

The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018

Who is the JMC?

- Governance** The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom (also known as 'The JMC') is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, Registered Charity Number: 1171223. The JMC's governing document is its Constitution.
- Address** The JMC's principal office is in England at De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HS but all correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary (currently: Mr Peter Thomas, Secretary, The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, CB2 8PE). The JMC's website can be found at www.jmc.org.uk.
- Membership** The membership of the JMC consists of its Officers, Participating Bodies, Co-opted Members and Observing Bodies; during the period from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 these were:

Officers

Chair	Paul Glaister
Secretary	Peter Thomas
Treasurer	Paul Harris (until 14 November 2017) Jennie Golding (from 14 November 2017)

Participating Bodies

Body

Adults Learning Mathematics
Association of Mathematics Education Teachers
Association of Teachers of Mathematics

British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics
British Society for the History of Mathematics
Conference of Heads of Departments of
Mathematical Sciences
Edinburgh Mathematical Society
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
London Mathematical Society

The Mathematical Association

Mathematics in Education and Industry
National Association for Numeracy and
Mathematics in Colleges
National Association of Mathematics Advisers
National Numeracy
National STEM Centre subsequently STEM Learning
NRICH representing the Millennium Mathematics Project
Operational Research Society

Royal Academy of Engineering
Royal Statistical Society

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

Wales Institute of Mathematical and
Computational Sciences

Authorised Representative

Jeff Evans
Helen Farmery
Sue Pope (until 3 April 2018)
Heather Davis (from 3 April 2018)
Sue Gifford
June Barrow-Green

Jan van den Heuvel
David Pritchard
Chris Chipperton
Alice Rogers (until 14 November 2017)
Kevin Houston (from 14 November 2017)
Jennie Golding (until 14 November 2017)
Tom Roper (from 14 November 2017)
Charlie Stripp

Sally Barton
Matt Lewis
Derek Huby
Stephen Lyon
Ems Lord
Charlene Timewell (until 16 August 2017)
Sophie Parker (from 16 August 2017)
Rhys Morgan
Neil Sheldon (until 25 January 2018)
Scott Keir (from 25 January 2018)
Bill Richardson (until 20 April 2018)
Chris Budd (from 20 April 2018)

Sofya Lyakhova

Co-opted Members

UK Representative to the International Commission on Mathematics Instruction	Chris Budd
British Congresses of Mathematics Education Committee Chair	David Martin

Observing Bodies

<i>Body</i>	<i>Authorised Representative</i>
Advance HE (formerly The Higher Education Academy) Department for Education [England]	Catherine Hack Clare Fowler (until 13 February 2018) Will Longhill (from 13 February to 30 June 2018) Alex Smith (from 30 June 2018)
Department of Education [Northern Ireland]	Julie Harris
Education Scotland	Stuart Cathro
National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics	Jane Imrie
National College for Teaching and Leadership	Paul Steel (until 22 February 2018) Louise Okwabi (from 22 February 2018)
Office for Standards in Education	Jane Jones (until 31 January 2018)
The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	Janet Holloway
The Royal Society	Rebecca Veitch
The Royal Society Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education (until 14 September 2017 and from 5 January 2018)	Jeremy Hodgen
Scottish Qualifications Authority (from 6 June 2018)	Sue Pope

4. **Trustees** The trustees are the officers, Elected Trustees and Co-opted Trustees. The Elected Trustees and the Co-opted Trustees must be Authorised Representatives of Participating Bodies at the time of their appointment.

Trustees for the period from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018:

Sally Barton	Elected Trustee (retires November 2019 and not eligible for re-election)
Jennie Golding	Treasurer (from 14 November 2017, retires November 2020)
Paul Glaister	Chair (retires 13 November 2018)
Paul Harris	Treasurer (until 14 November 2017)
Matt Lewis	Co-opted Trustee (until 13 November 2018)
Sue Pope	Elected Trustee (until 14 November 2017)
David Pritchard	Co-opted Trustee (until 13 November 2018)
Peter Thomas	Secretary (retires November 2019 and not eligible for re-election)

The JMC has no corporate trustees. No trustee holds title to property belonging to the JMC. The JMC does not act as a Custodian Trustee for any other charity.

What does the JMC do?

5. **Objects** The JMC's Constitution states that 'The objects of the Council are, for the public benefit, to advance the knowledge, understanding, study and education of the public in the subject of mathematics, including by:
- sharing knowledge, best practice and teaching methods amongst individuals and organisations teaching mathematics; and
 - liaising with mathematical bodies, national education policy makers and government in furthering the objects.'
6. **Incorporation** The JMC was incorporated on 20 January 2017 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. It is the successor to the unincorporated Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom which was founded in 1962 and first met in 1963. The old body was dissolved on 17 August 2017 and the minutes of its final meetings, its final report and its final accounts were approved at the meeting of the new body on 14 November 2017.
7. **Meetings** For the furtherance of its objects, the JMC holds General Meetings three times a year to promote communication between mathematical bodies in the United Kingdom. General Meetings were held on 14 November 2017 (which was also the Annual General Meeting), 13 February 2018 and 6 June 2018. On these days were also held meetings of the Trustees. The General Meetings received reports from Participating Bodies and Observing Bodies as well as from JMC representatives on external bodies, and discussed issues of concern raised. The afternoon sessions were given over to the discussion of one or two topics: The Smith Report on post-16 mathematics in England (14 November); Developing teachers' mathematical knowledge using digital technology – a research project funded by

the Nuffield Foundation and Ofqual's Research in GCSE Mathematics (13 February); the work of ACME (6 June). The minutes of meetings are published on the JMC website, www.jmc.org.uk.

