

EDUCATION POLICY ADVISORY GROUP OBJECTIVES

1 December 2022

Focus 1: The Curriculum

Reason for inclusion: It is important that EPAG is able to respond to consultations, questions and ideas about the experience of learning statistics experience during education. It is critical that this work not only acknowledges but embraces the difference in teaching across the 4 Nations and how statistical education/literacy has a social value in enabling everyone to be a fully informed citizen.

How will we know when we've met the goal? We will have a set of curriculum principles that form the basis of our advice/information to the government/education secretary when a consultation is launched. The principles should be ready in time for government/assembly major reviews/elections.

What skills and knowledge do we need or access to achieve the goal?:

- Knowledge of designing, teaching and assessing the curriculum
- Links with those developing educational policy
- Links with employers, skill providers (e.g. Local Enterprise Partnerships)
- Teaming with other learned societies that use statistics but may not publicise this e.g. Royal Society of Chemistry, Royal Geographical Society

How will we meet the goal?

1. Establish our position on the curriculum and assessment process drawing in a wide range of views including teachers and exam boards.
2. Publish a series of white papers, thought pieces and opinion articles
3. Engage with other interested stakeholders
4. Develop channels of communication - we know that this will take time and should start building these channels from the start.

Focus 2: Teacher engagement with statistics

Reason for inclusion: Ultimately teachers mediate the experience all students have with statistics and many teachers themselves didn't have a wonderful experience of learning statistics

How will we know when we've met the goal? We have implemented a strategy to create resources, support and engagement opportunities for the teaching of statistics

What skill and knowledge do we need or to access to achieve the goal?

- Knowledge of teaching and assessing the curriculum
- Teaming with other learned societies

How will we meet the goal?

1. Creation of materials to support the teaching and engagement with statistics including downloadable resources, data sets and visualisers.
2. Support and engage the full breadth of maths educators by including conference attendance, conference presentations, linking with wider work on statistical literacy and organisations involved teaching statistics.
3. Raising the profile of teaching statistics through a range of routes including.

Focus 3: Statistical literacy for people who are not in formal education

Reason for inclusion: Most people come to realise the importance or work with statistics once they have left formal education. This could extend to provide a “multiplier” effect where statistical literacy extends to families through access to resources including individual life-long learning.

How will we know when we’ve met the goal? We will be actively engaging with people who are not in formal education to help improve their statistical literacy

What skill and knowledge do we need or to access to achieve the goal?

- Knowledge of teaching and assessing the curriculum
- Link with and draw upon the knowledge of the RSS Stats Ambassadors, RSS William Guy Lecture and external learned societies
- Teaming within the RSS on those who work in marketing, social media and campaigns advisory group

How will we meet the goal?

1. “One approach fits all” is unlikely to work and as such develop an engagement strategy for a range of different groups seeking to increase their statistical literacy
2. Increasing access to information on statistical literacy on selected themes including the development of resources.
3. Publish a series of short articles, blogs, and opinion pieces including engaging with other statistics/mathematics literacy campaigns where appropriate.