

# society for general Microbiology

## **Society for General Microbiology Policy Working Party Developing Position Statements**

### **Background**

The Society for General Microbiology (SGM) has a strong commitment to improving awareness of the critically important role of microbiology in many aspects of health, the global ecosystem and industrial biotechnology, including food, drink and pharmaceuticals. The SGM does this by responding to parliamentary inquiries, government consultations and by providing information to parliamentarians, opinion-formers, policy-makers and the public on the major contribution of microbiology to society.

### **Identifying new position areas**

The Head of Education and Professional Affairs will identify relevant and topical policy areas where the SGM should develop a position statement. The Head of Education and Professional Affairs will consult with the Policy Working Party (PWP) to determine if the SGM should produce a position statement.

### **Procedure for formulating a position statement**

1. The Head of Education and Professional Affairs will search the SGM expertise database to identify key individuals.
2. The PWP will then determine the membership of the Expert Review Panel.
3. The Chair of the PWP, the Chair of the Education and Public Affairs sub-committee, the CEO and the Head of Education and Professional Affairs should always be invited to sit on the Expert Review Panel.
4. The Head of Education and Professional Affairs and the PWP will prepare the position statement.
5. The statement will be sent to the Expert Review Panel and the Education and Public Affairs sub-committee, for comment and approval by a set deadline.

### **Signing-off a position statement**

Following comments from the Expert Review Panel and approval by the Education and Public Affairs sub-committee, a SGM position statement will need to be approved by the SGM Council.

1. The statement will be sent to the SGM Council for comment, approval, and sign-off by a set deadline.

### **Reporting back to Council**

The SGM position statement will be circulated back to Council and other relevant committees, as a courtesy.

### **Openness of the SGM position statements**

The Head of Education and Professional Affairs will post a copy of the SGM position on the Policy and Public Affairs section of the website.

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