

BCS Risk, Audit and Finance Committee

Member Role Description

Context

The Risk, Audit and Finance Committee (RAFC) reports to the Trustee Board and provides independent oversight of risk, audit, finance, governance and compliance matters across BCS Group. The Committee plays a key role in providing assurance on the quality and reliability of financial information, the effectiveness of risk management and internal controls, and the oversight of internal and external audit activities. The Committee is expected to take an objective and independent approach to its work and normally meets three times a year.

The Committee welcomes applications from both BCS members and non-members and seeks to maintain a diverse membership with a broad range of professional backgrounds, skills and experiences.

The Role

As a member of the Risk, Audit and Finance Committee, you will:

- Support the Trustee Board by providing independent oversight and constructive challenge on matters relating to risk, audit, finance, governance and compliance.
- Review and scrutinise the financial performance of BCS Group and its subsidiaries.
- Contribute to the review of annual financial statements and support the recommendation of those statements for approval.
- Monitor the effectiveness of risk management processes and internal control arrangements across the organisation.
- Review strategic and operational risks and consider whether appropriate mitigations are in place
- Support oversight of internal and external audit activities, including reviewing audit findings and recommendations.
- Review compliance with legal, regulatory and governance requirements relevant to BCS Group.
- Contribute to oversight of investment management arrangements and financial sustainability.
- Support the Committee in reviewing strategic planning, budgeting and management information processes.
- Review committee papers in advance of meetings and contribute actively and constructively to discussions and decision-making.
- Act in the best interests of BCS and support the achievement of its strategic objectives.

Experience / Competence

Essential

- Understanding of risk management, governance and assurance principles.
- Financial literacy, including the ability to review and interpret financial information and related business plans.
- Ability to provide constructive challenge and exercise independent judgement.

- Ability to analyse complex information and contribute effectively to committee discussions.
- Strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills.
- Commitment to the mission, values and objectives of BCS.

Desirable

- Experience establishing, reviewing or monitoring risk frameworks and risk metrics.
- Experience within the IT, professional membership, education or charity sectors.
- Experience working as, or in partnership with, internal or external auditors.
- Understanding of investment management principles and financial stewardship.
- Experience serving on a board, committee, audit committee or advisory body.
- Knowledge of charity governance and regulatory compliance.

Personal Attributes

- Demonstrates integrity, objectivity and sound judgement.
- Able to provide robust challenge in a constructive and respectful manner.
- Builds positive and collaborative working relationships.
- Thinks strategically while maintaining attention to detail.
- Able to analyse information critically and contribute to balanced decision-making.
- Committed to high standards of governance, accountability and professionalism.
- Supports and promotes the values and objectives of BCS.

Term and Commitment

- Appointment for an initial term of up to three years.
- Eligible for reappointment, subject to a maximum of six years' continuous service.
- The Committee normally meets three times each year.
- Members are expected to read and consider papers in advance of meetings.
- Occasional participation in training, workshops or ad hoc activities may be required.
- Members should dedicate sufficient time to fulfil the responsibilities of the role and attend meetings regularly.