



General  
Osteopathic  
Council

## Frequently Asked Questions about:

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### Before and after the interview

**Q. When will I hear if my application has been successful?**

**A.** You'll hear if your application was successful by the beginning of November.

**Q. Where do interviews usually take place?**

**A:** Interviews for this role will be conducted via online video or in person in Scotland (TBC).

**Q. What can I expect from the interview?**

**A.** If invited to interview, it will last up to one hour and it will be a two-way conversation. You'll be asked questions based on the competencies described in the information pack (we describe competencies as adaptable knowledge, skills and behaviours which you can use to do this role). At the start, you'll be asked to give a five minute presentation (you'll get the instructions and topic by email one week before your interview). At the end, you will be given an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

When answering the interview questions, please use examples from your everyday life, for example, social clubs, parent association, volunteering work or other experiences to show that you have the ability to do this role.

You're welcome to bring notes to help guide you during the interview and presentation, though it's not required.

**Q. Will I need to prepare anything for the interview**

**A.** You're welcome to bring notes to help guide you during the interview and presentation, though it's not required.

If you would like to prepare for the interview, you may want to think about some examples you can use for each of the topic areas described in the competency section in the information pack. You can use examples from your everyday activities such as social clubs, parenting association, volunteering work general life experience to show that you have the ability to do this role.

We will also send you the question topic areas in advance of your interview.

**Q. Who will be interviewing me?**

- A.** The interview panel will be Jo Clift, Chair of Council, Debra Towse, lay member of Council and Sandie Ennis, osteopath member of Council.

There is also an Independent Panel Member present, who is from outside the organisation who helps make sure the interview is fair and unbiased.

**Q. What is the dress code for the interview, is it okay to wear scrubs?**

- A.** We suggest smart-casual dress for the interview. There's no need for formal business wear, but we suggest choosing something that feels professional and comfortable.

**Q. If the interview is in person in London, will my travel costs to and from my interview be reimbursed?**

- A.** Yes, we will refund reasonable travel expenses to and from interviews as long as you keep copies of your receipts and fill out an expenses claim form. .

Reasonable travel expenses include the below:

- **Rail, tube, coach and bus fares:** standard class. We will pay for airfares economy class if cheaper than train.
- **Overnight accommodation (up to £220):** if your return trip takes longer than 6 hours.

**Q. How will I know if I have been recommended for appointment following my interview?**

- A.** The Human Resources team will let you know if you have been recommended to the Privy Council for appointment.

The Privy Council makes the final decision on whether to offer the appointment. This decision will be informed by advice from the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care about the process the GOsC has used to select the recommended candidate.

If you are successful, you will receive a letter from the Privy Council appointing you as a Council member of the General Osteopathic Council.

## About the role

### **Q. What is the Council?**

- A.** The Council ensures the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC) fulfills its legal duties as a regulator for osteopaths. It does this by reviewing and deciding on policies, strategies, business planning and budgets.

By doing this, Council helps the GOsC protect the public and support osteopaths to practise safely and meet professional standards of osteopathic practice.

Our Council is made up of 5 lay members and 5 osteopath members.

### **Q. What is a lay member?**

- A.** Lay members are individuals who are not osteopaths and don't hold osteopathic qualifications.

### **Q. Why do we have lay and osteopath members on the Council team?**

- A.** It is a legal requirement for the Council team to have the same number of lay members as osteopath members. We value the contribution of osteopaths in our work to protect the public and the reputation of the profession.

### **Q. What is the difference between a lay and an osteopath member?**

- A.** There is no difference between lay and osteopath member roles, they have an equal voice and equal responsibilities.

### **Q. What is the role of the executive (or GOsC's staff team)?**

- A.** The executive is made up of 27 staff members, led by the Chief Executive and Registrar. Staff are responsible for the day to day running of the regulator across the following functions:

- Registration
- Education, standards and development
- Fitness to practise
- Assurance and resources
- Communications and engagement

### **Q. Are the Council meetings held in person?**

- A.** We meet in person at Osteopathy House in London and we expect everyone to attend, however, if necessary online options will be available.

### **Q. What is the payment for this role?**

- A.** £7,800 per annum

**Q. What is the time commitment for this role?**

**B. A:** We expect the role to be no more than 18 days a year. This includes:

- Reading papers in advance of Council meetings. This will usually be half a day's work and other members often find that after a while they can read our papers quicker as they become more familiar with the way we work.
- Attendance at all day Council meetings of which there are up to 5 per year. The dates are planned 2 years in advance.
- Two social dinners per year which is an opportunity to build relationships with the Council team and members of our staff team.
- An annual appraisal, this is a review with the Chair of Council to provide you with feedback and support your development in the role.
- Sitting on at least one additional Committee. This will be Policy and Education Committee (PEC), Audit Committee or People Committee.
- From time to time, involvement on working groups.
- From time to time sitting on shortlisting and interview panels for which we will provide training.

## **Support you will get**

**Q. Will I get help and support if I join the Council?**

**A.** When you join, the Council team and GOsC staff will support you. You'll have induction training to help you get to know the organisation, plus ongoing training and development.

The Council also hold 2 dinners a year so members can meet and build working relationships.

**Q. What happens before and during a Council meeting?**

**Before a Council meeting:** To help you prepare for Council, you'll receive the agenda and reports from the staff team about a week before the meeting, giving you time to read through the topics that will be discussed.

**During the Council meeting:** You'll be able to share your thoughts and ideas at the meeting so you join in the discussions and help make decisions.

**Q. Will I get paid for travel expenses to and from the Council meeting?**

**A.** Yes, your travel costs will be refunded as long as you keep your receipts and fill out an expenses claim form. You'll receive the full policy when you join.