

# **MOUNTAINEERING SCOTLAND MOUNTAIN SAFETY GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Approved by MSG Members on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020  
Approved by the board of Mountaineering Scotland 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Group is to: monitor, review and promote safe movement and practice in the Scottish mountains; to collaborate on mountain safety issues across Scotland; in order to provide and disseminate safety information through its partner organisations; and, to be the definitive organisation for the provision of mountain safety advice to the outdoor sector in partnership with the Scottish Government and through local and national media outlets.

## **VISION**

The work of the constituent organisations represented in the Group will be to promote enjoyment, safety and risk awareness, leading to self-reliance whilst participating in mountain-related activities.

## **AIM**

This will be achieved by promoting safe practice to all those accessing Scotland's mountains resulting in a reduction of accidents, incidents and Mountain Rescue call-outs, thereby increasing the numbers of those enjoying healthy, safe recreation in the hills and mountains of Scotland.

## **CONSTITUENT ORGANISATIONS**

The Group will consist of representatives of the following organisations: Mountaineering Scotland; Scottish Mountain Rescue; Scottish Avalanche Information Service; Glenmore Lodge; SportScotland; Mountain Training Scotland; Police Scotland; Association of Mountaineering Instructors; British Mountain Guides; and, Scottish Cycling (Mountain Bike Development).

In addition the following organisations will be included as corresponding members and informed of the Group's business electronically and may attend meetings as appropriate to the agenda: British Mountaineering Council; Mountain Training; Mountain Weather Information Service & Met Office; UK Search and Rescue; Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education; Snowsport Scotland; St John Scotland; Visit Scotland; and Snow and Avalanche Foundation of Scotland.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Group will achieve its vision and aims through the development and delivery of an agreed strategy for Mountain Safety to deliver the following objectives:

- To advise on the content of safety training courses and events, as well as other specific safety issues as they arise.
- To regularly review mountain safety advice and how it is communicated
- To assist in the development and communication of messages on safe practice to improve awareness of current risks
- To provide signposting to useful applicable public information relating to mountain safety
- To liaise regularly with The Scottish Government on issues relating to mountain safety in Scotland.
- To provide a sounding board for MSG members where support is required on any issues of relevance.

## **RESOURCES**

Mountaineering Scotland will Chair and provide Secretariat to the Group and its meetings. Constituent Organisations will assist where required and commit staff time resources as appropriate to deliver the agreed objectives of the Group.

## **MEASUREABLES**

The Group will use intelligence gained from sources including statistical information, survey responses and feedback from Constituent Organisation to evaluate progress against delivering the vision and objectives contained in the strategy for the Group. The Group will also look to benchmark its activities and outcomes against other organisations working to promote mountain safety in countries across the world.

## **MEETINGS**

The Group will normally meet up to four times a year to conduct regular business, with additional meetings should circumstances dictate, communicating electronically as required. The Group membership will also act as a sounding board for Mountaineering Scotland (MS) officers and directors in relation to MS mountain safety work. The MSG TOR will be available to view on the Mountaineering Scotland website.