



## RCOG President – Role Description

### The President:

- is the elected head of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the guardian of its mission and values
- ensures that the activities of the College are to improve women's health, nationally and internationally
- acts as the professional leader for women's health, obstetrics and gynaecology throughout the UK and as an ambassador for the specialty both in the UK and internationally.

### Main duties

1. Acts as an ambassador and champion for the science and practice of women's health, obstetrics and gynaecology.
2. Chairs the RCOG Council, the elected professional body of the RCOG, responsible for all professional, clinical and scientific matters for the College worldwide.
3. Is a member of the Board of Trustees, responsible for the governance of the RCOG as a charity and for all legal, financial and resource matters.
4. Ensures that the RCOG meets its charitable objectives and operates in keeping with its Royal Charter and College Regulations, the beneficiaries being women in the UK and throughout the world.
5. With support from the Board of Trustees and Chief Executive, ensures that the College acts in accordance with charity law, charity code of conduct, Equality Act and RCOG codes of conduct.
6. Is responsible to the Board of Trustees and Council for the development and delivery of strategic plans of the RCOG, supported by the Board of Trustees, Officers and Executive Directors.
7. Ensures that the RCOG serves and promotes the interests of its members in providing women's health services and addresses their concerns.
8. Leads the team of Officers, agreeing their portfolios and priorities and overseeing progress and performance of Officers' aims and objectives.
9. Creates strong relationships with national and international bodies to support the work of the College and to promote excellence in the delivery of obstetric and gynaecological care, including Government departments, the NHS nationally and locally, devolved governments, regulatory and arm's length bodies, women's health charities, NGOS, opinion formers and standard setters,
10. Encourages innovation and development to ensure that RCOG activities are progressive and relevant to changes in medicine and patient expectations.
11. Acts as the chief spokesperson for the RCOG.
12. Appraises Officers and CEO.
13. Oversees the performance appraisal of Council members undertaken by Officers.

### Key working relationships at the RCOG

- Officers
- Chief Executive and Executive Directors
- Chair and members of the Board of Trustees
- Leadership team

- External Affairs team
- Council members
- Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Royal College of Midwives
- Academy of Royal Medical Colleges
- Key national partner organisations, including the Department of Health, NHS England, NHS Improvement, NHS Resolution, Health Education England, NICE, HQIP, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Health Foundation, specialist societies and other Royal Colleges.
- The President will develop a wide set of working relationships, including the UK Departments of Health, NHS bodies, PHE, CQC, GMC, BMA, RCN, health policy bodies, women's health charities, independent sector.
- Also with key global organisations contributing to women's health including WHO, FIGO, UNFPA, IPPF, ACOG, AFOG, AOCOG, COGA, EBCOG, FLASOG, FOGSI, RANZCOG, SAFOG.

## Commitments

- The Presidential role is demanding and requires significant work at the RCOG in London and daily attendance to College matters. In addition, there are regular engagements at the weekends and in the evenings.
- National and overseas travel is frequently required.
- The President is required to chair all Council meetings, Fellowship and Membership admission ceremonies, and other notable Boards and committees. The President is an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees and also attends a number of other meetings, both ex officio and by invitation.
- The President is an ex officio member of the Academy of Royal Medical Colleges and is required to attend their Council meetings.
- As the ambassador of the College, the President will attend many events of partner organisations and will be expected to represent the College at many high-profile meetings. These will often involve senior members of the UK Government, national and overseas Governments, members of royal families, and senior civil servants and diplomats.
- Fundraising, bequests and grant bidding is an important part of the College's work and from time to time the President will be expected to lead grant bids and fundraising activities.

## Terms

The President shall not normally hold office for more than 3 consecutive years, unless there is a national emergency. Election takes place by a ballot of all eligible Fellows and Members in the UK and Ireland. (Please see RCOG Regulations and the election section of the College website for more information).

On application, the College will consider a financial contribution to the President's employing organisation towards time on College business.

Appropriate accommodation and expenses will be provided for the President whilst on College business.