

Application Statements for BAPM Executive Committee 2026

Instructions

BAPM has received the following application statements from members wishing to join the Executive Committee. Please read all the statements and cast your vote by completing the online form by **11:59pm, 20 July**. All BAPM members will be emailed a link to the form to vote. If you have not received this please contact bapm@rcpch.ac.uk.

All ordinary BAPM members are entitled to vote in all categories. Votes will be counted by BAPM Office staff and will be treated completely confidentially.

Roles for which a ballot of the membership will decide:

- Data Representative – 5 Applicants
- Honorary Secretary – 2 Applicants
- Nurses Representative – 7 Applicants
- AHPPP Representative – 3 Applicants

Data Representative – 5 Applicants

Giles Kendall

Job Title: Consultant Neonatologist

Hospital: University College London Hospital

I am a Consultant Neonatologist with a commitment to improving the quality of care through effective use of data. For almost 20 years, I have been responsible for local data collection, reporting, and national data submissions.

I have a proven track record in leadership including as Clinical Lead for Neonatal Medicine at UCLH, Clinical lead for North Central London as part of the London Operational Delivery Network, and Neonatal Digital Transformation Lead for NHS London. I led the neonatal implementation of a Trust wide Electronic Health Record System (EHRS) and recognise the associated complexity and challenges. Drawing on this experience I led the development of the BAPM EPR toolkit for neonatal services.

A key priority is harmonisation of metrics and data collection across perinatal services. I strongly support the principles of “measure once, use everywhere”, creating “one version of the truth” and reducing duplication in data entry and reporting; I have worked closely with digital midwifery teams both locally and regionally to improve data integration across services.

I believe in measuring what we should, rather than choosing clinical metrics just because we can measure them. I would provide experience and expertise as work commences to review and revise the national neonatal dataset ensuring we collect and share meaningful data.

The rapidly evolving NHS digital landscape presents a unique opportunity to rethink what data we collect, how we collect it, and how we share it across the perinatal community. I believe BAPM should play a leading role in shaping this future.

Mohammed Khalifa

Job Title: Paediatric trainee

Hospital: Liverpool Women's Hospital

I am delighted to put myself forward for the role of BAPM Data Lead. As an ST3 Paediatric Trainee in the North West and former Neonatal Senior Clinical Fellow at King's College Hospital, I have developed a strong interest in using high-quality data to improve neonatal care, support service development, and drive better outcomes for babies and their families.

Data has been a central theme throughout my career. My Master's research explored the relationship between superior vena cava flow and intraventricular haemorrhage in preterm infants, resulting in publication in the European Journal of Pediatrics. I have extensive experience in data collection, statistical analysis, and interpretation using SPSS and Excel, and have contributed to several neonatal research projects and publications.

I am passionate about translating data into meaningful change. At King's College Hospital, I led quality improvement projects including Gentamicin therapeutic drug monitoring, which informed

changes to clinical practice and reduced unnecessary costs, and a trans-pyloric feeding audit that was presented at local, regional, and international meetings (ESPGHAN 2025).

My leadership experience as a neonatal unit manager and rota coordinator has strengthened my ability to work collaboratively, engage colleagues, and deliver projects across multidisciplinary teams.

If elected, I would bring enthusiasm, analytical skills, and a commitment to supporting BAPM's strategic objectives. I am keen to help strengthen the use of neonatal data across the UK, promote evidence-based practice, and ensure that data continues to drive improvements in care, education, and service delivery for our profession and the families we serve.

Adam King

Job Title: Consultant Neonatologist

Hospital: Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth

I have trained in neonatal units where there has been a strong emphasis on collecting, analysing and investigating trends in local data. Over many years, this has aided the robust scrutiny of local care processes that lead to the department's outcomes. Having seen this working at a local level, it would be interesting to apply these lessons to a wider, national cohort of babies. By working collaboratively across neonatal networks - for example as is currently being done in the nano-preterm group - I believe that the whole profession can strive for the very best outcomes and to benchmark appropriate quality standards.

Research plays an important role in providing aspects of data that improve patient care. In my department, there is a strong ethos in approaching families to discuss research opportunities, and we are proactive in recruiting families to participate. When my own daughter was born prematurely, she was enrolled in FEED-1 and Harmonie. It has been exciting for her to be involved with research which has changed the neonatal landscape, with Nirsevimab now being rolled out routinely. I think that every baby's unique neonatal journey can be valued through contributing to how we understand and improve perinatal care.

My current clinical role includes being perinatal optimisation lead, and so I regularly review data trends across many measures. I have been able to use this to guide and inform an ongoing QI project to significantly improve the rate of deferred cord clamping, while addressing concerns around potential balancing measures.

Katherine Pettinger

Job Title: St7

Hospital: Leeds teaching hospitals trust

I would like to nominate myself for the role of BAPM Data Lead.

I am a GRID trainee in Yorkshire and a Clinical Lecturer, combining clinical practice with academic research. This role particularly appeals to me because I am passionate about how high-quality data can be harnessed to improve outcomes for babies and families, inform service development, and support research and quality improvement across neonatal care.

I have previously served on the Executive Committee as the Trainee Representative (2022-2025). During that time, I organised three successful Spring Conferences and established the BAPM Student Essay Competition, experiences that gave me valuable insight into the organisation and its work. My academic work has a focus on the use of large datasets in neonatal and paediatric research. My PhD utilised big data methodologies, and I have since published research using NNAP data. Through both my clinical and academic roles, I have developed an appreciation of the opportunities and challenges of collecting, interpreting and applying neonatal data to improve care.

