



Subject	Investigations Oversight Committee Terms of Reference		
Status	Open Session		
Purpose	For Decision		
From	Simon Howard		
History	Parent Committee	First Submitted	Revision Number
	IOC	19/11/2015	1

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1. Purpose

To amend the Investigations Oversight Committee's (IOC) Terms of Reference.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board amends the IOC Terms of Reference to allow the IOC to undertake tasks at the Board's direction.

3. Terms of Reference

Section 14 of the Architects Act 1997 requires the Board to investigate allegations of unacceptable professional conduct and serious professional incompetence about architects

Section 18(1)(b) of Schedule 1, Part 3 of the Architects Act 1997 provides that the Board may establish such committees as it considers appropriate to assist in the discharge of any of its functions.

4. Open

5. Contribution to the Board's Purpose and Objectives

In delivering the Act, ARB's objectives are:

Protect the users and potential users of architects' services by ensuring investigations into the competence and conduct of architects are undertaken effectively.

Support architects through regulation by maintaining the collective reputation of the profession.

6. Key Points

- i. The existing IOC Terms of Reference, agreed by the Board in March 2013, contain a provision that the Committee may recommend to the Board amendments to those Terms.

- ii. It was agreed by the members of the IOC – Nabila Zulfiqar, Ros Leveson and Alex Wright – that the Committee would be assisted by amending its Terms of Reference. This amendment gives the Committee the power to deal with policy matters on request by the Board, such as the work it is currently undertaking to review the Code of Conduct.

- iii. A marked up version of the proposed Terms is attached at [Annex A](#).

7. Risk Implications

The Board needs to be satisfied that the arrangements are in place to ensure that investigations undertaken on its behalf are conducted properly. Inefficient or incorrect investigations would leave the Board vulnerable to legal challenge, adverse publicity and additional costs.

8. Resource Implications

None identified

9. Communication

None identified.

10. Growth Duty Considerations

None identified.

11. Equality and Diversity Implications

None identified.