

The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021

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 Chris Chipperton, Secretary, The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom, 5 Railton Meadow, Woodmansey, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 0UU). 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 2020 to 31 July 2021 these were:

Officers

Chair	Andy Noyes
Deputy Chair	Alice Rogers (until November 2020); Noel-Ann Bradshaw (from November 2020)
Secretary	Chris Chipperton
Treasurer	Jennie Golding

Participating Bodies

<i>Body</i>	<i>Authorised Representative</i>
Adults Learning Mathematics	Jeff Evans (until November 2020) Beth Kelly (from November 2020)
Association of Mathematics Education Teachers	Helen Farmery
Association of Teachers of Mathematics	Heather Davis (until April 2021) Hayden Rissbrook (from April 2021)
British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics	Jeremy Hodgen
British Society for the History of Mathematics	June Barrow-Green
Edinburgh Mathematical Society	Andrew Wilson
Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences	Jan van den Heuvel
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications	Paul Glaister
London Mathematical Society	Kevin Houston
The Mathematical Association	Peter Ransom (until November 2020) Tom Roper (from November 2020) Charlie Stripp
Mathematics in Education and Industry	
National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges	Graham Griffiths
National Association of Mathematics Advisers	Matt Lewis
National Numeracy	Mike Ellicock (until May 2021) Sam Sims (from May 2021)
NRICH representing the Millennium Mathematics Project	Ems Lord
Operational Research Society	Evelyn Hardy
Royal Academy of Engineering	
Royal Statistical Society	
Scottish Mathematical Council	Carol Lyon
STEM Learning	Stephen Lyon
United Kingdom Mathematics Trust	Hannah Telfer
Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences	Sofya Lyakhova

Co-opted Members

UK Representative to the International Commission on Mathematics Instruction	Chris Budd
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Observing Bodies

<i>Body</i>	<i>Authorised Representative</i>
Department for Education [England]	Alex Smith
Department of Education [Northern Ireland]	Julie Harris
Education Scotland	Andy Brown (until May 2021) Pamela Di Nardo (from May 2021)
National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics	Sue Madgwick
Office for Standards in Education	Emma Gregory (until May 2021) Hannah Stoten or Steve Wren (from May 2021)
The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	Sarah Old
The Royal Society	Helen Harth
The Royal Society Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education	Anthony Tomei
Scottish Qualifications Authority	Sue Pope
Welsh Government Education Directorate	Alison Thom

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 2020 to 31 July 2021:

Noel-Ann Bradshaw	Deputy Chair (retires November 2023; eligible for re-election)
Chris Chipperton	Secretary (retires November 2022; eligible for re-election)
Heather Davis	Elected Trustee (retired April 2021)
Jennie Golding	Treasurer (retires November 2023; not eligible for re-election)
Graham Griffiths	Elected Trustee (retires November 2022; eligible for re-election)
Kevin Houston	Co-opted Trustee (from November 2020; first co-opted November 2019)
Sofya Lyakhova	Co-opted Trustee (from November 2020; first co-opted November 2019)
Andy Noyes	Chair (retires November 2021; eligible for re-election)
Alice Rogers	Deputy Chair (retired November 2020)

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 normally holds General Meetings three times a year to promote communication between mathematical bodies in the United Kingdom. General Meetings were held on 12 November 2020 (which was also the Annual General Meeting), 16 February 2021 and 8 June 2021. Meetings of the Trustees preceded these meetings. 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 topics: Mathematics Education and Gender (12 November); the Impact of COVID-19 (on mathematics education) (16 February); The Use of Digital Technology in Mathematics Education) (8

June). An additional General Meeting was held on 17 March 2021 solely to discuss the planned Institute of Teaching in England. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all meetings were held online. The minutes of meetings are published on the JMC website, www.jmc.org.uk.

8. **Commissioned Reports** The final report on *Additional mathematics papers for entry to English universities: Their role, purpose and impact* (Jennie Golding, UCL Institute of Education) was received in September 2020. The report is available on the JMC website, <https://www.jmc.org.uk/2020/08/06/news-article-number-2/>.

Two projects have been commissioned for reporting in the latter part of 2021. These are *Mathematics education 5-14 and gender: Affect, attitudes and aspiration* and *Mathematics education 14-18 and gender: Participation and attainment*.

9. **British Congresses of Mathematics Education Committee** The JMC recognises that there is a changing landscape for professional development and consideration needs to be given to a more radical shift in how such events might be organised.
10. **International Congresses of Mathematics Education Bursaries Committee** (Chair: Chris Budd) International Congresses of Mathematics Education are scheduled to be held every four years. ICME-14 was due to be held in Shanghai in 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this was postponed and a hybrid event was held in July 2021. Bursaries awarded for travel and accommodation are to be recovered and the funds returned to the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications and the London Mathematical Society.
11. **Meeting of Mathematics Subject Associations Special Interest Group** (Honorary Secretary: John Barton) 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. The MMSA organisations have continued to explore their possible merger.
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.
The JMC is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

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 to the National Maths Hubs Forum.

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. **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

14. **Context** Normally, a considerable amount from the subscription income is used to meet the cost of the three meetings each year. With decreased meeting costs due to the pandemic, an increased amount has been spent on JMC infrastructure and commissioned projects as the JMC continues to look for ways to further its objects. The funds relating to the British Congress of Mathematics Education are held in a restricted fund devoted to the holding of such conferences.
15. **Financial Position** The report on the JMC's financial position is included with the Annual Accounts which accompany this report.
16. **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.'

17. **Grant Making** Apart from the bursaries to BCME and its involvement in organising bursaries for those attending the International Congresses of Mathematics Education which are also held every four years, the JMC does not make grants.
18. **Social Investment** The JMC does not make social investments.
19. **Constitution** The Constitution was amended to allow General Meetings to be held electronically (online).
20. **Bye Laws** The Trustees have reviewed the JMC's Bye Laws during the year.
21. **Policies** The Trustees have reviewed the JMC's policies during the year. With much of the money that might be invested being in the BCME Restricted Fund, a detailed policy on investments needs to be drawn up now the BCME review is complete.

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 have reviewed the risk register.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Chris Chipperton

Secretary

2 October 2021