

THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
ROYAL CHARTER

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS The Institute of Public Relations (hereinafter called “the existing Institute”), incorporated under the Companies Act in the year One thousand nine hundred and sixty-three, has by an humble petition prayed that We should be graciously pleased to grant to it a Charter of Incorporation for the better advancement of the practice of public relations and the training of practitioners therein:

AND WHEREAS We having taken the said Petition unto Our Royal consideration are minded to accede thereto:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of all other powers thereunto Us enabling, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and declared and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and declare as follows:-

- 1 All present members of the existing Institute and all other persons who shall pursuant to this Our Charter and the By-Laws become members of the Corporation hereby constituted are hereby created and henceforth forever shall be one Body Politic and Corporate by the name of “The Chartered Institute of Public Relations” (hereinafter referred to as “the Institute”) and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal with the power to alter, vary, break and make anew such Seal at their discretion, and by the same name may sue and be sued in all Courts in all manner of actions and proceedings, and shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate.

- 2 In this Our Charter:
 - (a) “public relations” means the planned and sustained effort to establish and maintain goodwill and mutual understanding between an organisation and its publics;
 - (b) “the Board ” means the Board of Directors referred to below and as from time to time constituted in accordance with the By-Laws;
 - (c) “the By-Laws” means the By-Laws set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter as amended

from time to time as hereinafter provided;

- (d) “the Council” means the Council of the Institute referred to below and as from time to time constituted in accordance with the By-Laws;
- (e) “Ordinary Resolution” means a resolution of a General Meeting of the Institute which has been carried by a simple majority of such members of the Institute as, being entitled to vote, vote in person or by proxy at the meeting;
- (f) “Special Resolution” means a resolution of a General Meeting of the Institute of which not less than twenty-one days’ written notice has been given to those entitled to such notice, which has been carried by a majority of not less than two-thirds of such members of the Institute as, being entitled to vote, vote in person or by proxy at the meeting;
- (g) words denoting the singular number shall include the plural and vice versa;
- (h) words denoting one gender shall include any other gender;
- (i) words denoting persons shall include bodies corporate and unincorporated associations.

3 The objects for which the Institute is incorporated shall be:

- (a) to promote for the public benefit high levels of skill, knowledge, competence, and standards of practice and professional conduct on the part of public relations practitioners;
- (b) to promote the study, research and development of the practice of public relations and publish or otherwise make available the useful results of such study and research;
- (c) to promote public understanding of the contribution of effective public relations in encouraging ethical communication and in enhancing the efficiency and performance of all sectors of the economy;
- (d) to act as an authoritative body for the purpose of consultation in matters of public and professional interest concerning public relations;
- (e) to represent the interests of members in all public fora; and
- (f) to advance the interests of members and to provide facilities and services for members.

Without limiting its capacities at law as a chartered corporation, the Institute may exercise the following powers in pursuing its objects:

- (a) to encourage the development of, and to promote instruction and training in the practice of public relations
- (b) either alone or jointly with other bodies, to conduct examinations and award certificates and diplomas, whether in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere, provided that no certificate or diploma issued by the Institute shall contain any statement expressing or implying that it is granted by or under the authority of any department or authority of Our Government;
- (c) to provide, maintain and equip training facilities and libraries and to establish chairs, lectureships and fellowships in public relations and to award prizes and scholarships;
- (d) to promote knowledge and understanding of issues affecting the practice of public relations and to prepare and publish in any manner or medium such papers, journals, books and other material and to hold whether in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere such meetings, conferences, seminars and instructional courses as shall advance the objects of the Institute:
- (e) to maintain a record of members;
- (f) to adopt and publish professional and ethical standards relevant to the practice of public relations and to maintain procedures for the regulation of members' professional conduct and discipline;
- (g) to establish and promote national, geographical or sectoral branches or groups of members;
- (h) to acquire, take over and accept by way of gift from the existing Institute all the assets of every description now belonging to, or held in trust for, the existing Institute;
- (i) to employ and dismiss staff and to remunerate them and provide retirement, death, disability, ill-health and other benefits to them, their families and their dependants;
- (j) to enter into any contract or incur or assume any obligation or borrow and raise money as

permitted by law with or without security for the promotion of the objects of the Institute;

- (k) to acquire, sell, lease, manage, mortgage or deal with any property or right of the Institute in any way permitted by law;
- (l) to manage the investments of the Institute in any way permitted by law;
- (m) to establish and support any company or other body and to co-operate with other bodies and organisations and to engage in joint activities of any kind which may advance the objects of the Institute;
- (n) to establish, undertake and execute any charitable trusts which may lawfully be undertaken by the Institute;
- (o) to do all such other things as shall further the attainment of its objects.

