



Volunteers' experiences

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A view from a volunteer: Iain McGrory



Iain has been a Lay* Panel Member of the IFoA's Disciplinary Pool since July 2014. He is a former Head of Professional Standards at Grampian Police, in Scotland, having retired in 2011 after more than 35 years' service. Following retirement from the police he spent five years as a Commissioner with the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission (SLCC) and is currently a Public Interest Member on the Investigation Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS).

The experience of a volunteer Lay Panel Member of the IFoA Disciplinary Pool

"Having worked in the professional standards arena in policing and the legal profession in Scotland, I was keen to experience something similar in another area. From the outset I was made to feel welcome and any nervousness around my lack of technical knowledge about the profession was quickly addressed by IFoA staff. The IFoA is an organisation that not only publishes fine words but also follows through on them. I was immediately impressed by how important the promotion of ethical values and standards of competence were to the IFoA. It was clear to me that maintaining and enhancing reputation was extremely important.

The role, time commitment etc

Since taking up my position in 2014, I have sat as a member of several Adjudication Panels, a member of two Disciplinary Tribunals, and early in 2018 I was the Chair of a Disciplinary Tribunal. I have received appropriate support from IFoA staff in the form of structured training days and been able to observe a Disciplinary Tribunal, before sitting on one. The experience I have gained while working with other professions in this area allows me to offer colleagues at the IFoA an alternative view on how matters can be dealt with. However, it is also a two-way street and I have been able to share my learning from the IFoA with other bodies. My commitment is no more than four days per year and I have gained valuable experience during my tenure.

Actuaries are humans and like all others they will make mistakes in their professional or personal lives. They, other IFoA members, the recipients of their services and the wider public, need to be confident that the IFoA has fair and proportionate procedures in place to handle such errors and failings. Lay Panel Members of the IFoA Disciplinary Pool play a key role in this and I would encourage anyone who feels they have the skills and experience to volunteer to become a Lay Panel Member with the IFoA."

*The term "Lay" refers to someone who is not a member of the IFoA.

An IFoA Member
Engagement Profile

To get involved in volunteering for the IFoA visit:
www.actuaries.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-ifo