



## Call for new Research Strategy Committee members

The Research Strategy Committee (RSC) provides strategic advice to the MS Society on the development and implementation of our research strategy.

### We are recruiting new RSC members with the following expertise:

- Allied healthcare professionals
- Social sciences or psychology
- Fundamental biological sciences
- Immunology
- Data science
- Service implementation

You don't need to work in an MS-related field. We're looking for researchers from different research backgrounds to bring diverse perspectives to the RSC.

### What is the role of the RSC?

The RSC:

- oversees, guides and monitors the development and implementation of our research strategy
- reviews our research priorities and advises how these can best be incorporated into our funding decisions
- advises how we can commission research to support our strategy and priorities,
- advises and assists us to influence other research funders to support our strategy
- provides recommendations on funding for strategically important collaborative projects

Members of the UK and international professional MS research community and members of the MS Society Research Network are welcome to sit on the RSC. We ask that all members agree to and act in accordance with the RSC Terms of Reference and our Code of Conduct.

### What will I need to do?

- You'll have to attend three half-day RSC meetings per year, either virtually or in-person in London
- Some meetings will need preparation in advance and we'll send out any documentation one week before the meeting.
- You'll take part in discussions with the wider RSC during the meetings using your knowledge and experience to provide strategic advice
- You may be required to provide ad-hoc advice to the MS Society if required outside of the scheduled RSC meetings
- You'll also be invited to attend our biennial research conference, MS Frontiers
- **Please note, you can't apply for any of our funding streams as the 'Principal Investigator' during your term(s) on the RSC.**

## What knowledge and skills should I have?

In addition to your clinical and/or research expertise, you should:

- Have an understanding of MS and the impact it can have on people
- Have knowledge of the research funding landscape
- Be able to think strategically regarding prioritisation of complex programmes for the most impact
- Be able to communicate in a respectful, engaging way ensuring views of all stakeholders are listened to
- Support our funding principles, including the involvement of people affected by MS in research funding decisions
- Have an understanding of what drives impact in research
- Be willing to act as a 'critical friend' to the MS Society

## How do I apply?

You should send your CV and a cover letter for the attention of Emma Gray, Assistant Director of Research to [research@mssociety.org.uk](mailto:research@mssociety.org.uk).

We particularly welcome applications from people from underrepresented groups. We're committed to building a stronger and more representative MS research workforce. And are striving to ensure our committees reflect this.

Your application should be submitted by **Wednesday 18 January 2023**.

We'll shortlist applicants depending on how well they meeting the skills outlined above. We'll contact you by **Wednesday 1 February 2023** to let you know the outcome of your application.

We hope that successful applicants will be in post and available to attend our next meeting in March 2023.