Science Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The RBGE Science Advisory Committee will meet up to three times per year (more frequently if required by the Chair). The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Board may also appoint another Trustee to this Committee. The Chair is empowered to appoint sufficient external members (maximum seven) to fulfil the duties of the Committee. The quorum for the Committee is three members.

1. Secretary

The Business Support Administrator shall be the Secretary of the Science Advisory Committee.

1. Attendance

The Director of Science will attend the meetings with the Science Advisory Committee. The Regius Keeper, Executive Directors, and the Deputy Directors of Science may also attend the meetings. Other RBGE staff may be requested to attend occasionally by the Chair.

1. Duties

To advise the RBGE Board, the Regius Keeper, and the Director of Science and Deputy Keeper, on:

* The implementation of RBGE’s 2021-2030 Science and Biodiversity Strategy
* The wider scientific, environmental and policy context in which RBGE’s science sits to inform its remit and collaborative opportunities
* Opportunities for increasing research grant income
* Opportunities for increasing the profile and impacts of the scientific and biodiversity activities of RBGE
* Strategic approaches for peer review of the quality of RBGE’s science and conservation activities
* Emerging opportunities, issues, trends and threats relevant to RBGE’s science and biodiversity activities
* Development of departmental and staffing structures to meet organisational needs.

1. Membership
   * Prof Sarah Gurr (Chair/Trustee)
   * Prof Beverley Glover
   * Prof Janis Antonovics
   * Prof John Grace
   * Prof Simon Hiscock
   * Prof Tom Meagher
   * Prof Michelle Price
   * Prof Des B.A. Thompson
2. Terms of Office

Appointments to the Science Advisory Committee are for terms of four years, with the possibility of reappointment for a second term by mutual agreement between the Chair and the Committee Member.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of Meetings of the Committee shall be circulated to all Members of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Team.

1. Review

Terms of Reference to be reviewed every three years.

Reviewed by the Chair of the Science Advisory Committee on 05/06/2025 and approved by the Board of Trustees at their meeting on 19/06/2025.