



The Role of the Past-President

The Past-President is a **Director and Trustee** of the BNA. The Past-President is therefore listed with both Companies House and the Charity Commission. The Past-President's term of office is two years, following immediately from holding the office of President. A Past President may not hold further office for the Association as President-Elect or President. The Past-President, as with all Trustees, is an unremunerated position.

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

The Past-President, along with the President and President-Elect, acts as a figurehead of the BNA. They should therefore be a high-ranking individual within the UK neuroscience community with strong links to national, European and international neuroscience, as well as links to policy makers, biomedical charities and funding councils. They help the President to represent the Association externally, and should make use of their position and contacts to further the aims and activities of the BNA.

Although all trustees are jointly responsible for the governance, decision-making and direction of the BNA, the Past-President is expected to **take the lead at Council level** on:

- Representing the BNA at the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS).
- Working with the President in developing and achieving overarching strategic direction
- Supporting the President in all their responsibilities
- In absence of the President, chairing Council and National Advisory Committee meetings (article 40(2)).
- in absence of the President, being a spokesperson for the BNA
- reporting on matters to the Council at quarterly Council meetings

The Past-President, if chairing a meeting, has a second or casting vote if a vote on a trustees' or members' decision is tied, as specified in the BNA's Articles (Articles 37(5) and 25, and rule 6.5).

More information

The BNA Past-President must be familiar with the Association's Articles and Rules.

More information about being a Trustee can be found in Charity Commission publication, 'The Essential Trustee', available at [gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3) and support.