



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

Northern Ireland Regional Council Member

Role Description

- Eligibility:** Any Fellow of the College whose address, as shown in the College Register, is in Northern Ireland
- Nominated by:** One Fellow of the College whose address, as shown in the College Register, is in Northern Ireland
- Appointed by:** If there is more than one nomination per post, a ballot of all voting members of the Northern Ireland Regional Council will be held
- Accountable to:** Northern Ireland Regional Council
- Term of office:** Three years from appointment
- Commitment:** Three Regional Council meetings per year plus annual Regional symposium and any work related to these meetings. Please note that this post is not remunerated.

The College

This College has a key role in the professional aspects of pathology services in the development and delivery of healthcare. Those holding office in the College provide professional leadership and thereby contribute at a national level to the maintenance and development of pathology services and the quality of care that patients receive. The College expects its office holders to be proactive and to provide leadership, not only in their own specialty, but also in pathology in general, in the wider context of health services. The College's influence extends to all sectors of healthcare provision.

The College is its membership, and the coordination, coherence and consistency between national, regional and local activities is paramount. All office holders are expected to subscribe to these principles. The Honorary Officers (President, 3 Vice-Presidents for Communications, Learning and Professionalism, Registrar, Assistant Registrar, Treasurer) play a key role and work together to ensure coherent College advice and guidance across the areas of College activity at the international, national, regional and local levels through the College Directors, and the English Regional representatives. Devolved Nation representatives provide the professional leadership within their nation. The College also provides advice and guidance on specialty-specific issues nationally, regionally and locally. The Specialty Advisory Committees provide professional leadership within their specialty.

Summary of the role

Northern Ireland Regional Council Members will provide professional leadership within their region. Members will use their skills and experience to support the Northern Ireland Regional Council so that it runs efficiently and delivers against its Terms of Reference.

In between formal meetings, much of the committee work is dealt with electronically. The post holder is expected to respond to electronic requests. To facilitate Job Planning for those involved, all Regional Council meetings are scheduled in the months of March, September and December. An annual symposium is held every year in May or June.

Post-holders are expected to attend Northern Ireland Regional Council meetings (three times a year) and the annual symposium; also support Regional Council work on a regular basis.

Members will assist the Northern Ireland Regional Council Chair in providing advice to local Health and Social Care Boards and other healthcare providers on provision of pathology services and on acceptable standards of practice approved by the College.

In addition, they will:

- Represent the College on external bodies, where appropriate, as agreed by the Regional Council.
- Review the Council's regional structure as and when appropriate.
- Develop working relationships with a range of external partners in relation to Pathology in Northern Ireland.
- Advise the Regional Council on local problems affecting standards of practice in pathology where there are wider implications for Northern Ireland.
- Support the organisation of local educational and social events as appropriate.
- Communicate locally with members, Fellows and Trainees as appropriate.
- Strive to attend the Annual Regional Symposium.