



The Government wishes to appoint two new members to the committee

A member with clinical expertise in human neuropathology

A member with veterinary molecular and biochemical expertise

SEAC Membership Details

SEAC holds four to six meetings annually. These are normally in London, with one meeting each year held in a devolved administration. It is anticipated that an equivalent amount of time will be required for preparation outside meetings.

Details of current membership, Code of Practice and Terms of Reference may be found at www.seac.gov.uk

Remuneration rates are as follows

SEAC attendance fee	: £129 per meeting
Preparation allowance for 1 day or less	: £33
Preparation allowance for 2 days or more	: £66

Members are reimbursed travel and accommodation expenses.

Members are appointed for terms of up to three years and may be requested to serve a second term of up to three years.

Person Specification

Candidates will be selected on the basis of the three criteria listed below, however greatest weight will be given to the candidates' specialist knowledge, expertise and experience.

Specialist knowledge, expertise and experience

You should have an outstanding track record in your field of experience, are recognised as a distinguished professional whose advice and views are sought by others. You should have a considerable depth of knowledge of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and have achieved a position of respect and authority in your field of interest.

Committee skills and experience

You should have relevant previous experience as a member of expert scientific committees and have provided an example of representational roles.

Personal skills

You should be a team player, reliable and calm under pressure, with good interpersonal skills. You should be able to present arguments logically and concisely and be able to defend decisions if necessary. Able to consider the wider angle you should be help to identify objectives and guide the Committee into finding a way forward in complex situations. You should have relevant experience of dealing with the media.

Appointment Process Details

Application forms may be found at www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/appointments

Interviews are anticipated to commence week commencing 23 May 2005 with formal offers of appointment extended in July 2005.

Reasonable travel expenses for interviews will be reimbursed.

The appointments process will adhere to the Office of the Commissioner of Public Appointments(OCPA) requirements for public appointments. The OCPA Complaints leaflet is available at <http://defra.gov.uk/corporate/appointments/ocpa-leaflet.pdf>

Closing date for applications is 11 April 2005

The government is committed to improving the diversity of the boards of its public bodies and welcomes, in particular, applications from members of currently under-represented groups, including women, people from ethnic backgrounds and disabled people. All public appointments are based on the principle of merit.