

BTS Code of Conduct for its Members

Introduction

The British Toxicology Society (the Society) is dedicated to providing an interactive forum for the advancement and exchange of toxicological 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 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;
- 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 follow this Code of Conduct and in doing so 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 ([Equality, diversity and inclusion policy](#)) 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 that apply to the welfare of experimental procedures in animals in line with the commitment the Society has with the [Concordat on Openness in Animal Research in the UK](#) ;
- 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 as soon as possible, and ensure that the conflict is managed appropriately, as determined by the Executive Committee;
- 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](#);
- be encouraged to actively participate in the Society's activities and governance;
- not 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 Members should not for example:
 - enter into any contracts in the 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.
- be encouraged to share their association with the Society with others either in person and/or through other means such as on social media. However, in doing so, Members should be mindful of this Code of conduct in its entirety;
- 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;
- ensure that if a Member provides information to the Society which they consider 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 and in accordance of GDPR [Data protection third party agreement](#) unless it is required to disclose it by law or court order.