

Policy Fellow Career Track Promotion Guidance

1. Overview

- 1.1 This document provides guidance for promotion to Band 6 (policy officer), Band 7 (policy fellow), Band 8 (senior policy fellow) and Band 9 (distinguished policy fellow).
- 1.2 When proposing a Promotion to the new grade, managers will be required:
 - either**
 - to demonstrate how the employee is already fulfilling the requirements of the new grade;
 - or**
 - to make a case for promotion on the grounds that employment at the higher grade is necessary and/or appropriate, that funding is available, and that the employee is suitably qualified and competent. Promotion to the new grade will take into account the role profile of the post, and the individual's qualifications and experience.
- 1.3 All promotions of staff to and within the policy fellow career track are contingent on the availability of funding and entitlement to work in the UK.
- 1.4 Requests for promotion may be made at any time during the academic year.
- 1.5 In instances where a staff member submitted to promotion to or within the policy fellow career track is employed on more than one project and funding is not available for all projects, the promotion would only be applicable on the projects for which funding is available. For further advice please contact the Human Resources Division.
- 1.6 The effective date of the promotion will be in the month following the submission, and will be backdated to that time should the process of reaching the decision extend past that time.
- 1.7 In exceptional circumstances, a case for backdated pay for no more than 6 months before the original effective date can be made. A separate statement summarising the circumstances should be provided with the application. Funding confirmation should also support the case for backdating.
- 1.8 Promoted to individuals will normally move to the minimum salary on the next salary band, (Salary Band 7, Step 32.5 for promotions to Policy Fellow; Salary Band 8, Step 38.5 for promotions

to Senior Policy Fellow; Salary Band 9, Step 44 for promotions to Distinguished Policy Fellow) to be paid from the effective date of promotion. If a promoted individual is already paid above the minimum, they will normally be rewarded with one additional increment from the effective date of promotion if funds permit.

2. Promotion procedures

- 2.1 Promotions of research assistants to policy officer (Band 6) are subject to confirmation by the Vice Chair of the Appointments Committee (VCAC). Promotions of research officers or policy officers to policy fellow (Band 7), promotions of research fellows or policy fellows to senior policy fellow (Band 8), and promotions of senior research fellows, Assistant Professorial research fellows and senior policy fellows to distinguished policy fellow (Band 9) are subject to confirmation by the Vice Chair of the Appointments Committee (VCAC) and the Pro-Director Faculty Development (PDFD).
- 2.2 Promotions require the following information to be submitted to Human Resources via email by the Line Manager/Principal Investigator:
 - i. A formal letter of justification from the Line Manager/Principal Investigator, explaining the reasons for the promotion, giving evidence to demonstrate how the individual is performing at the higher level, or would be capable of performing at the higher level.
 - ii. A full job description. (Please see the [role profiles](#) for the proposed promotion beforehand). The job description will be evaluated in accordance with the role profiles to determine the grade of the post.
 - iii. A supporting statement from the Head of Department or Research Centre Director.
 - iv. A copy of the individual's CV.
 - v. Details of mentoring support that the individual has received.
 - vi. The names and contact details (including e-mail addresses) of three referees (promotion to policy officer – Band 6), four referees (promotion to policy fellow – Band 7), five referees (promotion to senior policy fellow – Band 8) or six referees (promotion to distinguished policy fellow – Band 9) with relevant expertise in the field. Two of these must be external to LSE for promotion to policy fellow (Band 7), four of these must be external to LSE for promotion to senior policy fellow (Band 8) and five of these must be external to LSE for promotion to distinguished policy fellow (Band 9) cases. Human Resources will then request these references. References are required before the case is sent to the VCAC and, where applicable, the PDFD for consideration.
 - vii. Funding confirmation from the appropriate colleague in the [Research Division](#).
- 2.3 Declaration of any possible conflicts of interest should also be highlighted to Human Resources at this stage. Human Resources will notify the VCAC, and liaise with the School Secretary to ensure compliance with the School's Ethics Code, available [here](#).
- 2.4 Once Human Resources have all the documentation above, these will then all be sent to the VCAC and, where applicable, the PDFD for consideration.

2.5 The VCAC and, where applicable, the PDFD will consider the documents and decide whether to approve it.

3. Self-sponsored cases

3.1 Individuals are reminded that all promotions to or within the policy fellow career track are contingent on the availability of funding and entitlement to work in the UK. Confirmation of the availability of funding should be in place prior to submitting a case for promotion. (This can be requested from Research Division via email, with a copy of the confirmation to be submitted to Human Resources along with the documentation requested below). In instances where funding for the promotion is available in principle but the Department/Centre is not willing to support the promotion, the procedure set out below may be followed.

3.2 In such cases the individual is free to write directly to the Vice-Chair of the Appointments Committee, copying in Human Resources Division, to make a case for promotion. The following information should be enclosed:

- i. A formal letter of justification, explaining the reasons for the promotion, giving evidence to demonstrate how the individual is performing at the higher level, or would be capable of performing at the higher level.
- ii. A copy of the CV.
- iii. Details of mentoring support that the individual has received.
- iv. The names and contact details (including e-mail addresses) of three referees (promotion to policy officer – Band 6), four referees (promotion to policy fellow – Band 7), five referees (promotion to senior policy fellow – Band 8) or six referees (promotion to distinguished policy fellow – Band 9) with relevant expertise in the field. Two of these must be external to LSE for promotion to policy fellow (Band 7), four of these must be external to LSE for promotion to senior policy fellow (Band 8) and five of these must be external to LSE for promotion to distinguished policy fellow (Band 9) cases. Human Resources will then request these references. References are required before the case is sent to the VCAC and, where applicable, the PDFD for consideration.
- v. Funding confirmation from the appropriate colleague in the [Research Division](#).

3.3 Declaration of any possible conflicts of interest should also be highlighted to Human Resources at this stage. Human Resources will notify the VCAC, and liaise with the School Secretary to ensure compliance with the School's Ethics Code, available [here](#).

3.4 Once the proposal has been received, Human Resources Division will write to the Head of the candidate's research team/Principal Investigator and the Head of the Department concerned (or the Centre Director in the case of a multi-disciplinary Research Centre), requesting written statements about the work of the self-sponsored candidate.

3.5 After the receipt of documentation, the case will be considered based on the procedures set out in section 2 above.

Review schedule

Review interval	Next review due by	Next review start
12 months	June 2022	May 2022

Version history

Version	Date	Approved by	Notes
1	June 2018	JNCC	
2	July 2021	Appointments Committee	

Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Notes
Human Resources	Review and Promotion Team	Hr.Reviewandpromotion@lse.ac.uk	

Communications and Training

Will this document be publicised through Internal Communications?	No
Will training needs arise from this policy	No
If Yes, please give details	