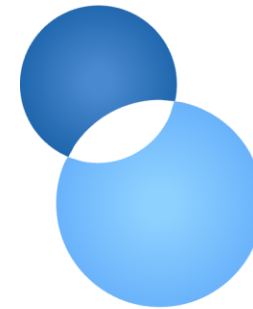


The Prime Ministers Council for Science and Technology (CST)

Members

Candidate Pack

Closing Date: 7th October 2024



**COUNCIL FOR
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

If you have any questions, require further information, or would like this candidate pack in an alternative format, please contact the Public Appointments team at partnerships@dsit.gov.uk and CST secretariat at cstsecretariat@go-science.gov.uk

Contents

3. Message from Dame Angela McLean, Government Chief Scientific Adviser
4. About the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology (CST)
5. The Role
6. Person Specification
7. Essential Criteria
8. Desirable Criteria
9. Terms of Appointment
10. How to apply
11. Assessment Panel, Process and Timeline
12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
13. Annex A: Conflicts of Interest and Due Diligence
14. Annex B: The Seven Principles of Public Life
15. Annex C: Complaints Procedure

Message to Candidates from Dame Angela McLean

The UK government has set out a clear ambition to accelerate innovation and productivity across the UK through world-class science and research and the safe development and deployment of new technologies. Putting excellent scientific advice at the heart of decision making is key to the delivery of this government's five missions.

The Council for Science and Technology provides advice directly to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers on national priorities, from how to achieve net zero to the role of science and technology in addressing geographical inequalities across the UK. We are looking for new members who are passionate and willing to share insights from experience working in science, engineering, innovation or technology. This is an opportunity to bring your unique perspective to the Council and work alongside other distinguished members to develop advice that will help government deliver improved outcomes for society.

Dame Angela McLean, Government Chief Scientific Adviser



About the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology (CST)

CST is the government's highest-level advisory body on science and technology delivering advice directly to the Prime Minister and Cabinet on science, engineering, technology and innovation policy issues across government. It is jointly chaired by an independent co-chair and the Government Chief Scientific Adviser, Dame Angela McLean.

CST provides impartial advice to the Prime Minister and Cabinet on:

- What the government's high-level priorities for science and technology should be to support the delivery of the government's five missions;
- Emerging and long-term scientific and technological developments, including opportunities and risks relating to:
 - science and research capability
 - innovation and economic growth
 - health and quality of life within the UK
 - sustainable development and resilience
- Other matters requested by the Prime Minister, Ministers, or considered important by the Council.

Further information about the Council for Science and Technology can be found [here](#).

The Role

The role of CST members is to draw on their experience as a senior leader within business, academia, finance, or the voluntary sector to advise the Prime Minister and Cabinet on science, technology and innovation.

The Council members work on a wide breath of issues and will need the ability to work across disciplines.

All members are expected to:

- lead or support the development of advice to the Prime Minister and Cabinet;
- attend quarterly meetings, with work outside these meetings conducted through project subgroups;
- engage with Ministers and senior officials to support implementation of advice;
- suggest future areas for CST advice; and
- work across and draw on their networks to access expertise.

Person Specification

Taking a broad view of the research and innovation landscape, members will be expected to contribute actively to both the Council's policy agenda and to nurture links across the Council's extensive network of senior stakeholders. They will need to work effectively with, and command the confidence of, the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, and those at the highest level within the research community, business and the public services. Members are encouraged to draw on their experience to provide independent critical thought across the breadth of the Council's activity.

Members of CST are appointed as individuals. Members are not appointed as representatives of their profession, employer or interest group, and have a duty to act in the public interest. Members must at all times observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in relation to the advice they provide.

Essential Criteria

The Government is seeking applicants with expertise in science, technology, engineering or innovation with experience at a national level (whether academia, business, finance, or the not-for-profit sector). Applicants must have the personal stature and credibility to represent a body which advises the Prime Minister.

Essential Criteria

To be successful at interview you will need to demonstrate the following essential skills:

1. **Lead Criteria:** Credibility at national level in their specific fields (whether academia, business, finance, or the not-for-profit sector).
2. Strong interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to command the confidence of the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and those at the highest level within the research community, business and the public services.
3. An ability to operate at the interface between disciplines, bring together different perspectives, evaluate options, and to develop evidence-based solutions.

Please note: If we receive a high number of applications, then the panel will sift against the lead criteria.

Desirable Criteria

We are interested in applications from people with one or more of the following areas of expertise:

- Significant experience of delivering major R&D programmes over the long term, particularly outside a university setting.
- Experience as a serial entrepreneur with a track record of building startups and scale up companies, ideally with a focus on commercialising science and technology.
- Senior leadership within the higher education sector and/or leadership of discovery research organisations.
- Expertise in economics, social and behavioural science.
- Experience and deep knowledge in the fields of AI, environment and climate change, health and life sciences, and defence and national security.
- Experience as an investor / venture capitalist / philanthropy fund manager, particularly in science and technology companies.

