

London Mathematical Society: Strategy 2023-2028

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The mathematical sciences are changing. We find ourselves at an important juncture that will start to define the future role of the Society and our impact in the mathematical sciences. As the world continues to recognise the importance of mathematics in solving complex global challenges, the Society must be ready to play our part.

In this strategy, we present a plan that outlines our focus for the next five years. With our mission and strategic objectives in mind, we will focus on three areas of activities: LMS in the Global Community, Member Engagement, and Mathematics Pathways. Our goals in these areas not only reflect our commitment to our members and the discipline but also signify our intent to contribute significantly to the international mathematical community. Our aspiration is clear: to be a driving force that propels mathematicians toward excellence and innovation, connecting them on a global scale, and fostering an environment where mathematical expertise transcends boundaries.

We have a particular focus on promoting diversity and inclusion in our Society and right across the mathematical sciences community. We will work together with our partners to advance equality and inclusion in all mathematics communities including but not limited to mathematicians' race, ethnicity, gender, trans identity, sexual orientation, sex, age, religion or religious belief, neurodiversity, socioeconomic status, disabilities, and background.

Digital technologies provide many opportunities to enable and enhance the experience of the membership. We will use of digital technologies that are designed around member and customer needs to enhance the overall experience of the Society, allowing quick and easy access to information and knowledge the Society can provide.

Mathematics has an increasing role to play addressing big societal challenges and the LMS recognises its responsibility to take an active part in this. Working collectively, we intend to support the community to help find solutions to some of the global challenges in particular those posed by climate change. The LMS also has a role in reducing the impact of our own operations and setting out a path to sustainability.

Working with our membership, and the mathematical community, we will use this strategy to shape the future of the London Mathematical Society and, by extension, the future of mathematics worldwide. Together, we will build a vibrant, inclusive, and responsible mathematical community that leads, inspires, and empowers mathematicians of today and tomorrow.

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1. Strategic Goals 2023-2028

LMS Council has agreed three clear goals for the Society to develop its ambitions by building on the on-going work under the charitable objectives. The Society plans to make significant progress on realizing these ambitions in the coming five-year period. The three strategic goals are:

LMS in the Global Community – Play an active role in the international mathematical community and develop our international partnerships and our membership, building on the global status of the Society.

We will deliver this by:

- Working together and playing our full role in international organisations such as IMU and EMS.
- Develop our schemes to support mathematicians globally.
- Promoting through all our activities the role mathematics plays in addressing global challenges such as climate change.
- Using our global presence in knowledge creation and dissemination to develop new opportunities to raise the profile and influence of the LMS.
- Increasing fundraising towards our international schemes.
- Investigate the opportunities for more global involvement in our governance.

Engaging our Community – Mobilise and connect with current and potential LMS members and the wider mathematics community.

We will deliver this by:

- Growing our membership in the UK and across the world, creating an accessible, inclusive, integrated and connected community.

- Focusing on developing and supporting early career mathematicians to be part of the Society and the mathematical community.
- Engaging with members of all career stages to understand their needs.
- Develop LMS grant portfolio, structures, and activities to respond to the needs of the community.

Pathways in Mathematics – Promote the importance of mathematics and the provision of opportunities for those that wish to study and develop a career in research mathematics and its applications.

We will deliver this by:

- Promoting and supporting the career possibilities and career pathways in mathematics.
- Improving the public and political perception of mathematics.
- Developing new and existing partnerships to further the overall mathematics pathways.
- Protecting the provision of mathematics across all areas of higher education.

2. About Us

The London Mathematical Society is one of the oldest and best known mathematical learned societies in the world. Established in 1865, the Society has over 150 years of experience of advancing mathematics. We have a global reputation for promoting excellence across the community. We provide grants to support mathematics, meetings to bring together the community, recognise outstanding contributions through the awarding of medals and prizes, contributing to public debate on matters affecting mathematics and act as a major academic publisher.

3. Mission

The London Mathematical Society is a membership society for the advancement, dissemination, and promotion of mathematical knowledge.

4. Charitable Objectives

We achieve our mission through our objectives which guide the development of the whole of the LMS. The current wording of the objectives was first introduced in 2009 and have been updated to include a specific objective to recognise the Society's role in diversity and inclusion. The Society currently fulfils its objectives through programmes of activities. Many activities will address more than one objective. The following are the seven agreed objectives.

1. To work through its members and with the mathematical and broader scientific community worldwide to advance mathematics.

2. In all the Society's activities, to recognise, welcome and promote diversity in the mathematical sciences community both in the UK and internationally, through an open, inclusive, respectful, and accessible approach.
3. To advance mathematical knowledge by enabling mathematicians to undertake research and collaboration, and by supporting them in their efforts.
4. To disseminate mathematical knowledge and make it available worldwide, where appropriate seeking to create an income stream to support the Society's activities.
5. To promote mathematical research and its benefits to decision-makers, policy advisers, funders and the users of mathematics.
6. To support mathematical education in schools, colleges and universities, and encourage the public and young people to appreciate and engage with mathematics.
7. To manage the Society's affairs and resources effectively and efficiently, in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. Where appropriate, operating to make a financial return on activities to support the Society's work.