8. **British Congresses of Mathematics Education Committee** (Chair: David Martin (until 6 July 2018) and Paul Glaister (from 7 July 2018 until 6 August 2018)) This committee organised the ninth British Congress of Mathematics Education held at the University of Warwick from 3 to 6 April 2018, with the support of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics and The Mathematical Association. This continued the pattern of four-yearly conferences established by the old unincorporated JMC. At their meeting on 13 February 2018, the Trustees agreed to conduct a review of the future direction of BCME, following the winding up of the affairs of BCME9. So as not to prejudice the review process, it was decided to defer the appointment of a new committee until after the review (the old committee officers' terms of office ending on 6 July 2018, three months after the close of BCME9). As the Memorandum of Understanding regarding BCME9 with the Association of Teachers of Mathematics and The Mathematical Association did not expire until 6 August 2018, the JMC's officers also served as the officers of the committee from 7 July 2018 to 6 August 2018.

The following report on BCME 9 is adapted from the report given by David Martin (Chair of the BCME Committee) to the General Meeting on 6 June 2018. The JMC is very grateful to David Martin, Peter Ransom (Secretary of the BCME Committee), Paul Metcalf (Treasurer of the BCME Committee), other members of the committee and its subcommittees, and the staff of the ATM and MA for their commitment and hard work which made BCME9 such a success.

BCME9 took place from Tuesday 3 April to Friday 6 April 2018 at the University of Warwick, with the strapline 'Celebrating Mathematics Education'. Oxford University Press was the headline sponsor with OCR and the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust as key sponsors. Teachers and educationalists were supported to attend through bursaries. The London Mathematical Society and The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications provided 22 bursaries, Autograph provided 7 bursaries, the UKMT provided 6 bursaries, and the Scottish Mathematical Council provided 5 bursaries.

Over 400 residential and 100 non-residential delegates attended BCME and the number of exhibitors was such that a second exhibition hall had to be provided, This has led to a predicted surplus of about £50,000. The ATM and MA administration teams are to be congratulated on their hard work in achieving these healthy numbers and for meticulously chasing up payments. We are also grateful for the work of BCME Committees members, and for the promotional work of JMC bodies. We were delighted with the support given by the Warwick Conference team. The BCME Committee of the JMC met twice a year, including on Tuesday 6 March 2018 for conference planning and on Monday 14 May 2018 for a 'mop-up' meeting.

The Conference was opened by the JMC Chair, Professor Paul Glaister and the programme included plenary speakers Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter FRS (Opening Plenary), Dr Vicky Neale, Professor Ruth Merttens, Professor Berinderjeet Kaur (OUP Sponsored Plenary), Professor Paul Ernest (Closing Plenary), with Dr Hannah Fry (after-dinner speaker). The MA Presidential Address was given by Tom Roper. A plenary panel on the first evening was chaired by Dr Alison Clark-Wilson and we are also grateful for her work on the programme. The evening social events, A Taste of MathsJam and a Quiz, proved successful. There was a rich programme of over 350 sessions and a sponsored open workshop ran throughout the conference. The conference included ATM, MA and NAMA AGMs. Immediately after the conference we held an event to celebrate the life and work of Malcolm Swan, sponsored by the Shell Centre, University of Nottingham.

In addition to the Administrators and Officers, Natthapoj Vincent Trakulphadetkrai is to be particularly thanked for his combined role as Chair of the Communications Committee and Conference Manager, and Sue Pope for her combined role as Chair of the Programme Committee and Editor of the informal proceedings of the conference (short papers that will not be peer reviewed that will be available soon on the BCME website, www.bcme.org.uk). Jeremy Hodgen and Jennie Golding will be editing the Research Proceedings for BSRLM.

9. **GCSE Working Group** (Convenor: Sue Pope (until 27 January 2018) and Jennie Golding (from 23 June 2018)) The working group was not active during the year but it is intended to reactivate it.
10. **International Congresses of Mathematics Education Bursaries Committee** (Chair: Chris Budd) International Congresses of Mathematics Education are held every four years and the next will be in Shanghai in 2020. The ICME Bursaries Committee is currently being reactivated to raise funds for bursaries for those attending and to publicise the bursaries widely, prior to their award in 2019.
11. **Meeting of Mathematics Subject Associations Special Interest Group** (Honorary Secretary: Sue Pope (until 1 February 2018) and Tom Roper (from 1 February 2018)) This group was established as a

SIG of the JMC on 9th June 2017. MMSA consists of five associations, AMET, ATM, MA, NANAMIC and NAMA. NCETM and The Royal Society also attend meetings. Each subject association covers its own costs for the attendance of two representatives. In the academic year, 2017-18, three meetings were held:

- September 2017: hosted by AMET at Hendon Campus, Middlesex University. The meeting was joined by Alex Smith, DfE, and another member of the STEM policy team, who led a discussion on the developing policy of the DfE towards mathematics following the Smith report.
- January 2018: hosted by the MA at its headquarters in Leicester. The meeting was joined by Ofqual representatives, Paul Newton and Alison Tonkin. They outlined the regulatory focus of Ofqual through the validity of the qualifications and led a discussion which included National Curriculum Tests and their effect upon the taught curriculum and evaluation of the new GCSE and low grade thresholds.
- May 2018: hosted by The Royal Society. This was the third meeting at which the five associations explored the possibilities of coming together to form a single association.

