

Scottish Branch Council

Role description and person specification

Overall purpose

To ensure that Scottish Branch Council fulfils its primary role of:

- contributing to the furtherance of BVA's mission to be the leading body representing, supporting and championing the whole UK veterinary profession, through engagement with members;
- fostering the interests of the veterinary profession in Scotland;
- promoting BVA in Scotland;
- assisting BVA in its activities by advising on the consensus view of Scotland members on Scotland and United Kingdom issues particularly with reference to the Scottish Parliament, Scottish Government, the National Farmers' Union Scotland and Scottish animal welfare organisations;
- promoting meetings in any part of Scotland for the discussion of veterinary topics and kindred subjects.

Duties and activities

- Taking part in Branch Council teleconferences twice a year and attending the Branch AGM.
- Reading papers, research and other information presented to Branch Council in preparation for debates and discussions.
- Contributing actively to the work of Branch outside of the meetings via Glasscubes.
- Liaising closely with and supporting the other members of Branch Council.
- Representing Scottish Branch to stakeholders and at external meetings, in liaison with the secretariat.
- Supporting BVA Young Vet Network activity in Scotland.
- Safeguarding and promoting the good name and values of BVA and Scottish Branch.
- Complying with the BVA Code of Conduct for volunteers.

Term of office

Branch Council members shall nominally serve for a term of up to three years.

Person specification

- Resident in Scotland

- MRCVS and BVA membership.
- Commitment to promoting and furthering the interests of the veterinary profession, and of BVA and Scottish Branch.
- Willingness to commit the necessary time and effort to fulfil the specified duties and activities.
- Interest in and some knowledge of veterinary politics.

Knowledge, skills and experience

Not all of these are essential for each individual but across Branch Council we require a mix of:

- Committee experience
- Policy development skills and experience
- Strategic thinking
- Evidence gathering and research
- Analysis and evaluation
- Excellent oral communication skills and ability to engage positively in debate and discussion
- Decision making
- Teamwork
- Problem solving
- Understanding of the political and cultural climate in which BVA seeks to influence policy makers
- Understanding of the current veterinary landscape, and in particular the issues impacting on Scotland

Other

Across Branch Council we are looking to ensure a range of expertise, interests, and backgrounds.

Expenses

Membership of Branch Council is voluntary and unpaid but members are reimbursed for travel and other expenses incurred, in line with [BVA's member expenses policy](#).

Declarations of interest and confidentiality

All members of Branch Council are required to complete a confidentiality agreement and declarations of interest form at the start of their term, and to notify the secretariat if the declaration needs to be updated

For more information please contact ameliaf@bva.co.uk

Last updated: June 2020