Association of Breast Surgery
at The Royal College of Surgeons of England
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Telephone 020 7869 6852
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26th October 2026

Dear ABS Members

Becoming an ABS Trustee, Regional Representative or Committee member

A number of Trustee, regional representative and committee member posts will become vacant at the AGM in May 2027. We are looking to appoint members to these roles in time for May. We would encourage members to consider getting involved in their Association.

Trustee Posts

We are seeking nominations for four Trustee vacancies:

- President/ Vice President (To become Vice President in May 2027 and to serve as President from May 2029 to May 2031)
- Honorary Secretary
- Chair of the Education and Training Committee
- Ordinary Trustee

Requirements to stand for the posts

- Candidates must have been Full Fellows of the Association for at least 5 years prior to the date of their appointment as Trustee.
- Retiring or retired Trustees are not eligible to stand for the posts of Ordinary Trustee, Honorary Secretary or Chair of the Education and Training Committee (other than retiring or retired Ordinary Trustees, who may stand for post of Chair of the Education and Training Committee and Honorary Secretary) until they have demitted office for two years. If no candidates are nominated then a second call for nominations will be circulated and those individuals previously excluded can then be nominated.

Additional requirements to stand for the post of President/ Vice President

- In addition, candidates for the post of President/ Vice President must have acted in one of the following roles in relation to the ABS: an Ordinary Trustee, an Officer, a Regional Representative, chairman of a committee (appointed in accordance with Article 29.3), or Regional Screening Representative, a member of the Screening and Audit Committee, Education and Training, Academic and Research, Clinical Practice & Standards Committee, Aesthetic Breast Surgery or International Committee; or as an Honorary Officer, Committee Chair or an elected representative or screening representative on the ABS at BASO National Committee.

Nomination Process for Trustee posts

- Candidates to be nominated by two Full Fellows or Senior Retired Fellows.

- Full and Senior Retired Fellows may nominate more than one candidate for a post
- All nominations should be submitted by 10am on Monday 1st February 2027
- Nominations should be submitted on the online nominations and elections platform via the **ABS website**

Election process for Officer and Ordinary Trustee posts

- If there is more than one candidate for any of the posts, in order to ensure that as many of the members as possible can participate in the election process, the Full and Senior Retired Fellows will be balloted prior to the AGM to identify the candidate to be proposed to the AGM. The ballot will take place in February & March 2027.
- The preferred candidate from the ballot will then be put to the AGM for a formal vote (by Ordinary Resolution), which formalises the appointment and gives legal force to the result of the ballot.

The deadline for nominations is Monday 1st February 2027 at 10am.

Further information

- Role descriptions for the posts are available and candidates should consider both their suitability for the role and also their other commitments to ensure they would have the time available to undertake the post fully if successful. Should you wish to discuss any of the posts please ring Lucy Davies on 07936 359533.
- Trustee posts (other than Vice President and President) are for a period of 2 years, which may be extended by one further period of 3 years.
- The Executive Board normally meets about 8 times per year. There are currently 3 face to face meetings, with the others being online. Trustees are expected to attend 70% of the meetings in a year and to attend in person when it is a face to face meeting. The Education and Training Committee meets four times per year with 2 meetings currently being online and 2 meetings being held face to face. Trustees may also be expected to serve on other ABS committees as co-opted members.
- There will be a month long transition period between the current and the new post holders following the AGM in May 2027. This is to enable a full handover to take place.

Regional Representative Posts

We are seeking nominations for the regional representative for the following region:

- Yorkshire & Humberside

The regional representatives sit on the Clinical Practice and Standards Committee and play an important role in both representing the views of the full members in their region to the committee and also feeding back from the ABS to the membership. In addition regional representatives may be asked to take on additional roles relating to their committee, such as being involved in guidance writing groups and representing the ABS on other groups such as NICE, PHIN, CORESS etc. They are also now involved in coordinating an ABS regional meeting every two years and reviewing job descriptions for the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

The term of office is 2 years, with a possible extension of 3 years. Candidates must be full members of the Association. A role description is available on the website. The Clinical Practice & Standards Committee meets four times a year. At present 2 meetings per year are virtual and two face to face.

All nominations must be proposed and seconded by two full or senior retired members of the ABS and must be e-mailed to lucydavies@absgbi.org.uk **by the 1st February 2027 at 10am**. The nomination e-mail must come from the person proposing the candidate and name the person acting as seconder. Should an election be required it will be on a first past the post basis of the full and senior retired members of the ABS in the region.

Nurse Member Regional Representative Posts

The Nurse Member Regional Representatives sit on the ABS Nursing Committee and are a vital link between the members in their region and the ABS Nurse Trustee. The ABS is also now holding regional meetings every two years, which the Nurse Member Regional Representatives help support.

The following Regional Representative posts are either vacant immediately or will be vacant when the current representative demits at the AGM in May 2027.

- Eastern (vacant from May 2027)
- London (vacant)
- Merseyside (vacant)
- Northern Ireland (vacant from May 2027)
- Scotland (vacant)
- South East Coast (vacant)
- Wales (vacant)

Further information

The Nurse Member Regional Representative should be an affiliate or nurse member, who works in the region they are to represent. They represent the members in their region on the Nursing Committee and are also involved in the organisation of an ABS regional meeting every two years.

Candidates must be able to attend at least two committee meetings per year and be available to attend face to face meetings. ABS Committees now meet four times a year. Generally two meetings are virtual and two meetings are face to face. Committee members are expected to work in between time on various committee projects. Regional representative posts are for a period of 2 years, which may be extended by one further period of 3 years.

Application process

Members wishing to apply for these committee roles should send a letter by e-mail to lucydavies@absgbi.org.uk by the **1st February 2027 at 10am,** naming the role they are applying for and stating the relevant experience they have to fulfil the role. A short (3 page maximum) CV should be included for reference. There are no elections for nursing regional representative roles but selection will be made by the committee members and chairs on the merit of the applications and the needs/ composition of the committees at the time and are approved by the Executive Board.

Committee vacancies – Call for expressions of interest for roles for committee members

We are also calling for expressions of interest for a number of vacancies on ABS Committees. The available posts are as follows:

Academic & Research Committee

- 2 member vacancies
- 1 nurse member vacancy

Education and Training Committee

- 1 member vacancy
- 1 AHP member vacancy

Aesthetic Breast Surgery Committee

- 2 member vacancies

Global Health Committee (formerly the International Committee)

- 3 member vacancies
- 2 nurse member vacancies

Further information

Applicants for the committee member vacancies must be members of the ABS but can be of any grade. Please note, however, that many of the committees have trainee representatives as part of the membership. The nurse and AHP vacancies outlined are specifically for members working in those roles.

Candidates must be able to attend at least two committee meetings per year and be available to attend face to face meetings. ABS Committees now meet four times a year. Generally two meetings are virtual and two meetings are face to face. Committee members are expected to work in between time on various committee projects. Members should only sit on one ABS Committee at a time. Committee posts are for a period of 2 years, which may be extended by one further period of 3 years.

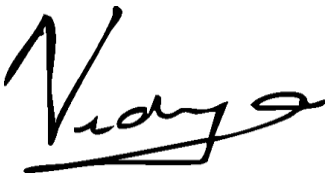
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Should you wish to discuss any of the posts please contact Lucy Davies on 07936 359533 or by e-mail at lucydavies@absgbi.org.uk

We encourage ABS members to take these opportunities to become more involved in the work of their Association.

Kind regards



Raghavan Vidya
Honorary Secretary