

FEDERATION OF SURGICAL SPECIALTY ASSOCIATIONS

Constitution

1. The Federation is the corporate body of the Specialty Surgical Associations, through which it represents and coordinates the views, aims and policies of surgeons from across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

The Federation will work with all relevant authorities to advance the profession of surgery for the benefit of patients.

The Federation's purpose is:-

- a. To advance, promote and protect the highest standards in the practice of Surgery in the best interests of patients
 - b. To provide a unique source of unbiased specialist advice on surgical matters to the Health Departments of the UK, Republic of Ireland and beyond
 - c. To be a source of specialist advice to all four Surgical Royal Colleges equally
 - d. To provide a forum to debate issues pertinent to the Surgical Specialist Associations
2. The Federation shall be composed of the President or appointed designated senior officer of those Surgical Specialty Associations, which are recognized by the Specialist Advisory Committee for Surgery. These are as follows:

British Orthopaedic Association
Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland
British Association of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
Society of British Neurological Surgeons
Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery in Great Britain and Ireland
British Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons
British Association of Urological Surgeons
British Association of Paediatric Surgeons
British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland

An individual's term of membership should be determined by his or her parent Association. A minimum of one year, but where possible, two to three years would be preferable in order to ensure continuity. In addition the President or designated senior officer of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland shall be invited to attend meetings as an observer.

3. The President of the Federation shall be elected by a ballot of the current members from those Specialty Representatives who have served on the

Federation during the period of the demitting President. The maximum term of office shall be three years.

The process of the Presidential election shall be by single transferable vote. The mechanism for selection of the President shall be that at each round, the nominee with the fewest votes shall be discarded and that those votes shall be allocated to the voter's next choice of nominee.

4. The President or his or her deputy shall represent the Federation at any meetings as appropriate.
5. The Vice President shall also be the Honorary Treasurer of the Federation and shall be nominated and elected from amongst the current members and shall oversee the Federation's financial affairs. The Vice President may continue to hold office for as long as he or she represents his or her Association on the Federation. The maximum term of office shall be three years.
6. Meetings shall normally be held four times a year. Supplementary meetings may be held to discuss items for the Surgical Forum of Great Britain and Ireland agenda.
7. Each Specialty Association shall be responsible for the expenses of its representative and as a group, for the expenses of the President and administrative support.
8. The Constitution of the Federation may be amended at any ordinary meeting of the Federation of Surgical Specialty Associations where notice has been given of the general nature of that business on the agenda. Five Members present shall be a quorum.

17th July 2012