



The Role of Trustee responsible for Research Policy

This role holder is a **Director and Trustee** of the BNA. They are therefore listed with both Companies House and the Charity Commission.

As with all BNA Trustees, this is an unremunerated position. The term of office for all Trustees is four years, with the retirement date being that of the next Annual General Meeting to take place following the completion of four years in office. There is the option of standing for a second term. There must then be a break of at least one year before standing again for a Trustee position, unless the individual is standing for one of the Officer positions (BNA President, Secretary or Treasurer).

For full details of election, period of office, resignation and all aspects of governance applying to this role and all Trustees, see the Articles and Rules of Association.

It should be noted that all trustees are jointly responsible for all aspects of the BNA. However, the Trustee with responsibility for Research Policy is expected to **take the lead at Council level** on:

- **consulting the membership on research priorities** for UK neuroscience
- where appropriate, **recommending courses of action and solutions for how the BNA can address needs of research and researchers** identified through these consultation processes, e.g. meeting unmet training demands.
- coordinating the drafting and review of **BNA policies for research-related activities** e.g. the use of animals in research
- being the **primary representative of the BNA's views and policies** to research-related decision-makers, e.g. UKRI, and at **research policy meetings** such as those held by the Royal Society of Biology, e.g. on the impact of government budget on research funding
- working with the BNA's Student and Early Career Representative to improve ways the BNA can **assist its members with career development** – at all stages but particularly those early in their career, and including alternative career pathways
- working with the BNA's Education and Engagement Secretary **to improve the teaching of neuroscience at all levels of education**
- liaising with office staff and with the BNA's editor to **keep members updated on research policy news**
- **reporting on research policy matters to the Council** at quarterly Council meetings
- **reporting on research policy matters to the members** via the Trustees' Annual Report

Delegation

Although Trustees are ultimately responsible for all aspects of governance and good management of the BNA, they are able to delegate powers and functions (see Article 42). In the BNA most day to day tasks are delegated to the Chief Executive and Executive Assistant. The Trustee for Research Policy would be supported in all activities by BNA office staff.

More information

All BNA Trustees must be familiar with the Association's Articles and Rules. See bna.org.uk/about/governance/#governing-documents.

All Trustees should also read the Charity Commission publication, '*The Essential Trustee*', available at gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3.