



The
Geological
Society

-serving science & profession

Dear Sponsor

You have been asked to sponsor an application for validation as a Chartered Geologist. Attached to this letter is a *Sponsor's Statement* that you should complete and return to the applicant in a signed and sealed envelope marked 'confidential'.

Sponsorship of an applicant is a serious undertaking and by doing this you are making a professional judgement of the applicant's ability to meet and maintain the very high standards that are required in the geoscience professions. You are, in effect, acting in the capacity of a 'competent person' by evaluating the applicant's professional standing and reputation. If you feel that the applicant is not yet ready for Chartership we hope that you will tell them so and then help them to gain the additional experience or understanding necessary for a successful application.

We draw your attention to the following, which may be of assistance:

1. SPONSORSHIP

- You should have personal knowledge of the applicant and their work for at least three years and he or she must not be related to you.
- You should satisfy yourself that the applicant meets the criteria set out in the Society's Regulations (see below).
- An applicant's sponsors should, wherever possible, be Chartered Geologists. However, the Society may accept, as one of the two sponsors, a Chartered Member of a recognised professional body that is a member of either the Engineering Council or the Science Council or an equivalent overseas body.

2. EXPECTED LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING

A Fellow applying for validation as a Chartered Geologist is required to satisfy the Society that they meet the following criteria:

- i) Understanding the complexities of geology and of the geological processes in space and time in relation to the speciality offered
- ii) Critical evaluation of geoscience information to generate predictive models
- iii) Effective communication in writing and orally
- iv) Competence in the management of Health and Safety and Environmental issues, and in the observance of all other statutory obligations applicable to the discipline or area of work
- v) Clear understanding of the meaning and needs of professionalism including a clear understanding of the Code of Conduct and commitment to its implementation.
- vi) Commitment to Continuing Professional Development throughout a professional career
- vii) Competence in the area of expertise

This letter is a summary of major points. If you require more specific guidance, please contact the Chartership Officer (chartership@geolsoc.org.uk) to discuss further.

Yours faithfully

Janine Benn
Administrative Fellowship Secretary



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**CHARTERED GEOLOGIST
SPONSOR'S STATEMENT**

Applicant's Name _____

After entering his/her name above, the applicant should give a copy of this form to each sponsor with the request that the subsequent portion of the form be completed and returned to the applicant in a signed and sealed envelope marked 'confidential'.

The applicant named above has applied to the Geological Society for validation as a Chartered Geologist and has named you as a sponsor. The validation procedure depends, among other matters, upon an evaluation of the applicant's professional standing and reputation. Please assist the Society by supplying the information requested below, based upon your own personal, first-hand knowledge of the applicant. If you wish to write separately in addition to returning this form, please do so.

Sponsorship of an applicant is a serious undertaking. You are showing your faith in the applicant's ability to meet and maintain the very high standards that are required in the geoscience professions, as in others, and are, in effect, acting in the capacity of a 'competent person' by evaluating the applicant's professional standing and reputation. We would therefore ask you to give the matter the due consideration it requires. If you feel that the applicant is not yet ready for Chartership we hope that you will help them to gain the additional experience or understanding so that a valid application can be made in due course.

ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY YOU WILL BE TREATED IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE

Sponsor's Name:	
<u>Home Address</u>	<u>Work Address</u>
Tel No:	Tel No:

1. How long have you known the applicant?
2. What is/was your relationship to the applicant (please tick)?
 - Teacher/Supervisor
 - Colleague
 - Employer
 - Customer/Contractor
 - Other (please state) _____

NB - Please make as detailed as possible comments under the various headings in order to assist the Scrutineers in their assessment of the candidate.

