

Role Description for BAUS Regionally Elected Council

Members (updated April 2023)

As agreed at the BAUS Annual General Meeting in June 2007, members of Council are now elected regionally. From June 2008, Council has consisted of the regionally elected Members and nationally elected Executive Officers together with such ex-officio representatives to allow it to conduct its business effectively.

The Council plays a pivotal role in determining the strategic and professional direction of BAUS, ensuring it is responsive to the needs and views of its membership.

Regionally elected Council members are accountable to their electorate and are required to report to Council.

Main responsibilities of BAUS Council Regionally Elected Council Members

- To support urologists in the workplace.
- To be responsible for the organisation and running of a regional BAUS structure and to coordinate the organisation of regular regional business meetings, at least once a year, based on the SHA boundaries. Whether or not these meetings contain an educational component is a local issue.
- To attend BAUS Council meetings (usually three per year) and report on regional activities and concerns.
- To advise and assist in disseminating information from BAUS to surgeons working in the region.
- To sit on the local Professional Affairs Board as Royal College of Surgeons of England Regional Specialty Professional Advisors (see below for further details).
- To establish links with the local Specialty Training Committee and attend meetings as a co-opted member.
- To arrange a satisfactory local structure to approve Consultant, Staff and Associate Specialist job descriptions in relation to the professional content of the job and to ensure that job descriptions have College approval before AACs are convened. (This would have to be carried out by someone with consultant status, in the event of the regionally elected representative being a Member: Trainee or Member: Urological Specialist)
- A similar arrangement must be in place for the ACCEA awards process.

Eligibility

Candidates wishing to stand for election must be members of BAUS, in good standing in one of these categories; Member: Specialist Register, Member: Urological Specialist or Member: Trainee.

Candidates must be in practice in the region in which they wish to stand for election and must remain in practice in that region throughout their term of office.

Candidates must be nominated by two voting members*, based in the relevant region and also in good standing, in the form prescribed and shall give their written consent to stand.

** Voting members are members of BAUS in the following categories; Member: Specialist Register, Member: Urological Specialist or Member: Trainee.*

Duration of appointment

Members will be elected for three years and will be eligible for re-election for a further period of two years.

Members will take, and demit office, at the AGM, currently held in June.

If a regionally elected Council member moves from the region for which they were elected they will be required to stand down at the next AGM.

Regional Specialty Professional Advisors (RSPAs) for The Royal College of Surgeons of England

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the regionally elected Council members have replaced the Regional Specialty Advisers, who were previously appointed by The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

The College re-issued a draft job description for RSPAs in September 2012 (copy below on pages 3 - 4).

The role description set out by the College is as follows: “The RSPA sits on the local Professional Affairs Board and supports the work of the Board by providing specialty input into local NHS decision-making about service provision within the region, ensuring consistency and maintenance of standards through approval of consultant and specialty doctor job plans and providing professional advice and signposting for surgeons in difficulty. The formal role of the RSPA in revalidation is yet to be defined and may include advising surgeons on revalidation requirements and signposting appropriate sources of guidance and support.”

The College ratifies BAUS Regional Council members as RSPAs at its Council meetings (there are 10 meetings a year so this process is usually prompt). However, until the role is ratified by the College, Regional Council Members should not approve job descriptions but should pass on any JDs to another RSPA via the College.

RCS AND SURGICAL SPECIALTY ASSOCIATIONS*
REGIONAL SPECIALTY PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR (RSPA)
JOB DESCRIPTION

AIM

The RSPA is a Specialty Association Specialty appointment endorsed by the Royal College of Surgeons. It is one of two key roles in a partnership between the Specialty Associations and the College to create a unified voice for surgery locally and to provide advice and support on professional matters to surgeons in the workplace.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

The RSPA sits on the local Professional Affairs Board and supports the work of the Board by providing specialty input into local NHS decision-making about service provision within the region, ensuring consistency and maintenance of standards through approval of consultant and specialty doctor job plans and providing professional advice and signposting for surgeons in difficulty. The formal role of the RSPA in revalidation is yet to be defined and may include advising surgeons on revalidation requirements and signposting appropriate sources of guidance and support.

CORE ACTIVITIES

- To approve consultant and specialty doctor job descriptions
- To provide specialty advice to the Director for Professional Affairs about provision of surgical services
- To signpost surgeons to appropriate sources of guidance on professional issues, such as job planning and career development
- To signpost professional advice and support for surgeons in difficulty

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- A surgical consultant with demonstrable experience of delivering high quality services and a track record in leadership and medical management roles such as clinical directorship
- Membership of the appropriate Specialty Association, with experience in College/ Association business and willingness to join the Specialty Association on appointment to the role if not already a member
- A surgical consultant who has the confidence of regional colleagues and local employers
- A Fellow of a surgical Royal College of Great Britain or Ireland
- Awareness and commitment to equality and diversity legislation requirements [equality and diversity training will be provided as part of the induction to the role unless received elsewhere]
- Knowledge of policies and developments affecting surgical practice such as revalidation
- Evidence of providing teaching and training with evidence of continuing personal development

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The RSPA will liaise with the Director for Professional Affairs, the College Council Member for the region and the Council of the Specialty Association.

SESSIONAL TIME COMMITMENT

It is recommended that the RSPA is provided with 0.5 of a PA in order to undertake the work related to the role, to be reviewed annually.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

For the purposes of piloting, the RSPA will be selected by the Specialty Association and endorsed by the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

TERM OF OFFICE

3 + 2 years (or in line with constitutional arrangements if the RSPA is an elected member of the Specialty Association Council).

* The 10 SAC-defined Specialty Associations

September 2012