

# Legislative Reform Advisory Group: terms of reference and ways of working

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## Introduction

1. The HFEA has recently made public its view that the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended) should be modernised. The decision to draft revised legislation is a matter for the Government, but in preparation the HFEA intends to engage with a wide range of stakeholders including professional and patient groups, other interested parties and staff from HFEA licensed clinics to see whether a consensus can be reached on those elements of the Act which should be changed.
  2. To help inform this work, the HFEA is establishing an Advisory Group which will meet with the Chair of the HFEA to provide expert input on a range of issues.
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## Terms of reference

3. To:
    - reach agreement on those elements of the HFE Act that are most in need of modernisation; and
    - inform the development of draft proposals for reform.
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## Membership

4. The membership of the Advisory Group is as follows:
  - Julia Chain (Chair HFEA) – Chair
  - Tim Child (Chair SCAAC)
  - David Archard (Chair NCOB)
  - Nina Barnsley (Chief Executive DCN)
  - Gwenda Burns (Chief Executive FNUK)
  - Emily Jackson (LSE)
  - Jackson Kirkman Brown (Chair ARCS)
  - Robin Lovell Badge (Francis Crick Institute)
  - Raj Mather (Chair BFS)
  - Eddie Morris / Adam Balen (Chair RCOG)
  - Francesca Steyn (RCN)
  - Peter Thompson (Chief Executive HFEA)

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## Ways of working

5. Members of the Advisory Group are not expected to 'represent' their institution or organisation, nor 'speak for' their profession. Rather members have been asked to join to provide their experience and expertise across a range of relevant interests: fertility clinicians and women's health specialists, embryologists, nurses, patients, donors and donor conceived people, embryo researchers, bio-ethicists and family lawyers.
6. The Advisory Group is not a formal committee of the Authority. Discussion will be under 'Chatham House' rules, but papers will be made public on the HFEA website and members are free to share papers within their organisations as they judge appropriate. Meetings will be recorded for the purposes of making an accurate note of the key points raised. Any notes of meetings will not attribute particular views to named individuals. The HFEA will publicise the group membership and tag appropriate organisations or members in social media posts as relevant.
7. The Advisory Group will meet periodically throughout 2022, usually virtually.
8. The HFEA will aim to circulate papers one week in advance of any meeting.