Terms of Appointment

Appointment Term: An initial period of 3 years.

Remuneration: Membership is not remunerated except for reasonable travel and subsistence costs related to Council business.

Time Commitment: 2 days per month

Location: London

Nature of Appointment: This is a Public Appointment by the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology. The post holder would be an officeholder and not be an employee of the Department or the public body.

Availability: Successful candidates will be encouraged to take up their appointment as soon as possible, following the successful completion of pre-appointment checks and security clearance at Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS) level. Further details can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/united-kingdom-security-vetting-clearance-levels/national-security-vetting-clearance-levels>.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted **by 12:00pm on 07/10/2024**. Applications received after this date will **not** be considered.

In order to apply you will need to create an account or sign in via the [Public Appointments website](#). Once you are logged into your account, click on 'apply for this role' and follow the on-screen instructions. To apply, all candidates are required to provide:

- A two-page curriculum vitae (CV)
- A two-page supporting statement
- Equality information
- Information relating to any outside interests or reputational issues

A good application will set out specific information about how you meet the person specification for this appointment. Think about your knowledge, skills, experience and personal attributes, and take full advantage of the space available. Provide practical evidence that best demonstrates how you meet the essential and any desirable criteria.

We will ask you to check and confirm your personal details to ensure your application is accurate.

You will also have the opportunity to make a reasonable adjustment request or apply under the disability confident scheme before you submit your application.

Assessment Panel, Process and Timeline

Candidates will be sifted and interviewed by an Advisory Appointment Panel (AAP). Scoring at sift and interview is based on the criteria set out in the Person Specification. The AAP will determine which candidates are appointable.

The Secretary of State will appoint on merit from the list of appointable candidates.

The members of the AAP are:

Panel Chair – Dame Angela McLean (Government Chief Scientific Advisor and Co-Chair of CST)

CST Representative - Lord Browne of Madingley (Independent Co-Chair of CST)

Independent Panel Members – tbc

(full details of the assessment panel will be provided if shortlisted).

Interviews will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Date	Actions
7 th October 12:00	Application Deadline
Week commencing 14 th October	Shortlisting
Week commencing 21 st October	Interviews
Week commencing 2 nd December	Successful candidates notified
Week commencing 16 th December	Appointment announced
<i>The above timeline is indicative and subject to change. Please check the advert for further details.</i>	

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to increasing the diversity of our boards and bringing in talent, regardless of its origins. We encourage applications from all candidates, regardless of ethnicity, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability or gender identity. We particularly welcome applications from people with ethnicity, gender and disability characteristics currently underrepresented on our Boards.

Arrangements for candidates with a disability:

As a Disability Confident leader, we guarantee to interview anyone with a disability whose application meets the essential criteria for the post. More details on the criteria can be found in this pack. If you wish to apply through the Disability Confident scheme, you will need to tick the option on the Diversity Monitoring form that you will submit alongside your application.

Adjustments:

All candidates are entitled to request reasonable adjustments at any stage of the application process. If you would like to discuss adjustments prior to submitting your application, please contact partnerships@dsit.gov.uk.

Annex A: Conflict of Interest and Due Diligence

Public Appointments require the highest standards of propriety, involving impartiality, integrity and objectivity, in relation to stewardship of public funds and the oversight and management of all related activities. This means that any private, voluntary, charitable or political interest that might be material and relevant to the work of the body concerned should be declared.

It is important that those appointed as members of public bodies maintain the confidence of Parliament and the public. If there are any issues in your personal or professional history that could, if you were appointed, be misconstrued, cause embarrassment, or cause public confidence in the appointment to be jeopardised, it is important that you bring them to the attention of the Assessment Panel and provide details of the issue(s) in your application. In considering whether you wish to declare any issues, you should also reflect on any public statements you have made, including through social media. The Panel may explore issues with you before they make a recommendation on the appointment.

As part of our due diligence checks we will consider anything in the public domain related to your conduct or professional capacity. This will include us undertaking searches of previous public statements and social media, blogs or any other publicly available information. This information may be made available to the Panel, and they may wish to explore issues with you, should you be invited to interview.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss further, please contact partnerships@dsit.gov.uk.

Annex B: The Seven Principles of Public Life

In 1995 the Committee on Standards in Public Life defined seven principles for public life. All candidates for are expected to demonstrate a commitment to, and an understanding of, the value and importance of the principles of public service which are:

1. Selflessness
2. Integrity
3. Objectivity
4. Accountability
5. Openness
6. Honesty
7. Leadership

Further information on the principles of public life can be found [here](#).

Annex C: Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have reason to complain you should direct your concerns in the first instance to the Public Appointments team at partnerships@dsit.gov.uk who will make every effort to deal with these and respond to you within 48 hours.