The responsibilities of the Research and Higher Education Committee shall be to guide both Council and the Senior Management Team in work that promotes and supports geographers, geographical communities and geographical research through a wide range of activities in higher education and beyond. The Research and Higher Education Committee receives reports from the Research Groups and the Editors Sub-Committees (see separate Terms of Reference) and reports to Council.

Membership (2021-2022)

Membership of the committee is the Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and three other Councillors elected for that division; three members elected by the Society’s Research Groups; the postgraduate student representative on Council, elected by the Postgraduate Forum; and up to three additional members co-opted by Council or the committee itself (each with fixed three-year terms).

Members 2021-22

Professor Alison Blunt (Chair, Vice President: Research and Higher Education)
Professor Peter Kraftl (Honorary Secretary: Research and Higher Education)
Jordi Buckley (Postgraduate Representative)
Professor Steve Darby
Dr Vandana Desai
Professor Klaus Dodds
Dr Agatha Herman
Professor Rachel Pain (Chair of Conference 2022)
Professor Stephen Tooth
Professor Johanna Waters

Frequency of meetings

The Committee meets bi-annually, in October and March.

Quorum

The Research and Higher Education Committee shall be quorate when 50% of its members are
present, in person or through teleconferencing.

Decision-making

Decision-making shall be by consensus as far as possible. If a vote is required, each member shall have one vote and the Chair shall have the casting vote.

Duties

The duties of the Committee shall be:

Policy and strategy

- To advise on the delivery of the Society’s strategy relating to research and higher education
- To contribute to the review and development of the Society’s strategy, focusing on areas relating to, or with an impact upon, research and higher education
- To contribute to the development of the Society’s thinking on all aspects of geographical research and higher education and its understanding of the wider research and higher education context
- To advise on the Society’s response to consultations on research and higher education
- To advise on the prioritisation of work within the Society’s Research and Higher Education Division, leading to an agreed work plan
- To monitor progress against agreed priorities, in line with the published work plan
- To support the Society’s work on specific time bounded projects relating to research and higher education by evaluating, advising and reflecting on their efficacy

Research and Higher Education Activity

- To understand, support and advise on the range of work undertaken by the Research and Higher Education Division, including:
  - Grants and support for field work, including any Society-led field programmes
  - Annual international conference
  - Journals, book series and guides
  - Research groups
  - Programme accreditation
  - Awards and recognition
  - Resources to support geographical teaching and learning in higher education
  - Equality, diversity and inclusion in geographical research and higher education
  - Research-led work on the Society’s Collections, including via AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Awards
  - All other work relevant to research and higher education

Recruitment and Professional Development

- To support the Society’s work promoting Geography at university and in the professions
- To support work by the Research and Higher Education Division (including with the
To promote geography at school

- To advise the Society on work with postgraduate students, early career researchers and other academics
- To advise the Society on work with Chartered Geographers and geographers in the professions, liaising with the Professional Advisory Group as appropriate
- To recommend areas in which the Society might most effectively contribute to the professional development of academic and professional geographers, and methods by which this might be achieved

**Communication**

- To advise the Society on the handling of controversial issues in research and higher education where there is an overlap with the Society’s interests
- To recommend effective engagement strategies for the communication of the Society’s thinking to those working in research and higher education

**Safeguarding and Health & Safety**

- To support the Society in the safe and effective running of any Research and Higher Education led event promoted by the Society that involves young and other vulnerable people
- To ensure that research by those in Research and Higher Education funded by the Society is risk assessed and compliant with ethical review requirements
- To monitor the implementation of the Code of Conduct at the Annual Conference, to review it on an annual basis and to support its use in other Research and Higher Education activities.

**Terms of this Authority**

- This paper is approved by the Council for a period of three years after which it will automatically lapse unless renewed by the Council.
- In any event, the Council may, by ordinary resolution, revoke or amend this authority as it deems fit.

Last reviewed by Council in December 2020