

Women in Cardiology Committee (Responsible Trustee: Honorary Secretary – Dr Guy Lloyd until June 2022; from June 2022 VP Professional and Society Ethics – tbc, Chair Dr Rebecca Dobson)

Promoting gender equality and equal opportunities within Cardiology is a key aim of the BCS. An elected member for Women in Cardiology (WiC) sits on the BCS Council and leads on WiC activities and initiatives aligned to BCS strategic goals. Until now the WiC elected lead has driven initiatives through informal networks without the benefit of more formal internal structures within the BCS.

To reflect the need for increasing emphasis on issues of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, a new VP role has been approved by the BCS Board of Trustees which will come in to effect from June 2022 as part of the 'reshaping of the BCS' during its Centennial year. This will be further supported by the establishment of new formal committees; one of which is the 'WiC' Committee.

The WiC Committee acts as an advisory body to the BCS Executive and Board of Trustees. It is responsible for shaping and delivering the WiC strategy of the British Cardiovascular Society and issues recommendations and proposals to the Executive Committee and Board in relation to BCS WiC activities, initiatives and future plans aligned to key strategic goals for agreement.

This new Committee is chaired by the elected WiC representative. The Committee seeks to address issues pertinent to women in Cardiology and develop initiatives that promote gender equality within cardiology advising and driving programmes of work to this end. The committee also work to engage and encourage women considering a career in cardiology into the specialty.

The Committee's remit includes supporting the development and maintenance of a professional network of women cardiologists; delivering a WiC conference; developing content for the BCS WiC website; ensuring a WiC presence at BCS Conference and other external events promoting Cardiology as a specialty to women who are significantly underrepresented; ensuring that women in Cardiology and equality considerations are embedded in all BCS activities from education, to resources, to training and beyond.

Elected members are expected to attend committee meetings and actively engage in the work of the committee between meetings, leading on initiatives as directed by the Chair.

The Women in Cardiology Committee formally meets monthly (at least 75% attendance required), via Teams (with occasional face to face meetings when circumstances

permit), and elected members serve a term of three years.

Committee members report to: Chair

Chair reports to: Honorary Secretary until June 2022 then reporting line changes to VP Professional and Society Ethics

VP Professional and Society Ethics reports to: Executive (operational) and Board of Trustees (sets and approves strategy)

Eligibility for standing: In order to stand for elected posts on the BCS Committee applicants must be Ordinary, Joint or Affiliated Members of the BCS.