

The Royal College of Anaesthetists Scottish Board Terms of Reference

Version control and review

Version	v2024
Owner	Chair of the RCoA Scottish Board
Board approval	26 th November 2024
Council approval	10th December 2024
Review due	October 2025

Purpose

These Terms of Reference are to guide the workings of the Royal College of Anaesthetists Scottish Board ('the Board'). 'Anaesthesia' means the art, science and practice of anaesthesia, including the related subjects of perioperative medicine, critical care and pain medicine. In promoting high standards of training and practice in anaesthesia, the Board will maintain a cohesive and consistent approach to all aspects of the College's core business across the UK, while acknowledging and ensuring active engagement in interacting with the increasingly divergent healthcare system in Scotland.

1. Responsibilities

- 1.1 To keep under review matters relating to training in, and the practice of, anaesthesia in Scotland and to make recommendations to the Council in regard to any matter of direct relevance to Scotland.
- 1.2 To discussions and consultation with the health department of the Scottish Government on matters relating to training in, and the practice of, anaesthesia in Scotland.
- 1.3 To arrange direct communication between the President of the RCoA with the Chief Medical Officer, the ministers and other officials of the Scottish Government and its subsidiary organisations.
- 1.4 Chair to attend Council either by election or by co-option and to facilitate liaison between the specialty in Scotland and the College. Attendance may be in person or virtually.
- 1.5 Requests for representatives of relevant organisations in Scotland concerned with matters relating to training in, or the practice of, anaesthesia will be approved

and appointed by the Board and forwarded to Council. The representative¹ will provide reports of their activity to the Board and Council. This process will give the Board full access to administrative support by the Royal College without limiting effective representation.

- 1.6 The representation provided to the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and Faculties in Scotland shall normally be by the Chair of the Board.
- 1.7 To carry out any function associated with the delivery or monitoring of training of anaesthetists or associated with the maintenance of professional standards in anaesthesia in Scotland as are assigned and delegated to the Board by Council.
- 1.8 To liaise with the College's Governance Team regarding the organisation of elections and appointments to the Board.
- 1.9 To coordinate the process of RCoA nominations for any awards in Scotland on behalf of the President of the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

2. Constitution

The Board shall, subject to the resolution of Council, comprise some or all of the following members:

- 2.1 Chair, ordinarily the elected Member of Council working in Scotland. If this does not apply, Chair, being a Consultant Member and Fellow of the College, to be elected from among the members of the Scottish Board and confirmed by Council.
- 2.2 Vice Chair, elected from among the members of the Scottish Board.
- 2.3 Up to five elected or appointed Consultant members being Fellows working in Scotland who are on the specialist register of the GMC and representative of the Health Boards throughout the nation.
- 2.4 One elected or appointed member being a Fellow or Member working in Scotland who is a Staff, Associate Specialist, or specialty doctor (SAS).
- 2.5 One Trainee training in Scotland registered with the College holding the FRCA. To be elected by Anaesthesia Trainees training in Scotland.

These members will be elected or appointed following a process agreed by the Chair of the Scottish Board and College Council, as recommended by the Governance Team.

Ex Officio Members:

- 2.6 The President, who may be represented by a Vice-President.
- 2.7 The Scottish Regional Adviser(s) to the College.

¹ The RCoA Trustee, Council and Devolved Nation Board member Code of Conduct will be forwarded to the successful nominee for their acknowledgement.

- 2.8 Lead Regional Adviser for Intensive Care Medicine in Scotland, or a representative nominated by those Regional Advisers.
- 2.9 Lead Regional Adviser for Pain Medicine in Scotland, or a representative nominated by those Regional Advisers.
- 2.10 The Convenor of the Scottish Committee of the Association of Anaesthetists.
- 2.11 The Honorary Secretary of the Scottish Society of Anaesthetists.
- 2.12 The Anaesthetic Adviser to the Chief Medical Officer for Scotland.
- 2.13 One member of PatientsVoices@RCoA, normally resident in Scotland, and selected in such a manner as shall be determined by the Board.
- 2.14 A Clinical Director or equivalent representative normally resident in Scotland and selected in such a manner as shall be determined by the Board.

Co-opted Members

- 2.15 The Board may co-opt such members or observers as it deems appropriate to assist it in its function.

In attendance

- 2.16 A representative of the College Executive Team (usually the Chief Executive or a director).
- 2.17 Administrative and secretarial support.

3. Members shall serve on the Board for the following periods:

- 3.1 The President and Regional Advisers shall serve for the duration of their terms in those offices.
- 3.2 Elected Members of Council shall serve for the duration of their term of office on Council so long as they remain working in Scotland.
- 3.3 Elected or appointed members shall serve for a term of 3 years and shall be eligible to serve for one further term of 3 years with mutual agreement of the elected member and the Board Chair. The elected Specialty Trainee shall serve for a single term of up to 3 years. The elected Specialty Trainee will normally be expected to resign within one year of appointment as a consultant. Terms of office will normally commence at the next meeting following appointment.
- 3.4 A co-opted member or observer shall serve for the period prescribed by the Board.
- 3.5 Those present 'In attendance' as appropriate.
- 3.6 'Ex-officio' members will be appointed with the approval of the Board Chair and shall serve during their terms in the office they are representing, subject to annual approval by the Board.

- 3.7 The Chair of the Board shall be appointed by the Board after consultation with the members of the Board, following a process approved by Council. The Chair shall normally be an elected member of the Board or an elected member of Council and should have a sound understanding of the work of the Board.
- 3.8 The term of office of the Chair shall normally be 3 years, subject to annual re-appointment. Extension beyond 3 years may be allowed at the discretion of the Council.
- 3.9 The Board shall elect, from among its members, two Vice-Chairs to support the Chair and to deputise for the Chair where required. The Vice-Chairs shall be elected annually for a maximum of 3 years.
- 3.10 The secretariat is provided by the RCPE.
- 3.11 The quorum of the Board shall be 50% or more of those board members identified in 3.1 a, b, c and d.

4. Procedure

- 4.1 The Board shall meet normally a maximum of 4 times per year with all meetings being hybrid. Expenditure on any additional meeting must have the prior written sanction of the Finance and Resources Board of the College.
- 4.2 The Board should be aware of the College's overarching strategy and look to implement it in Scotland.
- 4.3 The minutes of the meeting must go to the Council for review. Where any decision impinges upon the work or jurisdiction of another College committee, the views of that committee must be sought before the matter is brought to Council for approval.
- 4.4 The Chair will present the minutes of Board meetings and other relevant workings of the Board to Council.
- 4.5 Any conflicts of interest must be asked for and declared at the start of each meeting.
- 4.6 The Board may, subject to the College's Charter, Ordinances and Regulations, make any standing order regulating its own procedure provided that these (or any subsequent amendments thereto) shall not take effect until approved by Council.
- 4.7 Subcommittees - Subject to the provisions of Section 15 of the Financial Regulations of the College, the Board may establish any sub-committee or sub-group with such terms of reference and so constituted as the Board may determine, to consider any matter falling within the Board's terms of reference and to report on that matter to the Board.
- 4.8 The Board shall review these Terms of Reference at the last meeting of each year and any changes must be ratified by Council.