

## BTS Code of Conduct

### Introduction

The British Toxicology Society (Society) is dedicated to providing an interactive forum for the advancement and exchange of toxicologic information between industry, government and academia. Its vision is to “*drive excellence in toxicology*”. The Society is a charity with a mission “*to provide the principle forum for toxicology in the UK, to support and enrich the careers of toxicologists, and to promote the importance and advancement of toxicology in the wider scientific and lay communities*”. We are a friendly and collaborative global community.

Admission to membership of the Society as a charitable organisation carries with it certain privileges. Members are expected to abide by this Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is applicable to all its Members who should abide by the following principles:

- observe the provisions of the [Memorandum and Articles of Association of the BTS](#) and any regulations made under them;
- observe the [BTS Policies](#),
- uphold the dignity and reputation of the profession of toxicology as
- exercise their professional and personal skill and judgement to the best of their ability
- discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity.

To meet the vision and mission of the Society (<https://www.thebts.org/>) each member must strive to conform to the following this Code of conduct and shall:

- uphold and promote the Society's charitable purposes and refrain from conduct that risks damaging or undermining those purposes or the Society's reputation;
- work in partnership, considerately and respectfully, with the Society's community of members, the public and the Society's secretariat and not engage in any form of bullying, harassment or abuse;
- uphold the Society's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and not act in a way that discriminates against any individual or group;
- commit to providing the highest quality science with due regard for objectivity, integrity and confidentiality;
- present scientific and/or professional opinions with full disclosure of the availability of all supportive data;
- uphold the standards of the Society that apply to the welfare of experimental procedures in animals, and the environment;
- refrain from making statements of professional judgment that are directly or potentially subject to conflict of interest concerns. Where a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest does arise, Members should declare this to Executive Committee via the membership facilitator as soon as possible, and ensure that the conflict is managed appropriately, as determined by the Executive Committee;
- members should not gain materially or financially from the assets of the Society for any role they may hold within the Society unless permitted under the [Memorandum and Articles of Association of the BTS](#);
- members are encouraged to actively participate in the Society's activities and governance;

- members are not entitled to represent or act on behalf of the Society, or to claim that they are representing the Society or having authority to act on behalf of the Society, unless specifically authorised to do so. This means that Society Members should not for example:
  - enter into any contracts in Society's name; or
  - incur any financial or legal liability to any third parties on behalf of the Society; or
  - make any public statements on behalf of the Society without express authority from the Executive Committee.
  
- visible membership helps the Society achieve its aims, so Members are encouraged to share their association with the Society in person and on social media. However, in doing so, Members should be mindful of this Code of Conduct in its entirety;
- from time to time the Society may provide Members with information that is confidential to the Society. Members are required to treat all information regarding the Society's finances, strategy, employees and intellectual property as confidential, whether or not it is specifically described as confidential by the Society, unless it is already in the public domain or required to be disclosed by law or court order;
- if Members provide information to the Society which should be regarded as confidential, it should be clearly marked as such. The Society will maintain confidentiality in any information clearly notified to it as confidential, unless it is required to disclose it by law or court order.

Date of Review February 2022

Date of Next Review February 2024

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