

Draft minutes of the Science Council's General Meeting held online on Thursday 13th November 2025

Chair

David Wells (DW)

Member Bodies present and by proxy

Association for Laboratory Medicine; Chartered Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences; Institute of Food Science & Technology; Institute of Biomedical Science; Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining; Institute of Corrosion; Institute of Water; Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine; Institute of Physics; Institute of Science and Technology; Institution of Environmental Sciences; Operational Research Society; Royal Society of Chemistry; TOPRA (The Organisation for Professionals in Regulatory Affairs).

Also in attendance

Trustees: Matthew Davies, Roya Ziaie, Niels Pederson (Honorary Treasurer), Harriet Gould, Daljeet Sandher, Tim Magness, Roya Ziaie.

Staff in attendance

Della Freeth (DF), Chief Executive

Oliver O'Hanlon, Governance and Corporate Services Manager

Jennifer Larwood, Registration and Licensing Manager

Members not in attendance

Association for Science Education; Association for Simulated Practice in Healthcare; Association of Anatomical Pathology Technology; British Blood Transfusion Society; British Psychological Society; British Society of Soil Scientists; Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management; Geological Society; Institute of Animal Technology; Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology; Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications; Institution of Chemical Engineers; Nuclear Institute; Royal Astronomical Society; Royal College of Podiatry; Society of Dyers and Colourists; Royal Society of Biology; Royal Meteorological Society; Society of Cosmetic Scientists; Society for Natural Sciences.

25.2.1 Welcome from the Chair of the Board

DW welcomed attendees.

25.2.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2nd July 2025

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

25.2.3 Report from the Chief Executive, Della Freeth

DF reminded Members of the Science Council's current strategy and priorities and a summary of recent activity.

The Diversity and Inclusion Progression Framework reports (jointly produced with the Royal Academy of Engineering) are now completed and undergoing an accessibility review before publication in November. Participation has increased from prior years, with 45 organisations involved, of which 25 are Science Council Members.

DF reported that there was wide engagement from Members on the inaugural Presidents' Roundtable and enthusiasm for similar meetings in the future. The Science Council is reflecting on the discussion topics and identifying where it can best support further collective activity.

Enhancing the Science Council's digital architecture is a key area of focus. A new website is in development and will launch soon. The development of digital certificates for registrants is another area of focus. DF said that the Science Council is mindful of the impact of introducing digital certificates could have on Members and said that the Science Council will work with them and other organisations on this matter. A continued focus will also be on process simplification and streamlining, the impact hitherto was welcomed by Members.

DF reported that she has been invited to speak at a meeting of the Government Chief Scientific Advisors in November.

25.2.4 Re-election of Professor Catherine Ross CSci as President of the Science Council

DW informed attendees that the meeting was not quorate at this point to formally vote on the resolution. He invited participants to vote on the resolution as a means of reflecting the view of those Members in attendance. Thirteen Members voted in favour of Professor Catherine Ross's re-election, with one abstention. DW said that a resolution will be circulated to Members shortly.

25.2.5 Announcement of the results of the second Trustee Elections 2025

DW informed attendees that the following individuals from the membership have been elected: Dr Samantha Atkinson (TOPRA), Claire Riley (Nuclear Institute) and Martin Caunt (Operational Research Society).

25.2.6 Forthcoming meetings

The 2026 Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 6th July as part of an in-person conference. Details of the second General Meeting in 2026 will be confirmed in due course.

25.2.7 Any other business

There was no other business and the meeting ended at 10.40am.

Signed: Date: