



BRITISH
ECOLOGICAL
SOCIETY



BES Vice President

We are seeking a leader within the ecological community to become one of the two Vice Presidents of the British Ecological Society (BES).

About the Role - Vice President

The Vice President acts as a deputy for the President when needed and chairs the Grants Committee of the BES. It is a voluntary position.

The remit of the Grants Committee is the development and oversight of our grant funding strategy, overseeing the awarding of circa £400k grants annually and monitoring of their impact.

As well as providing inclusive leadership to the Grants Committee, the Vice President may undertake assignments for the President, such as the chairing of a task and finish group.

The Vice President also supports and, where appropriate, challenges the Executive Team. They ensure that their Committee operates effectively and works closely with the relevant parts of the Executive Team to achieve agreed objectives. They act as an ambassador and a public face of the BES.

About the Role - Board of Trustees

The BES Board of Trustees is the governing body for the Society, setting and maintaining the vision of the BES and developing its long-term strategy.

The Board also creates and monitors policies to govern the Society, ensures compliance with the governing document, ensures accountability and makes sure resources are used effectively.

The Board is chaired by the President, it works closely with the Chief Executive and senior leadership team.

The Board comprises officers of the Society, including the Vice President, Committee Chairs and three Ordinary Members. The three Ordinary Members represent specific ecological communities: early career, ecologists working outside higher education and research institutes and ecologists working in academic research.

Who we're looking for

We value the diversity and wide range of perspectives that people from different backgrounds bring to their work and to ecology, and we are committed to ensuring all our committees and working groups represent the diversity of our membership.

For this role we are especially interested in hearing from:

- Ecologists from under-represented & marginalised ethnicities
- Women and individuals identifying as non-binary

We also want to keep a balance of people on our Board, so we are looking for people who have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- UK and International grant funding landscapes
- Experience of international research and building of international collaborations
- Experience of working in or with partners in the Global South
- Interdisciplinary working

Time involved

There are four Board meetings a year as follows;

- **March** via video conference
- **June**, usually in two parts with a video conference meeting followed by an in person strategic away day
- **September** via video conference
- **December**, usually in person at the BES Annual Meeting with video attendance possible

The Vice President also chairs the BES Grants Committee which meets twice a year. Meetings will usually run 10.00-15.00 and by video conference.

The BES has good video conferencing facilities enabling people to easily participate remotely in meetings, however, the BES will cover the travel expenses of trustees attending BES business meetings where needed.

The BES also covers the cost of registration and accommodation for Board members attending the Annual Meeting and BES Symposia.

New trustees have an induction session and there are opportunities to take part in trustee training.

The term of office is three years with a maximum of two terms.



How to apply

To apply for this vacancy:

Please click the green button 'Apply for this job' via our recruitment portal to submit a short CV (no more than two pages), and a 1-page statement outlining your interest in the role.

A full description of the roles of a BES Board of Trustee member, Vice President and Committee Chair are available on the recruitment portal

The successful candidate will be nominated by the BES Board of Trustees and stand for election by the membership through an electronic ballot. The results of the election are announced at the AGM which is held during the December Annual Meeting.

If you have any queries about the role please get in touch with the

Karen Devine

Director of Communities and Inclusion

Karen@BritishEcologicalSociety.org

Key Dates

Closing date: Please apply by 17th June 2024.

We will review applications 18th-19th June 2024

We will confirm interviews by 21st June 2024

Interviews will take place online on the 8th July 2024.

The interview panel will include

- Bridget Emmett, BES President
- Yadvinder Malhi, BES Past President
- Karen Devine, BES Director of Communities and Inclusion -with responsibility for the Grants team