyond), including at least one who is outside the UK, achieving a broad spread of disciplines which are key to the Modern Slavery PEC
- Up to 3 members from relevant business, policy or other organisations relevant to Modern Slavery
- Up to 3 members from civil society, including NGOs, charities, religious organisations or others who represent those who have experienced modern slavery and community groups
- Up to 3 members who represent public policy, which could include Parliament, Whitehall, devolved, regional or local governments and administrations.

The Role

The main responsibilities of Advisory Group members are to:

- advise the Centre on its vision, Strategic and Operational Plans and other strategies and priorities, helping to ensure effective delivery against that vision
- provide advice on the overall shape, coverage and development of the Centre's research and policy impact programme, including its delivery mechanisms, research ethics arrangements, evaluation principles, framework and plans
- advise on the effectiveness of the Centre's links and relationships with the wider research community, with business and policymakers and with non-academic groups, including potential synergies and collaborations with other research and initiatives, and opportunities for communication, outreach and impact
- advise on the coherence, scope and alignment of the Centre's funding calls with the overarching vision and objectives, including progress against delivery

- advise, and where appropriate raise, risks or issues which may significantly affect delivery, particularly where the Centre Director or AHRC identify problems in the achievement of agreed objectives
- comment on the Centre Director's Annual and final Reports before they are submitted to the AHRC/UKRI
- consider other strategic issues which the Centre Director and/or the AHRC/UKRI may refer to the Advisory Group for advice
- keep the composition of the Advisory Group under review and advise on potential gaps in expertise

The Advisory Group's advice is not binding, but the Centre is expected to take it into account and report back to the AHRC/UKRI regarding how it has done so.

These responsibilities will be undertaken through quarterly meetings of up to two hours, with additional time required for the reading of papers. The Advisory Group may also establish ad hoc Working Groups comprised of its members to work on particular matters on which the Centre is in need of advice.

The membership term is eighteen (18) months with the next date of the Advisory Group tentatively scheduled for mid-July 2021. Membership is on a pro bono basis, however we understand that not everybody's circumstances are the same and therefore can consider remuneration on a case-by-case basis. Please email Director@modernslaverypec.org if you'd like to discuss this with us.

Code of Practice

- Members of the Advisory Group will be asked to undertake their duties using the [AHRC's Code of Practice](#) as a guide, the principles of which are based upon those of [The Seven Principles of Public Life](#).

Conflicts of Interest

- Members will be asked to disclose any personal or business interests which may conflict with their role on the Advisory Group upon appointment and at each meeting. This should include the likelihood of being involved in applications for future Modern Slavery PEC funding.
- Members will also be asked to declare if they (or a close member of family, or a person living in the same household) have an interest in any matters being considered at meetings throughout the membership term.
- A register of interests is maintained, and a proportionate approach is taken to managing real or perceived conflicts of interest.

How to express an interest

To express an interest in becoming a member of the Advisory Group, please send the following by **Sunday 13th June 2021** by email to office@modernslaverypec.org:

- A short covering letter (maximum 1 page) setting out your reasons for expressing an interest in being a member of the Advisory Group, how you meet the membership requirements (highlighting which category you fall into) and what specific qualities and experience you will bring to the Group.
- As we are expecting the first meeting of the Advisory Group to take place in mid-July, please inform us of any dates in July on which you are unavailable.

Informal enquiries about the role of a member of the Advisory Group may be addressed to director@modernslaverypec.org

Appointments Process

After the closing date, expressions of interest received will be considered by the Modern Slavery PEC's Senior Leadership Team (which is made up of the Directors of the Centre). Appointments to the Advisory Group will be made by the PEC in close consultation with the Centre's accountable UKRI Steering Committee. Appointments will be based upon suitability for the role, representation across the required categories, complementarity across the membership and balancing the continuity of existing membership.

Once agreed, successful candidates will be informed and onboarded to the Advisory Group, which will include a welcome pack and Conflicts of Interest declaration. Unsuccessful candidates will also be contacted with the outcome. We anticipate all decisions will be communicated week commencing 21st June 2021.