

MRC Centre for Environment and Health
NIHR HPRU in Environmental Exposures and Health
NIHR HPRU in Chemical and Radiation Threats and Hazards

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD
TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose:

The role of the International Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) is to provide independent advice to the Directors and the Steering Committees of the MRC Centre for Environment and Health, NIHR HPRU in Environmental Exposures and Health and NIHR HPRU in Chemical and Radiation Threats and Hazards, on the strategic direction and implementation of the research programmes of these units.

Scope and responsibilities:

- Assess the scope, content and quality of the research, training and public engagement activities within the context of the Centre and HPRUs' mission and strategic aims;
- Advise on development of the scientific strategy underpinning the research and training programme, within the context of national/international developments in research on environment and health;
- Advise on the alignment and impact of the Centre and HPRUs' outputs in relation to the research and public health priorities of the funding agencies;
- Advise on the appropriate deployment of resources and development of research and training capacity;
- Review the level and range of scientific, educational and public engagement outputs of the Centre and HPRUs in relation to the stated milestones and deliverables;
- Promote relevant contacts with government departments, agencies and other academic groups, nationally and internationally.

Organization and frequency of meetings:

Members of the ISAB will be invited to attend an annual review meeting in London (or exceptionally by videoconference). In the event that a member is not able to attend in person, they will be asked to provide comments to the ISAB Chair on the Centre and the HPRUs' written reports submitted for the meeting.

Individual ISAB members will be assigned to focus on the review of the activities of one of the HPRUs or the Centre, in line with their expertise. Their role will be to ensure that the specificity of each unit is maintained and that their research programmes remain aligned with the original scope of the awards and responsive to the specific needs of the funders.

A report of the annual meeting will be prepared by the ISAB and submitted by the Chair to the Centre and HPRUs' Directors and PHE Leads. The Directors and PHE Leads will include a response to the ISABs conclusions and recommendations in the following annual report.

Board membership

Chair:

- Professor Jonathan Samet, MD, MS

Members:

- By invitation

Observers:

- Medical Research Council, National Institute for Health Research and Public Health England representatives

Ex Officio:

- By invitation

Appointment to the ISAB will be for the duration of the current funding awards. A member of the ISAB may cease their membership at any time by notifying the Board's Chair of their resignation in writing.