

**From the President**  
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18 July 2025

Dear Fellows,

**Call for nominations: Council election 2025**

**I am pleased to invite you to submit nominations for this year's Council election.**

In December 2025, Professor Kathryn Maitland OBE FMedSci and Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu DBE FMedSci will complete their terms as Ordinary Members of Council. In addition, two Co-opted Members of Council, Professor Franklin Aigbirhio FMedSci and Dr Felicity Gabbay FMedSci will reach their maximum terms. We are very grateful to them for their significant contributions to the Academy over this period and thank them for their time and commitment. The two open positions for Ordinary Members, each with a three-year term, will be filled through this year's Council election.

**As the Academy's foremost decision-making body, nothing epitomises the dynamic strength of your collective voice more than Council.** Its membership should therefore reflect the depth and breadth of the medical sciences across our Fellowship, from discovery science, industry and technology to clinical academia and the nursing, midwifery and allied health professions. We are a National Academy, therefore we are actively seeking candidates for Council from across the whole of the United Kingdom, through the regions and from the four nations and also candidates from an industry background to enhance expertise on Council.

Following the ballot, the Nominations Committee will review the composition of Council for next year, focussing on subject, sector and geographical representation to make recommendations for Fellows who might be appointed as Co-opted Council members. Three Co-opted Council places are available for 2026. These positions, appointed for one year in the first instance - but subject to annual re-appointment for two subsequent years on the approval of Council, are independent of the result of the Council ballot. It is Council's responsibility to use the powers enabled to it by the Academy's governing documents to appoint such members to address issues of balance in the composition of our Trustee Board. The purpose is to help ensure our principal governing body includes the wide range of skills, background and experience needed to oversee the Academy's work and reflect the breadth of our community across the UK.

Our science does not exist in a vacuum. It is also important that the Academy Council should be representative of the richly diverse society we live in. We welcome and encourage nominations from Fellows of under-represented backgrounds including gender, ethnicity, disability and sexual orientation.

If you know someone who would make an excellent addition to the Academy Council, please do reach out to them and encourage them to put themselves forward. Standing for Council can be a daunting prospect, while some are happy to step forward, others may be waiting for encouragement from another Fellow they

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know and trust. You can read more about how Fellows can support diverse nominations in this Academy blog - [5 things Fellows can do to support diversity in decision making](#).

**Council roles are open to all Academy Fellows - including those most recently elected – and I hope you will consider standing or encourage a colleague to do so.**

It's an exciting time to join us in our quest to be ambitious, bold and a force for innovation in medical science across the UK and internationally. Our policy work to drive the greatest health gains for society is much in demand by Government. We are building collaborations to amplify the impact and influence of the Academy with partners in academia, the NHS, industry, and regulation. As an elected Council member and trustee, you will also play an important role in helping formulate our plans, ensuring we are compliant with charity law and helping us achieve longer term financial stability for our workstreams.

If you wish to informally discuss the role of Council members, or how the Academy's Council operates more broadly, please do contact me or our interim Chief Executive Officer, Jill Lockett ([jill.lockett@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:jill.lockett@acmedsci.ac.uk)). You may also wish to connect with existing [Council members](#) or one of our [Regional Champions](#) to find out more about the Academy's work.

Fellows interested in standing in this year's election are asked to complete the nomination form and return it to the Interim Chief Executive Officer c/o Alison Rojo ([alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)) **by 17:00 Monday 8 September 2025**.

We look forward to receiving your nominations.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Andrew Morris CBE FRSE PMedSci

### **Council election process and dates 2025**

Our Council election is held digitally. Voting will open on 1 October. Fellows will be emailed voting instructions by our election provider, [Civica](#). Votes will be counted on 7 November and the results of the election will be announced at the AGM on 3 December.

The election is overseen and supported by the Academy's [Nominations Committee](#). Further [guidance notes](#) including the current composition of Council, tentative dates for next year's Council meetings and the [nomination form](#) are provided on the [Academy website](#) where you can also find the published [Terms of Reference](#) for the Academy Council.

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