

FCA Smaller Business Practitioner Panel

Panel Member Vacancy: Financial Advice Sector

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is inviting applications from senior practitioners at smaller regulated firms in the financial advice sector to become a member of the FCA Smaller Business Practitioner Panel (SBPP).

About the FCA

The Financial Conduct Authority is the conduct regulator for nearly 42,000 financial services firms and financial markets in the UK and the prudential supervisor for 41,000 firms, setting specific standards for 17,000 firms. The FCA's work helps underpin the UK's reputation as a leading global financial centre – one where consumers are well served, and firms can operate and innovate with clarity and certainty.

The FCA's strategic objective is to make sure relevant markets function well and has outlined how it will achieve this in its [5-year strategy](#). Its operational objectives are to protect consumers, protect the integrity of the UK financial system and to promote effective competition in the interests of consumers. It also has a secondary objective to facilitate the international competitiveness and growth of the UK economy in the medium to long term.

About the Panel

The FCA Smaller Business Practitioner Panel is established under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and is independent of the FCA. Reporting directly to the FCA Board, the Panel contributes to the development of FCA strategy and policy, offering advice and early input on FCA work and highlighting issues of major significance or controversy affecting smaller regulated businesses.

Panel members are senior practitioners from small or medium-sized firms within their sector, based on market capitalisation, funds under management, balance sheet size, number of employees, etc. Membership is by individual appointment, not as a representative of any firm or organisation. Further details about the Panel including current members can be found on the [Panel's website](#).

The Role

Panel members engage with the FCA at all levels, to provide constructive advice and challenge to help the FCA achieve its strategic and operational objectives.

Responsibilities include attending monthly formal Panel meetings (except August) and participating in occasional ad hoc subgroup meetings on specific issues. Members are expected to contribute insights from their experience and sector viewpoint, and not to act as representatives of their own firms.

Appointments are made by the FCA Board for a term of three years. The position carries a fee of £10,000 per annum. The expected time commitment is approximately 15 days per year.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates should hold an active, senior-level position within a small or medium-sized regulated financial advice firm. In addition, they should demonstrate:

- A sound understanding of the FCA's role and objectives, and the impact of FCA policy and regulation on financial services and the broader economy.
- An understanding of key issues in the financial advice sector.
- Ability to engage clearly and collaboratively with senior stakeholders and other panel members, respecting different views.
- Experience of providing advice and delivering constructive challenge across a range of issues, including those outside their immediate area of expertise.
- The ability to act in an independent advisory capacity and respect the confidential nature of discussions.

Additional Information

Candidates should be aware that legislation prohibits Panel members from receiving other remuneration from the FCA, the PSR, HMT, the PRA, or the Bank of England, including for other paid panels, advice, or consultancy work.

All Panel members are expected to read and comply with the Panels' Conflict of Interests Policy and declare to the Secretariat any interests/relationships that may present actual or potential conflicts of interest. Candidates are reminded of the Seven Principles of Public Life:

selflessness, objectivity, integrity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership.

All candidates must be able to demonstrate they have a valid right to work in the UK.

Diversity, equity and inclusion

We're a more effective regulator when we're truly representative of broader society. We aim to promote a culture that enables them to speak openly, encourages innovation and supports collaborative working. We aim to foster a diverse and inclusive workplace environment: one that's free from discrimination and bias, celebrates difference, and supports colleagues to deliver at their best.

The Panel is equally keen to achieve a more diverse and inclusive membership. Further details on the FCA's diversity and inclusion targets can be found [here](#).

How to Apply

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter which sets out your interest in the role and how you meet the criteria above, to SBPP@fca.org.uk.

The closing date for applications is 11.59pm on Sunday 30 November 2025.

Following receipt of your application, you will receive an email invitation to complete a Diversity Monitoring Form. This information is strictly confidential and will not form part of the selection process but helps the FCA monitor selection decisions and equality of opportunity.

Interviews for shortlisted candidates are expected to be held in January 2026.

If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact the Panel Secretariat at SBPP@fca.org.uk.

The FCA processes personal data in line with UK GDPR, DPA 2018, and the Equality Act 2010. For further information, please read our [privacy notice](#).