

BMA canvassing guide

Name: Committee elections guide

Date: 2022



Canvassing guidelines

When canvassing:

- Role model BMA behaviours at all times in the election process.
- Highlight your strengths and experience.
- Don't make negative comments about rival candidates.
- Don't put pressure on people to vote for you or ask others to do so.
- Don't make promises you can't keep – you will be held to account in the next round of elections.

Candidates must not use BMA resources to canvass voters, including:

- BMA Listservers
- BMA social media accounts
- BMA email addresses
- BMA staff resource

While canvassing through personal social media accounts and emails is allowed, you must ensure that any communication does not contravene any policies of any organisation, forum or group and is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

If you're not sure what is acceptable, ask for advice from the committee secretary or elections team: elections@bma.org.uk

Oversight and sanctions

The BMA's Chief Executive (or their nominated deputy) is the returning officer for all BMA elections.

These election rules are referenced in the BMA code of conduct (referred to as the BMA canvassing guide) and not adhering to these rules can lead to an investigation under the code of conduct and sanctions applied through the BMA's resolution process.