

AIMSce

Association of Independent Members of Standards Committees in England

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09/07/19

To Monitoring Officers and Independent Members of Standards Committees in principal authorities in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey.

A Steering Committee drawn from the Regional Coordinators of forums for Independent Members of Standards Committees has recently established an association known as Association of Independent Members of Standards Committees in England and in short AIMSce. The Inaugural meeting will take place in Birmingham on 16 October; a notice to that effect is attached. There are many advantages for Independent Members in having a representative professional body, particularly since the Government is proposing that the Chair of Standards Committees should be an Independent Member.

To achieve the primary objects of AIMSce will require funding. The initial expenses include setting up a web site, communicating with others in the Conduct regime and hosting the Fringe event, (see notice).

We shall be asking members to pay a once off joining or registration fee of £15 and an annual subscription £10. It appears from various surveys that have been carried out on an informal basis that some Independent Members are in receipt of an allowance from their authorities and some are not. Those in receipt of an allowance indicate significant variation in the amount offered. Those who are not in receipt of an allowance may decide not to join the Association because of the cost notwithstanding the benefits available.

We therefore seek the support of Monitoring Officers in several ways, firstly in recognising AIMSce as another stakeholder in the Conduct regime, secondly by providing your Independent Members with funds to join and maintain their membership of AIMSce and thirdly, if possible, to provide us with a grant to assist with our initial establishment costs.

Copies of the constitution and membership application forms for your Independent Members can be obtained as stated on the notice..

We thank you in anticipation of your support and encouragement.

Yours faithfully,

R. B. Claxton, Chairman AIMSce Steering Committee..