

FCA Smaller Business Practitioner Panel

Vacancy for Panel Chair

About the FCA

The Financial Conduct Authority is the conduct regulator for nearly 60,000 financial services firms and financial markets in the UK and the prudential supervisor for 49,000 firms, setting specific standards for 19,000 firms. We are responsible for regulating a sector which plays a critical role in the lives of everyone in the UK and without which the modern economy could not function.

Financial markets need to be honest, fair and effective so that consumers get a fair deal. We aim to make markets work well – for individuals, for business, large and small, and for the economy as a whole. We are creating a fair and more resilient financial system and are establishing more transparent relationships between financial services firms and their customers, building trust in financial markets and protecting vulnerable consumers.

About the Panel

The FCA Smaller Business Practitioner Panel is established under statute and is independent of the FCA (as set out in the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000). The Panel's role is to contribute towards the effective development of the FCA's strategy and policy and reports directly to the FCA Board. The Panel offers advice and early input on the FCA's work and brings to the attention of the FCA issues which smaller business practitioners feel are likely to be of major significance or controversy.

The Panel's members are senior practitioners of firms of small or medium size within their sector – whether by market capitalisation, funds under management, size of balance sheet and employees, etc. - across the range of FCA-regulated activities.

Membership of the Panel is made by individual appointment and is not as a direct representative of a firm or organisation. Details of the Panel's current membership can be found on [the Panel's website](#).

The role

The new Chair will be key to ensuring that the Panel offers constructive advice and challenge to help the FCA deliver its strategic and operational objectives.

The appointment is made by the FCA Board for a term of three years and is also subject to HM Treasury approval. The position will be eligible for a fee of £22,500 per annum.

The Chair is expected to attend and lead the monthly formal Panel meetings (except in August) and occasional ad hoc subgroup meetings to discuss specific issues. The Chair can also expect to engage regularly with the FCA Chair, Board, Chief Executive and other senior officials as appropriate.

The Chair is also appointed as an ex officio member of the FCA Practitioner Panel, to help to co-ordinate industry views and ensure that the smaller firm perspective is taken into consideration in deliberations; as such the successful candidate is also expected to attend this Panel's monthly meetings.

As Chair, the successful candidate should expect to commit to around 30 days per annum. The role is supported by a secretariat and involves close working with the FCA to plan the Panel's work and manage its engagement.

Key requirements for the role:

The Chair should hold an active, senior-level position within a small or medium-sized regulated business. In addition, the candidate should, as a minimum, be able to demonstrate:

- Sound understanding of the FCA's role and objectives and the impact of FCA policy and regulation on financial services and the broader economy.
- The ability to credibly engage and collaborate with a range of senior stakeholders.
- Experience of leading a senior-level group to provide advice and deliver constructive challenge on a broad range of policy issues.
- The ability to allow and encourage a range of views to be expressed and considered, and to chair meetings without letting strongly held positions dominate the conversation.
- A commitment to diversity and inclusion and a track record of delivering D&I initiatives.
- The ability to contribute as an impartial and informed individual and to represent the collective views of a group.
- A clear understanding of how to handle confidential information.
- The ability to communicate clearly to a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.

Additional Information

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 give rise to any actual or potential conflicts of interest. With this in mind, candidates are reminded of the Seven Principles of Public Life; selflessness, objectivity, integrity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership (more information can be found [here](#)).

The FCA Values & Diversity

Our ambition is to create a diverse and inclusive workplace that reflects the society we serve, helping us to be a better regulator. We serve the public and our decisions directly affect the wellbeing of people, businesses and the UK economy. So, our values matter. They represent the culture we aspire to every day, guiding our judgements, building trust and helping us to be 'At our best'.

As a forward-facing organisation which is continually working to drive improvements for everyone who uses financial services, the FCA is looking for people who share our openness and determination. In addition to gender diversity, the FCA's commitment to diversity and inclusion has a broader range which includes disability, ethnicity, LGBT and gender identity through to mental health and social mobility issues. 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 for the vacancy please forward a CV and a covering letter which sets out your interest in the role and encapsulates the aspects of your experience relevant to the required criteria to SBPP@fca.org.uk.

The closing date for applications is **Sunday, 5th December 2021**.

Following receipt of your application you will receive an email inviting you to complete a Diversity Monitoring Form. This will assist the FCA in monitoring selection decisions to assess whether equality of opportunity is being achieved. Any information collated from the Diversity Monitoring Forms will not be used as part of the selection process and will be treated as strictly confidential.

We expect to hold interviews for shortlisted candidates before the end of January 2022.

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

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