



Registered as a charity in England & Wales number 1135661

Council Election Regulations

These guidelines support the Administrative Provisions as set out in the MNA Constitution Parts; 15 -National Councillors; 16. Election of Councillors; and 17. National Executive Committee Officers.

Election of Councillors

1. All Council members are elected, or re-elected, at an AGM for a period of five years.
2. In exceptional cases, such as during a national emergency this period can be extended but, ideally, for no more than an additional 12 months.
3. In the event that a vacancy occurs between AGMs that position will remain unfilled until the next AGM.

Nomination and Election Process

- At least 6 calendar months before an AGM all those Councillors who are due to retire will be notified by the National Secretary.
- At least 4 calendar months before an AGM all subscribing members will be notified of the date of the AGM and given the opportunity to submit applications to be elected as Councillors.
- Existing Councillors may stand for re-election.
- There are up to 21 Councillors permitted within the Constitution. In the event that more members apply to become Councillors than there are vacancies the National Secretary will arrange a ballot and distribute voting forms to all members (normally accompanying a copy of Full Ahead). These will also be made available on-line.
- All ballot papers must be returned by post, or email (specifically only from the email address they have registered with the Association), to the National Secretary. These must be received no later than 21 days before the Election AGM. Emails will be acknowledged but the Association will not take responsibility for postal ballots unless the member sends it by a secure postal service (e.g. Next Day Guaranteed Delivery).
- The ballot papers will be counted by the National Secretary and verified by another member of the Executive Committee.
- In the event of an identical count, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- The results of the ballot will be announced by the National Secretary at the Election AGM.

Person specification for a Councillor

Eligibility Every National Councillor shall:

- have been a continuous member of the Association for at least twenty-four months.
- have been able to demonstrate a commitment that helps to advance the Association's Objectives.
- be willing to serve for a period of five years.
- familiarise themselves with the responsibilities of a trustee as set down in the Charity Commission's guidelines (the National Secretary will provide the relevant links).
- familiarise themselves with, and be supportive of, the associations Constitution and objectives.
- be willing to set aside time to assist managing the affairs the Association.
- have access to the internet and reasonable basic IT skills.
- be willing to attend at least two face-to-face meetings annually.
- be willing to attend at least two on-line meetings.
- be willing to consider taking on a role within the Executive Committee.

Election of the Executive Committee

Once the Council elections have been concluded the new Council shall be responsible to elect, from among themselves a:

- Chairman
- Vice chairman
- Deputy vice chairman

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership secretary
- Events & welfare secretary.

Approved by Council 24th April 2021