

Legal obligations on Trust Deeds

Advice to Subject Groups and Local Sections on their Trust Deeds and legal obligations

- Local Sections and Subject Groups have Trust Deeds and operate under the RSC's charity registration and obligations.
- Currently there are 35 Local Sections and 74 Subject Groups with a Trust Deed.
- For the Local Section and Subject Group Trusts, Council may at any time agree a resolution to discontinue the Fund [the assets of the Trust] and transfer the assets 'upon trust' to be held and applied to a charitable object connected with advancing the chemical sciences – hence the assets could be transferred back to the RSC itself.
- Sections and Groups by virtue of the Trusts have legal status; as legal entities the Trustees are the RSC plus the Chair of the Section/Group. Only Trustees can sign contracts *etc* and agreement from both is required.
- Council gives standing permission for Groups and Sections via the Chairman (who must be an RSC member) to sign contracts [cumulatively or singularly] with a value/liability of up to £5k without reference to the Council. Above this value, permission must be sought before work/activity is started on a project that may involve a contract with a value/liability above this amount.
- All contracts should be lodged with the RSC legal office for the record.
- Any meeting organised must be entered on the RSC meeting database on the web site: this should be checked for clashes with other group/RSC/Section activity and collaboration should be maximised.
- Groups and Sections should liaise with staff before starting new projects to ensure that coordination with other parts of the RSC is maximised and duplication of effort is avoided.
- Any publication resulting from an activity must be offered to RSC Publishing first.
- Guidance on any of these matters can be obtained from staff.