

## Elected and appointed members and representatives

### Role profile

<b>Role title</b>	UK Council member

The BMA is committed to equality of opportunity and actively guards against unfair discrimination on any grounds including sexual orientation, religion or beliefs, race, sex, age or disability.

<b>Council's Purpose</b>
<p>UK Council is the principal executive committee (PEC) of the trade union as set out by trade union legislation -Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (TULRCA). It sets the strategic direction of the Association in line with policy decided by the Representative Body at the Annual Representative Meeting and is responsible for the formulation of policy throughout the year between ARMs, and for delegating the implementation of policy to the company by way of aims and desired outcomes. Council has responsibility for overseeing the co-ordination and timing of policy implementation of the Association, and the authority to resolve disputes between other BMA bodies and to authorise industrial action.</p>

<b>Council's strategic role and responsibilities</b>
<p>UK Council is made up of voting and ex-officio members to lead and represent BMA members wherever they live and work. Council members are collectively responsible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) for the lawful conduct of the Association as a recognised trade union and as a professional association;</li> <li>b) following and upholding the provisions of the Articles and Bye-laws;</li> <li>c) upholding the values and objectives of the Association and its core policies, including those for equality and diversity;</li> <li>d) for setting strategy and to formulate and implement policies (in the interval between successive meetings of the Representative Body);</li> <li>e) for making recommendations to the board to take, or refrain from taking, specified action;</li> <li>f) to take or recommend any action required in relation to the regulation of relations between the medical profession or any section thereof and employers whether in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute or otherwise;</li> <li>g) delegating authority to such bodies as council may from time to time decide;</li> <li>h) for listening to and connecting with members to understand frontline issues;</li> <li>i) electing/appointing (and if necessary, removing) the Chair, Deputy-Chair and the Council elected/appointed directors of the BMA/BMJ Board of Directors;</li> <li>j) for approving appointments to Council committees and representation of the Association on outside bodies</li> <li>k) for ensuring that the work of its committees is strategic, coordinated and productive;</li> <li>l) to the BMA membership for Council decisions and actions, being held to account at the Annual General Meeting and to be accountable to members at the Annual Representative Meeting; and</li> <li>m) for other activities as agreed by Council.</li> </ul>

## Key responsibilities of individual Council members

As individuals, all Council members have a duty to:

- a) understand how the BMA works as a trade union and professional body;
- b) respect the trust and confidence of our members by working hard for and making a personal contribution to all aspects of Council's business;
- c) abide by the BMA behaviour principles and code of conduct;
- d) maintain and observe the highest standards of governance, integrity, confidentiality and objectivity;
- e) avoid conflicts of interest where possible and declare all relevant conflicts of interest;
- f) maintain an updated declarations of interest form;
- g) not to use your position on Council to promote private interests or for personal benefit;
- h) not to do anything to undermine the work or good name of BMA Council/ the British Medical Association;
- i) keep up to date with the work of the BMA as a membership organisation, trade union and professional body;
- j) keep up to date with key professional and political issues affecting our members;
- k) diligently prepare for and attend all Council meetings;
- l) send apologies to the secretary if you are unable to attend the meetings;
- m) actively participate, ask questions and be constructively challenging in Council debates, taking into account in formulating your arguments the views of any branch of practice, group of the profession or organisation which you may be representing as well as your own;
- n) contribute to Listserv discussion and formal electronic debates;
- o) if a voting member, participate in formal decision making by voting in meetings in person or electronically, including recording abstentions;
- p) take responsibility to own Council decisions collectively, irrespective of own viewpoint;
- q) to promote the BMA and to inform members of Council's decision-making;
- r) to attend and report back to and from branch of practice committees, regional councils, group, other organisations or sectors you may be representing to ensure all parties are kept fully informed;
- s) act as an informed and influential ambassador for Council and represent Council's views and policies to different audiences;
- t) connect and engage with our members including the national and regional councils, branches of practice, professional networks and special interest groups;
- u) attend the Annual Representative Meeting (ARM), Regional Council and Branch of Practice meetings and other key BMA and professional events;
- v) take responsibility for ongoing induction and development as a Council member including attending training and development events;
- w) serve on and work with Council committees, project boards and working groups;
- x) if asked, attend meetings or conferences on behalf of Council and write a report of the event to inform Council of the relevant activity if asked, take action arising from any meeting, by providing information, advice or written text;
- y) work in partnership with the secretariat and develop and maintain good working relationships with other Council colleagues; and
- z) engage in any other duties, activities or projects agreed by Council.

## Member training requirements

*You will be required to attend the following BMA training programmes*

BMA leadership programme  
BMA valuing difference programme  
BMA negotiation training  
BMA mentor training

Also to take part in our free courses designed to give you the right skills to:

- break down equality and inclusion bias (CPD-accredited)
- value difference and inclusivity
- live out BMA behaviour principles

## Minimum meetings/ Time commitment

Six meetings of Council including preparation time (annually)

Extraordinary meeting of Council at ARM (if required)

Induction day (one time) and at least two further development days (annually)

ARM 4-5 days usually in June (annually)

Mandatory training 4-5 days (one time as above – updated as required)

Approx. four Regional Council/BoP Meetings (annually if relevant & depending on the committee)