

THE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY OF HONG KONG

Public Policy Committee Terms of Reference

1. Basics

The Public Policy Committee (“the Committee”) of the Actuarial Society of Hong Kong (“ASHK”) operates in accordance with the policies of the ASHK. Consequently, the Committee’s Terms of Reference (“ToR”) and subsequent amendments are subject to approval of the ASHK Council (“Council”).

2. Purpose

The Committee supports the ASHK’s Purpose of *“To provide a platform for our members to improve sustainability by helping people and organisations be more financially resilient with positive social impact.”*

More specifically, the Committee aims to address selected current issues that require, or might benefit from, sound application of actuarial principles and commercial acumen of relevant members of ASHK, in order to help demonstrate how actuaries, as a profession, serve the public interest.

3. Scope

- A. Promote and facilitate exchanges of views, opinions, research and practice among ASHK members and Public Policy influencers and makers to influence Public Policy developments that benefit society and the economy, where there is relevance to the expertise, commercial acumen, and social and economic impact of the actuarial profession, and/or the insurance industry.
- B. Build relationships and collaborate, on behalf of ASHK, with relevant regulatory, industry, and other organisations on Public Policy matters where there is relevance to the expertise, commercial acumen, and social and economic impact of the actuarial profession, and/or insurance industry.
- C. Provide recommendations to ASHK Council on the development and maintenance of actuarial guidelines in response to Public Policy developments that affect the profession.
- D. To increase profile, raise awareness and influence of the ASHK with the general public, and amongst other actuarial, insurance, academic and public policy-related bodies in Public Policy matters both locally and globally as appropriate. This includes oversight of external communication management and how ASHK is represented at external events.

4. Authority

- A. The Chairperson(s) will ensure the Committee follows the ASHK's mission and implements action plans that are aligned with the ASHK's best interests and strategic priorities.
- B. The Chairperson(s) will coordinate decision-making and planning activities in consultation with Committee members to accomplish action plans.
- C. The Chairperson(s) may assign particular Committee members to lead projects and or sub-committees, conduct parts of any meetings and other tasks within the Committee's authority and scope.
- D. The ASHK Council has the right of final decision and interpretation on all proposals or agreements recommended by the Committee.

5. Membership

- A. The Chairperson(s) shall determine the optimal number of members in the Committee at any particular time.
- B. The Chairperson(s) will select and recommend interested ASHK members to join the Committee in consultation with Committee members.
- C. Appointments to the Committee are on an annual basis. Both new appointments and reappointments are subject to approval by the Chairperson(s). However, the membership of the Committee may be terminated if a Committee member resigns by notice in writing to the Chairperson(s) or fails to attend at least half of the Committee meetings in a calendar year.

6. Meeting arrangements

- A. The Chairperson(s) will schedule and conduct at least two meetings a year at appropriate times. The frequency and timing of meetings may differ according to the Committee's need to discharge its role and activities effectively.
- B. Only members of the Committee have the right to attend Committee meetings. However, other individuals may be invited to attend all or part of any meetings as and when deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee.
- C. The meetings may be held in person, by video conference or by telephone conference. A quorum shall exist when half of its members are present (including participation by video conference or by telephone conference).

- D. The Chairperson(s) will distribute meeting agenda and minutes to Committee members.
- E. Matters of the Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes in favour. Each Committee member shall have one vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson(s) shall have a second or casting vote. However, the above does not apply if the Chairperson(s) is/are not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

7. Reporting

- A. The Committee will submit meeting minutes to Council.
- B. The annual summary of activities will be submitted to Council to be included in the ASHK Annual Report.
- C. Deliverables where appropriate shall be made reference to the Articles of Association and By-Law (e.g. Due Process for the Development of Professional Standards and Guidance Notes) as well as any other guidelines as issued by the ASHK.

8. Resources and budget

The budget for any activities of the Committee shall be approved by Council.

9. Deliverables

- A. Raise the profile of ASHK.
- B. Provide unbiased, meaningful, and independent actuarial expertise, commentary or views to Public Policy makers, influencers, and stakeholders in areas where relevant actuarial expertise and commercial acumen are valuable, helpful and insightful.
- C. Provide input to development of and subsequent valuable comments, insights and suggestions, on behalf of the ASHK, on consultation papers published by the government, regulators, and other professional bodies where appropriate.
- D. Work with other committees to determine how their deliverables can support the Committee's work in addressing issues.

10. Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed at least once a year.