

Summary of proposed changes to the Engineering Council Charter 2020

1. During 2018 and 2019, a review of the Charter resulted in some proposed revisions being approved by the Board on 21 November 2019. In line with the Engineering Council's current Charter requirements, these modifications are now being presented to the 'member' institutions in General Meeting for their approval.
2. The principles on which the original documents were developed have not substantially changed but to inform the members' review of the proposed amendments, a 'tracked changes' version of the updated Charter is available for review. However, the following summary aims to provide an overview of the key changes and the rationale for their introduction.

General improvements

3. As well as tidying up some of the language, some basic improvements to the Charter have been introduced including:
 - a. Consistency in the capitalisation of key terms (e.g. Objects, Register)
 - b. Removal of all gender-specific references (e.g. in Article 4h) in line with changes made to the Bye-laws
 - c. Avoiding any reference to overarching legal requirements (e.g. Article 4b).

Adjustments to key terms

4. In addition, some adjustments have been made to certain key terms to better articulate their role or purpose, particularly to those not familiar with the role of the Engineering Council (EngC) and its relationship with its key stakeholders. These include:
 - a. The introduction in Article 3c of the term 'Licensee' instead of Licensed Member to help make it clear that the EngC is accountable to the professional engineering institutions and not to an individual or group of individuals.
 - b. The reference in Article 3e to *full* and *interim* registration (as opposed to *continuing* and *initial*) which reflects current usage and preferred terminology.

Key changes

5. More substantial revisions, most of which are set out in the *Duties* and *Powers*, have looked to remove any ambiguity in the EngC's role or to reflect more accurately what happens in practice in its regulatory role. These include:
 - a. The introduction in Article 3c of the reference to the EngC's role as a formal advisor to the Privy Council and its role on providing informed feedback on changes to engineering institutions' *constitutions*.
 - b. Article 3d codifying the reference to a singular Register (as capitalised) with sections for each category of registrant, and with the ability to add or modify sections to that Register
 - c. The removal in Article 3f of the audit obligation on Licensed Members to have processes in place to ensure registrant views are represented to the

ETB/EngineeringUK. This change reflects the view that other mechanisms are in place to ensure this process takes place.

- d. The clarification in Article 3g of the Licensed Members' role in *nominating* individuals, not *admitting*, to the Register. This Article also clarifies the definition of a Registrant.
- e. Article 3h codifying the Licensed Members' scope to accredit or approve 'integrated education and training programmes'
- f. The new Article 3j which sets out the EngC's obligation to ensure that Professional Affiliates are complying with the requirements imposed on them
- g. Under Article 11, a key change to the EngC's **Powers** is for the member organisations to now be able to agree proposed modifications to the Bye-laws in General Meeting (currently restricted to the organisation's Board of Trustees)