Nuclear Physics Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

1. The purpose of the Advisory Panel is to provide a link between Science Board and the community, and represent the needs of the community to STFC.

Remit

2. The Advisory Panel is tasked to:
   - Maintain an overview of activities within the area;
   - Develop and maintain a science vision and long term strategy /roadmap by assessing the merit of current and future science opportunities;
   - Develop and maintain a technology roadmap for their area of research;
   - Consult and interact with the community to ensure its views are canvassed and there is an appropriate and effective route for communication with STFC on strategic programmatic issues
   - Provide advice to Science Board on specific questions as requested;
   - Liaise with other Advisory Panels when appropriate.

3. The remit of the panel includes Technology Development, Theory, High Performance Computing and Data Curation issues within their area.

4. The Advisory Panel is required to report on these activities to Science Board on a regular basis using the process set out below. The science strategy developed by the Advisory Panel will be used by Science Board as input to ongoing strategy development and in future Programmatic Reviews.

Relationship and Reporting to Science Board

5. The Advisory Panel will report directly to Science Board (or Science Board Sub-Groups as appropriate). The Advisory Panel Chair will be invited to attend Science Board to report at least annually and attend as observers for appropriate agenda items. Science Board commits to considering advice from the Advisory Panel robustly and will provide feedback to the Advisory Panel Chair either in person at the meeting or through written feedback following the meeting. This is especially important where the recommendations of Science Board differ from those of the Advisory Panel.

6. Science Board and the Advisory Panel have differing roles in providing advice to STFC and this will impact on their interactions. Science Board is a strategic committee providing scientific overview and assessment of, and science advice on, all of the programmes STFC supports. The Advisory Panel represents the views of their specific community and develops science and technology roadmaps relevant to their specific area. Accordingly there may be instances where Science Board is unable to take on board all the recommendations from each of the Advisory Panels, when trying to tension across the whole of the STFC programme. The process set out above should address this issue.

7. In order to aid two way discussions between Science Board and the Advisory Panel, Science Board commits to providing relevant guidance and information to the Advisory Panel when appropriate. Science Board members should be invited to attend Advisory Panel community meetings.

Size and Membership

8. The Advisory Panel should consist of a chair and deputy and up to twelve other members. The final panel size should be dependent upon the size of the community and the need to ensure that the panel membership fully reflects the breadth of the community.

9. Panel members are appointed by Science Board, based on the recommendations of a sub-group comprising Science Board members and the STFC executive; following an open nomination process in which the community can participate. One or two of the Advisory Panel members can be appointed directly by the community. If an Advisory Panel wishes to do this, they should develop and run a process so that this can happen.

STFC Support

10. STFC will support the Advisory Panel in holding one to two in person meetings per year and an annual community meeting. The Advisory Panel is encouraged to self-organise email discussions and teleconferences in between these meetings if appropriate. The Advisory Panel should also seek community input through other consultative methods such as email/online consultations. STFC will provide access with editing rights to the STFC Community webpages for use by the Advisory Panel when consulting with the community. These can be used for hosting information and documents and as a forum for discussion.