

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY RESEARCH STEERING COMMITTEE (MRSC)

Reporting Line: Research and Thought Leadership Committee (RTLCL)

Purpose:

- To contribute towards the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) becoming recognised as a leader in the research of mortality, morbidity and longevity issues.
- To support RTLCL in ensuring that the IFoA Learned Society and Thought Leadership objectives as they relate to mortality, morbidity and longevity research are being delivered and remain appropriate.
- To provide a forum for raising mutually-applicable issues relating to mortality, morbidity and longevity research and champion their resolution within the IFoA or escalate them to the RTLCL as appropriate.

Key Tasks:

The key tasks of this committee encompass six areas: the first three reflect the first three tasks of the RTLCL except that they relate specifically to mortality, morbidity and longevity research; one relates to supporting the RTLCL in their other two key tasks and the last two relate to enhancing the IFoA's Thought Leadership objective.

1. Research coverage:

- To keep under review coverage of IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity carried out under the auspices of the Practice Boards and through certain other groups (including CMI Ltd) and to assess its strategic fit with the Learned Society and Thought Leadership objectives.
- To maintain awareness of relevant mortality, morbidity and longevity research being carried out beyond the IFoA and bring to the attention of the relevant Practice Board(s) and RTLCL as appropriate.
- To carry out appropriate horizon scanning and identify themes on which mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity should be initiated by IFoA.
- To champion the initiation of new mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity on any themes identified, recognising the importance of cross-Practice collaboration.

2. Research quality assurance:

- To provide quality assurance as appropriate in respect of IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity.

3. Research dissemination oversight:

- To keep under review the dissemination of IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity and assess its strategic fit with the Learned Society and Thought Leadership objectives.
- To champion the most appropriate knowledge exchange channels for IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research, both within and outside IFoA.

- Setting the strategic direction and having oversight of the production of longevity related publications from the IFoA, including the Longevity Bulletin, but not those from CMI Ltd.

4. Support the RTALC:

- To recommend and champion any additional resources and/or budget to IFoA research activity that is considered necessary to achieve the Learned Society and Thought Leadership objectives with respect to mortality, morbidity and longevity research.
- To provide advice on, and help resolve, any significant issues regarding IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research activity that may arise from time to time.
- To support RTALC in future reviews of the Learned Society and Thought Leadership objectives of IFoA as they relate to mortality, morbidity and longevity research.

5. Organise Thought Leadership events:

To provide events for members within the mortality and longevity areas which advance the other purposes of the MRSC and which provide:

- (i) networking opportunities with other professions and disciplines;
- (ii) CPD opportunities; and
- (iii) opportunities to showcase IFoA research in mortality, morbidity and longevity.

such events to include a bi-annual residential conference (open to members and non-members) and a programme of additional meetings between conferences.

6. Work with other professions and disciplines

- To involve and encourage professionals from other disciplines to work with actuaries in the area of mortality and morbidity research in order to give it more breadth, both in the UK and internationally.
- To liaise with other organisations outside of the IFoA's normal contact area in order to further both organisations knowledge and potential for co-operation and strengthen the reputation and influence of the IFoA.
- To ensure IFoA mortality, morbidity and longevity research is appropriately disseminated widely to researchers working in other related professions and disciplines.

Membership

Membership shall include at a minimum:

- Chairperson
- Deputy chairperson
- At least three members of the IFoA actively practicing in the fields of mortality, morbidity and longevity. Ideally, this would include representatives working in the practice areas of Life, Health and Pensions.
- At least one academic researching in the area of actuarial science
- At least two researchers actively researching in fields related to mortality, longevity and morbidity working within academic institutions or other scientific research organisations.

- Head of Research and Knowledge at IFoA.
- A Member of the CMI Executive Committee*
- A Member of the IAA Mortality Working Group*

* These roles may be fulfilled by members fulfilling other roles in the committee

One member of the MRSC will also be a member of the RTLC.

Quorum

A quorum comprises five members of the MRSC, including at least:

- One of the chair or deputy chair; and
- Head of Research and Knowledge at IFoA or delegate

Working Parties and Sub-Committees

- To support the programme for some key events, such as the Mortality and Longevity Symposium, the MRSC may from time to time form sub-committees.
- Occasionally, the MRSC may form working parties to scope or develop research. However, this is not deemed to be the norm, with the Practice Boards being the preferred mechanism for establishing research working parties.

Communications

- Life, Pensions and Health and Care Boards to receive MRSC minutes
- CMI Executive Committee to receive MRSC minutes
- RTLC reporting achieved by co-membership of one member of the MRSC
- IAA Mortality Working Group liaison to be achieved by co-membership
- Other boards to be communicated with via the RTLC
- Other communications to be via the IFoA Executive, including:
 - PACC
 - European Actuarial Association
 - SOA
 - Actuarial Research Centre and other sponsored PhD candidates.