



Regional Science Association International: British and Irish Section

Registered charity No. 277247

CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL: BRITISH & IRISH SECTION (RSAIBIS)

Article I – Name

The name of the organisation shall be the Regional Science Association International: British & Irish Section.

Article II – Objectives and Scope

The Regional Science Association International is an international association for the advancement of regional analysis and related spatial and areal studies. Within this international Association, the British & Irish Section of the Regional Science Association International shall operate as a scientific organisation without political, social, financial, or nationalistic bias. The object of the Regional Science Association International: British & Irish Section is to advance, for the benefit of the public, regional analysis and related spatial and areal studies. In furtherance of this object, but not further or otherwise, the Regional Science Association International: British & Irish Section shall promote studies of the region, utilisation of tools, methods and theoretical frameworks specifically designed for regional analysis, as well as concepts, procedures and analytical techniques of the various social and other sciences, and shall co-operate with scholars in related fields, undertake research and publish the results thereof, publish scholarly studies and undertake all other charitable activities necessary to achieve the objectives of the Association.

Article III – Membership

The principal criterion of eligibility for membership of the Regional Science Association International, and of the British & Irish Section, is interest in the field of regional science. Membership of the Regional Science Association International: British & Irish Section shall automatically be extended to all members of the Regional Science Association International residing in the following areas: British Isles, Isle of Man, Channel Islands. Membership may also be extended to non-residents who have an interest in the application of regional science methodology in the areas enumerated. Membership may be acquired by those who satisfy the above criteria, on application and payment of dues.

Article IV – Termination of Membership

Membership shall terminate by (i) death, (ii) resignation, tendered to the Committee of the British & Irish Section, not later than two months before the end of the financial year, (iii) deprivation of membership by the Committee of the British & Irish Section when a member fails, after due notice, to pay the required subscription.

Article V – The Committee and Officers

The British & Irish Section shall have a Committee, consisting of a maximum of thirteen members. All members of the Committee shall be elected to serve for a period of one year by ballot at the Annual General Meeting. The Section shall have four Officers: a Chairperson, a Secretary, a Membership Secretary and the Treasurer. The Chairperson shall be elected to serve for a period of one year by ballot at the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary, the Membership Secretary and the Treasurer shall each be elected to serve for a period of one year by a ballot among members of the Committee as soon as possible after the Annual General Meeting. An Officer shall not be permitted to serve for a period exceeding four consecutive years. The Committee may, if it so wishes, appoint an Editor for the Section's publications. The Committee

may co-opt up to three members on to the Committee of the Section to serve for a maximum period of one year. The quorum at Committee meetings shall be six.

Article VI – Duties of the Chairperson

The Chairperson shall conduct the Annual General Meeting and meetings of the Committee. The Chairperson shall also determine the time and place of the Committee meetings.

Article VII – Duties of the Secretary and the Membership Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for organising the programme of the Annual Conference, after consultation with the Committee. The Secretary shall also distribute ballots at the General Meeting and arrange for the counting of the votes.

The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining and administering a membership database. The Membership Secretary shall manage member's withdrawal, prompt current members for renewal and engage new members to facilitate their involvement in the section. The Membership Secretary reports to the Regional Science Association International and the European Regional Science Association on changes in the section's membership. The Membership Secretary shall lead the Committee's efforts to recruit new members.

Article VIII – Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting the annual British & Irish Section membership subscriptions. The Treasurer shall transfer appropriate subscriptions to the Regional Science Association International parent body. The Treasurer shall also receive all other monies due to, and pay all monies owing by, the Section. The Treasurer shall keep proper records and accounts

showing; (i) the receipts and payments relating to the Section, (ii) the assets and liabilities of the Section. Annual accounts for the year to 31st December shall be made by the Treasurer. These accounts shall be audited. Copies of the annual accounts shall be made available at the AGM and to any member requesting them.

Article IX – Elections

At the Annual General Meeting there shall be two elections: (i) an election for places on the Committee; (ii) following this, an election for Chairperson of the Section. Nominations for places on the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary before commencement of the Annual General Meeting. Each nomination must be proposed and seconded by members of the Section. Each member of the Section attending the Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to cast up to thirteen votes for candidates for places on the Committee. Nominations for the post of Chairperson shall also be made in writing to the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting, and proposed and seconded by members of the Section. Persons nominated for the Chairperson may stand as candidates in the election for Chairperson only if they have also been elected to a place on the Committee. Each member of the Section attending the Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to cast one vote for candidates for Chairperson.

Article X – Dissolution

The Section may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of the Annual General Meeting, provided that at least three-quarters of all members take part in the voting on a proposal to dissolve. Should this requirement not be fulfilled, a postal ballot must be held within three months, and a two-thirds majority of all participating members shall be sufficient for the dissolution of the Section. The resolution to dissolve the Section shall name the persons who will be charged with the liquidation of the Section, and must contain decisions as to the disposal of the assets of the Section, paying regard to the objectives of the Section. The net assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and

liabilities shall not be distributed among the members but shall be applied solely for charitable purposes.

Article XI – Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution shall be proposed either by the Committee or by petition of twenty members and shall be adopted upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of voting members where the vote may be taken in either of two ways: (i) at the Annual General Meeting by ballot handed to the Secretary, provided that printed notice of the proposed amendment was posted to all members with the call of the Meeting; (ii) by postal ballot at any time, provided that three months notice of the proposed amendment has been posted to all members.

In both cases, the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution shall be conditional upon votes being cast by at least one-third of the Section's membership. No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which shall have the effect of the Section ceasing to be a charity at law.

{Constitution first adopted at the Annual General Meeting which took place on 1 September 1977; as amended on 6 September 1978, and 2 September, 1993, 7th September 2000 and approved and adopted in this amended form at the Annual General Meeting which took place at University College Dublin on 18th August 2015 }.