3. Have you seen the completed application form in its entirety?

- Yes No (NB – if you have not seen the completed application form you will not be eligible to act as a Sponsor for this applicant)

4. In your opinion, does the applicant meet the following eight criteria which form the main basis for validation as a Chartered Geologist?

i) Understanding of the complexities of geology and of geological processes in space and time in relation to your speciality. Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate **competence** in the recognition and determination of basic geological processes in three and four dimensions, diagnosis of geological conditions, fundamentals of the Earth's history, understanding of geological problems and their interpretation, creation and interpretation of geological maps and cross sections, compilation and testing of ground models. *Evidence of competence could include written reports and outputs. It is quite likely that competence in this area will be explored in depth at interview.*

Please comment:

ii) Critical evaluation of geoscience information to generate predictive models. Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate **competence** in the acquisition, observation and description of geological data, appreciation of the limitations of and conditions under which the data were collected or how they arrived in their present state, and an assessment of certainty/uncertainty. The geological data may be acquired in the field in one or more of the following ways: at outcrop, by intrusive investigations (boreholes, pits etc), by geophysical/geotechnical surveys or other remote sensing. It may also be experimental data (including laboratory-based investigations or computer modelling). *Written reports are likely to be the most important evidence of competence in accordance with this criterion. At interview it is likely that the candidate is tested to assess the extent of his/her input to the written material.*

Please comment:

iii) Effective communication in writing and orally. Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate **competence** through the material presented in the professional report and documents accompanying the application together with the impact the applicant makes at interview.

- a. Written reports, tested at interview for the extent of the candidate's input, are primary evidence of written communication. However, template reports (in which a defined structure and wording are provided by an employer, for repetitive work) are unlikely to provide adequate evidence of competence in written communication.*
- b. Oral communication is assessed at interview.*

Please comment:

iv) Competence in the management of Health and Safety and Environmental issues, and in the observance of all other statutory obligations applicable to your discipline or area of work. *Principally assessed at interview, although evidence of awareness may come from written reports. Candidates might reasonably be asked to provide examples or risk assessments and method statements or other documents that they have prepared as part of their professional work.*

Please comment:

v) Clear understanding of the meaning and needs of professionalism including a clear understanding of the Code of Conduct and commitment to its implementation. Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the need to meet deadlines, to behave professionally and ethically at all times in accordance with the Society's Code of Conduct and must fully understand the requirements of the Code, giving relevant examples of its application in their professional actions, activities and decisions. *This is largely assessed at interview*

Please comment:

vi) Commitment to Continuing Professional Development throughout your professional career.

Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate that they are committed to a programme of development of technical and professional skills for the work they undertake in order to enhance the skills available in pursuance of their career. *In addition to providing an existing CPD record, candidates might reasonably be asked to describe their CPD targets, and to give examples of specific CPD activities that will enable them to meet these objectives.*

Please comment:

vii) Competence in your area of expertise. Applicants meeting this criterion will be able to demonstrate that they are competent in their claimed areas of professional practice at the level appropriate to their level of seniority. *It is quite likely that this will have been demonstrated by evidence accumulated under the other criteria. If not, Scrutineers will probe this at interview*

Please comment:

5. Do you have knowledge of the professional and ethical standing of the applicant in his/her professional community?

Please comment:

6. Do you consider that the applicant has an awareness of professional matters commensurate with their length of experience?

Please comment:

7. Are you aware of any behaviour of the applicant which you would consider to be incompatible with the Society's *Code of Conduct*? (see attached)

Yes No

Please comment:

8. Please add any further comments which you feel are relevant to the application.

I certify that:

- I am a Chartered Geologist; or
- I am a Chartered member of the following professional body
- I have considered the application against both the CSci and CGeol criteria and confirm that in my opinion the applicant has applied for the correct title.

(please state membership details)

Signature _____ Date _____



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**CHARTERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE FORM
SPONSOR**

Candidate's Name _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Question 1

Did you find the guidance provided by the Society helpful? Y / N
If not, why:

Question 1a

Do you have any comments that would help the Society improve
the guidance given to Sponsors?

Question 2

Did you find the Sponsor's Statement form easy to understand and Y / N
complete?
If not, why:

Question 2a

Do you have any comments that would help the Society improve
the Statement form?

