

# **Fitness to Practise Committees:**

## **Registered Practitioner Member**

### **Role Description**

## **Purpose**

Under *The Education (Wales) Act 2014*, as amended, the Education Workforce Council (EWC) is required to establish and maintain a Register of Education Practitioners in Wales.

Under the same legislation the EWC also has a responsibility for investigating and hearing cases of unacceptable professional conduct, serious professional incompetence and/or where a registered person has been convicted (at any time) of a relevant offence.

**EWC has an existing pool of panel members who sit on Fitness to Practise Committees, Investigating Committees and Suitability Committees made up of education practitioners and lay members and now needs to add to this pool**

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**The EWC is seeking to appoint the following practitioners who must be currently registered with the EWC, and practicing.**

- 10 school teachers
- 8 FE teachers
- 10 school learning support workers
- 5 FE learning support workers
- 4 work based learning practitioners
- 4 qualified youth workers
- 6 qualified youth support workers

**This represents an excellent development opportunity for existing practitioners and will assist with the important work of the EWC.**

If you are a member of a fitness to practise panel, you must be registered with the EWC as a work based learning practitioner. If you are not registered or cease to be registered, you will not be eligible to sit on any fitness to practise panel.

## **Key Tasks / duties:**

### Responsibilities

Appointees will have the following responsibilities:

- To sit as a registered practitioner member on Fitness to Practise Committees, Investigating Committees and Suitability Committees to consider cases and assessments presented;
- As a member of a Committee, to follow procedures and take decisions as set out in the Council's *Disciplinary Procedures and Rules 2017* and *Registration Rules 2017* in respect of cases and assessments presented;
- To prepare thoroughly for each Committee by reading the case papers provided by Council officers;

- To liaise with Council officers in confirming availability promptly to sit on particular Committees;
- To attend compulsory annual refresher training.

#### Time commitment

- Appointees will be expected to commit a minimum of 12 days per year, which may include a number of consecutive days, including one or two days annual refresher training, which will be compulsory.
- Appointments will be for a 4 year period (subject to a review after 6 months), with the possibility of extension. Please note, the Council is seeking appointees who anticipate that they will be a registered and practicing member, for the full 4 year period.

#### Other

- Appointees will not be members of Council and will have no role in the work of the Council other than in relation to fitness to practise committees.
- Appointees will be required to attend an initial full day induction training session and observe Council's own proceedings prior to sitting on a fitness to practice committee for the first time.
- Appointees must have the permission of their line manager / employer for release time in order to sit on Committees.

#### **Knowledge and skills required:**

- EWC registered and currently practising;
- A sound understanding of the responsibilities and role of professional regulatory bodies;
- An understanding of 'the public interest';
- A commitment to impartiality and equal opportunities;
- A high level of personal integrity and a commitment to confidentiality;
- Excellent reasoning, interpersonal and communication skills;
- An interest in educational issues in Wales.

You are also advised to refer to the attached set of "Behaviours and Skills" which have been identified as effective for persons sitting on fitness to practise committees.

The ability to speak Welsh would be an advantage but is not essential for this appointment. However, consideration will be given to Welsh language ability across the range of applicants so that certain Committees (where the ability to understand and speak Welsh is required) can be appropriately constituted.

**Remuneration / reimbursement**

- A payment for supply cover may be paid to your employer for days when you are sitting on Committees, the rate of which will depend on your role.
- A further payment for reading time may be made where particular Committees require a significant amount of preparation (this will be notified in advance).
- Travel and other expenses will be reimbursed at standard EWC rates.

**Other information**

- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an interview. The selection panel will comprise of a one or more EWC officers and one or more current EWC Fitness to Practise Committee members.
- Appointments will be subject to a declaration in relation to past or pending disciplinary or regulatory action by an employer, police or any other body.