12. **Relationships with other bodies** The JMC has the following relationships with other bodies.

The JMC is a member of the Council for Subject Associations (JMC representative: Alison Clark-Wilson).

The JMC joined the National Council for Voluntary Organisations on 16 July 2018.

The JMC worked with the Association of Teachers of Mathematics and The Mathematical Association to organise the British Congress of Mathematics Education held in 2018; any surplus or deficit on a congress will be shared between the JMC, ATM and MA in the ratio 4:3:3.

The Royal Statistical Society has generously given the JMC a 20% discount on the cost of room hire.

The JMC also has the following relationships with other bodies as part of which the JMC neither makes payment nor receives payment:

The London Mathematical Society generously allows the JMC to use its address as the address of the JMC's principal office.

The National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics invites the JMC to nominate a representative (Tony Cotton, until 8 July 2018) to the National Maths Hubs Forum.

National Numeracy invites the JMC to nominate a representative (Sally Barton) to the National Numeracy Forum.

OCR invites the JMC to nominate a representative (Sue Pope until 26 January 2018) to its Mathematics Consultative Forum.

The Open University generously provides electronic document archives for the JMC.

The Royal Society includes the Chair of the JMC among the members of its Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education.

The JMC is also represented at other meetings from time to time.

The JMC has no employed staff or paid consultants.

13. **Twitter Account** The JMC established a Twitter account in February 2018. The JMC is very grateful to Sophie Parker of the Operational Research Society for suggesting the account be established and then agreeing to run the account.

14. **Public Benefit** The Trustees have had due regard to the public benefit guidance of the Charity Commission of England and Wales when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

The JMC's finances and governance

15. **Context** Most of the subscription income of the old unincorporated JMC was used to meet the cost of the three meetings each year. The JMC has examined its meeting costs and taken steps to reduce the cost of catering, although the need to use alternative venues in the coming year may consume those savings, at least in part. The JMC continues to look for ways to finance initiatives to further its objects. The funds relating to the British Congress of Mathematics Education which took place this year are held in a restricted fund devoted to the holding of such conferences.

16. **Financial Position** The report on the JMC's financial position is included with the Annual Accounts which accompany this report.

17. **Reserves** The Trustees have adopted a policy on general reserves; the 'JMC will maintain reserves of approximately twice the annual ordinary turnover at the financial low-point of the year (typically after payment of November meeting costs, before new year's subscription invoices are paid). The majority of this reserve will be kept in a deposit account and/or other investment account approved by the trustees.'

The Trustees have also adopted a policy on reserves relating to the BCME Restricted Fund; the 'JMC will aim to maintain reserves of 15–20% of BCME turnover, derived from BCME operating surpluses, as a restricted fund which will be (at least largely) kept in the above-mentioned or other deposit/investment account(s) over periods of low BCME-related activity. The manner of such investment will be approved by trustees, who will endeavour to steward such monies prudently.'

18. **Grant Making** Apart from the bursaries provided for attendance at BCME9 (see Section 8 above) and its involvement in organising bursaries for those attending the International Congresses of Mathematics Education which are held every four years (the next is in 2020), the JMC does not make grants.
19. **Social Investment** The JMC does not make social investments.
20. **Bye Laws** The Trustees have reviewed the JMC's Bye Laws and policies. As a result, an expanded set of Bye Laws were agreed. These cover:

- Revision
- Safeguarding
- Reporting
- Elections
- Finance

21. **Policies** The Trustees have agreed the following policies during the year:

- Conflict of Interest
- Finance
 - Bank accounts, reserves and investments
 - Financial controls
 - Income and bank accounts
 - Financial operation of Committees of JMC
 - JMC representation and consequent payment of expenses
- Financial Controls
- Handling Complaints
- Investment
- Managing Volunteers
- Paying Staff
- Reserves
- Risk Assessment
- Safeguarding
- Trustee Training

except that it was decided to defer the development of a detailed policy on investments until the completion of the BCME Review as so much of the money that might be invested is in the BCME Restricted Fund.

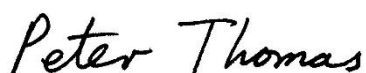
The Bye Laws and policies, as well the Constitution, can be found at <http://www.jmc.org.uk/documents.htm>.

During the year the Trustees also established a risk register, and procedures for monitoring it.

Declaration

22. **Approval** The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Peter Thomas

Secretary

24 October 2018