5 1 Subject to paragraph (2) of this article, the income and property of the Institute, from wherever derived, shall be applied solely towards the objects for which the Institute is constituted, and shall not be paid or distributed to any member of the Institute.

2 Nothing in paragraph (1) of this article shall prevent any reasonable and proper payment or benefit of any kind being made in good faith by the Institute to or for any member of the Institute or of the Board or the Council or to or for any firm of which any such member is a partner or any body corporate in which any such member has a beneficial interest, where such payment or benefit is by way of:

- i remuneration or other consideration for the provision of services, facilities or goods to the Institute, provided that no member of the Board or of the Council or of any committee of the Board or of the Council shall be remunerated for holding that position or any other office in the Institute unless the remuneration is authorised by the By-Laws
- ii out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any member of the Board or the Council or of any committee of the Board or of the Council in connection with attendance at meetings of the Board or of the Council or of any committee of the Board or of the Council or otherwise incurred in connection with the discharge of their functions;
- iii interest on money lent or rent or other sums in respect of premises let to the Institute;
- iv premium on any policy of insurance against liability of any member of the Board or of the

Council or of any committee of the Board or of the Council whether or not the sum assured is for the benefit of such person; provided that no member of the Board or of the Council or of any committee of the Board or of the Council shall be present at or participate in any discussion or decision concerning any such payment or benefit to be made to or for him or any firm of which he is a partner or body corporate in which he has a beneficial interest, except any discussion or decision relating to a policy of insurance for the whole Board or of the Council or committee.

- 6 The Institute shall consist of such members in such grades or categories as the By-Laws may from time to time prescribe. The qualifications, manner and terms of admission, rights, privileges and obligations of each grade or category of membership and the terms under which members may be subject to disciplinary sanctions by the Institute shall be as the By-Laws shall prescribe. The By-Laws may prescribe postnominal designations by which members of certain grades or categories may be designated as belonging to the Institute.
- 7 There shall be such officers of the Institute, with such functions, tenure and terms of office, as the By-Laws may from time to time prescribe.
- 8 The governance and control of the Institute shall be vested in the Board of Directors constituted in accordance with the By-laws. The Board shall manage the affairs of the Institute in accordance with this Our Charter and Bylaws and shall exercise such powers and do such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Institute and are not by the provisions of this Our Charter or the By-Laws directed to be exercised or done by the Institute in General Meeting. The Board shall consist of such Members with such qualifications, tenure and terms of office as the By-laws may from time to time prescribe.

- 9 There shall be a Council of the Institute (hereinafter referred to as ‘The Council’) which shall have such powers and consist of such members with such qualifications, tenure and terms of office as the By-laws may from time to time describe.
- 10 The affairs of the Institute shall be managed in accordance with the By-Laws which shall remain in force until amended, added to or revoked by an Ordinary Resolution at a General Meeting of the Institute; provided that no such addition, amendment or revocation shall be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or shall take effect until the same shall have been approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
- 11 Subject to the terms of this Our Charter, the By-Laws may regulate any matter relating to the administration of the Institute and its affairs, and may direct that any matter which, pursuant to this Our Charter, might be prescribed or regulated in the By-Laws may be further prescribed or regulated by Regulations. No such further prescription or regulation shall be effective to any extent to which it is inconsistent with the provisions of this Our Charter or the By-Laws.
- 12 The Institute may at any time amend, add to or revoke any of the provisions of this Our Charter by a Special Resolution at a General Meeting of the Institute and any such amendment, addition or revocation shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual.
- 13 1 The Members of the Institute may by a Special Resolution passed at a General Meeting specially summoned for the purpose determine to surrender this Our Charter subject to the sanction of Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council and upon such terms as We or They may consider fit, and wind up or otherwise deal with the affairs of the Institute in the manner directed by such General Meeting or in default of such directions as the Board thinks expedient having due regard to the liabilities of the Institute for the time being.
- 2 If the Institute is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property whatsoever, it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Institute or any of them but shall, subject to any special trust affecting the same, be given and transferred to some other institution with objects similar to the objects of the Institute, and which prohibits the distribution of its income and property among its members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Institute under this

Our Charter, such institution to be determined by the Institute in General Meeting at or before the time of dissolution, or in default thereof then to some charitable object.

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Lastly, We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant that these Our Letters or the enrolment thereof shall be in all things good, firm, valid, sufficient and effectual in law notwithstanding any omission, imperfection, defect, matter, taken, construed and adjudged benevolently and in every case most favourably to the Institute and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the day of in the year of Our Reign

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL