

## Memorandum of understanding

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The BMA memorandum of understanding applies to all committee members and posts in the BMA. It was agreed by BMA council in March 2017.

Candidates for election to posts will be asked to declare that they have read the memorandum of understanding when submitting their nominations.

The BMA can only function with the contributions of those members who seek election as representatives. Thank you for making the commitment to help represent your colleagues. In order that elected BMA representatives can work together effectively the following principles are important.

- When you are speaking to or communicating in the broadcast, print or social media as an elected BMA representative, or are identified as such, you must honestly represent the views of the BMA.
- When speaking in a personal capacity you must explicitly ask not to be identified as an elected BMA representative.
- Committee officers must coordinate media engagements with the press office.
- You must declare conflicts of interest to your committee chair / committee secretary as appropriate.
- You must uphold the confidentiality of your committee when requested. If in doubt, ask the chair of the committee.
- As a member of the medical profession and as an elected representative, you must behave in a professional manner at all times. Robust debate is sometimes essential in forming policy, but you must always treat patients, colleagues and staff with respect.
- In standing for election you agree to uphold these principles.