I also bring a personal perspective as a parent of a child born preterm, which reinforces my commitment to ensuring that data is used meaningfully to improve outcomes and experiences for babies and their families.

As a Clinical Lecturer, I have greater flexibility within my job plan to attend meetings and contribute actively to BAPM projects and strategic priorities. I would be delighted to support BAPM in this important role.

Dr Sandeep Shetty

Job Title: Consultant Neonatologist

Hospital: St George's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

I am a Consultant Neonatologist and NNAP Lead Consultant at St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, where I have led data quality improvement since 2017. Under my leadership, St George's achieved three NNAP Outstanding ratings in 2024 - for non-invasive ventilation, breastmilk by day two and retinopathy of prematurity screening, demonstrating sustained data-driven quality improvement and performance significantly above national benchmarks.

I have been the Neonatal Quality Lead for South West London Maternity and Neonatal Services (SWLMNS) since 2023. I established a monthly cross-network data managers' meeting bringing together professionals from five NHS trusts alongside the London Senior Neonatal Data Analyst and Health Innovation Network South London. This model has been recognised as innovative and is being considered for adoption across London.

Data-driven interventions through the SWLMNS programme have resulted in a 38% reduction in in-utero transfer refusal rates since November 2023 and preterm care bundle compliance of 39% compared with a national average of 22%. Data managers are now recognised as key improvement partners, a genuine culture shift.

My research experience is extensive, including an MD (Res) in Neonatal Ventilation, a Cochrane systematic review, multiple NIHR-supported trials as Principal Investigator, and a TACRI Senior Research Fellowship.

I believe data should drive improvement, not just measure it. As BAPM Data Lead, I would bring practical experience of translating complex neonatal data into actionable change at unit, network and national levels, and the collaborative leadership required to deliver BAPM's data strategy and represent the organisation externally.

Honorary Secretary – 2 Applicants

Ashok Karupaiah

Job Title: Consultant

Hospital: Walsall Manor Hospital NHS Trust

I am a Consultant Neonatal Paediatrician in a LNU. I have worked in the consultant role for nearly 9 years. I was Neonatal clinical lead for my unit for 4 years from 2020-2024. I was appointed as the Black Country LMNS Clinical Director for Neonates from September 2023 to March 2025.

As Clinical lead for neonatal unit I focussed on improved partnership work with obstetric and midwifery colleagues which resulted in better outcome for the less than 27 -week pathway and improved multidisciplinary counselling for preterm births.

In the Black Country LMNS CD role, I co-chaired Best Start meetings which brought together maternity colleagues and multidisciplinary professionals. I contributed to ideas and the establishment of the Neonatal Partnership Board in the LMNS. I led the peer review of neonatal units in the Black country in 2024. I helped establish into routine practice the daily 12:30 pm Webex maternity and neonatal meetings between the four units in the Black country. I contributed to the collaborative work in the creation of the Out of Pathway Review Tool (OOPRT) to help analyse the various factors in the decision making in the less than 27-week pathway.

In my current role I am POCUS lead for the unit. I am a BAPM member. I was on the assessor panel for neonatal grid interviews.

My personal experience as a parent of preterm twins has given me significant insight into my own practice. I have a far-sighted approach to issues and don't lose perspective of the larger picture.

Vimal Vasu

Job Title: Consultant Neonatologist

Hospital: William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, Kent

I am standing for Honorary Secretary because BAPM plays a unique role in bringing together multidisciplinary expertise to improve and shape future perinatal care. Through my involvement in BAPM, I have seen how collaboration can improve care for babies and families across the UK and would value the opportunity to contribute more directly to that work.

Over recent years, I have become increasingly involved in key BAPM initiatives. I was a member of the Consultant Working Patterns Working Group, contributed to the Enhanced Shared Decision Making Framework and currently co-chair an NHS England commissioned multidisciplinary BAPM working group evaluating implementation of the BAPM Perinatal Palliative Care Framework. These experiences have given me a strong understanding of how BAPM develops standards, supports members and influences national practice, while strengthening my ability to build consensus, work across professional boundaries and turn ideas into practice.

I have been a Consultant Neonatologist for nearly 18 years with experience spanning clinical leadership, education and research. As Co-Director of Neonatal Update (Imperial College), I have



gained extensive experience in conference leadership and collaborative working through one of the UK's leading neonatal conferences.

If elected as Honorary Secretary, I would work closely with members, officers and the BAPM team to support delivery of the 2025–2028 strategy. My priorities would be to strengthen member engagement, support development and implementation of high-quality frameworks and standards, promote education and networking opportunities, and help ensure BAPM remains an inclusive, trusted and influential voice for babies, families and professionals.

Nurses Representative – 7 Applicants

Lisa Amey-Wood

Job Title: Matron for Neonates- DBTH

Hospital: Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH)

Please accept this as my supporting statement as nurse representative. I am an experienced neonatal nurse leader with 30 years in paediatric nursing, including 26 years within neonatal services across a variety of clinical and leadership roles. Throughout my career, I have remained committed to improving outcomes and experiences for babies, families and staff through compassionate leadership, collaboration and quality improvement.

My experience includes working as an Infant Feeding and ATAIN Maternity Lead and Community Neonatal Lead, supporting multidisciplinary approaches to improve neonatal outcomes. For the past five years, I have worked as a Neonatal Matron across two NHS trusts, leading on patient safety, governance, workforce development, service improvement and family-centred care.

I am passionate about ensuring the nursing voice is represented at a strategic level and believe my breadth of experience would allow me to contribute effectively to the BAPM Executive Committee. I have significant experience supporting teams through change, embedding learning from incidents and family feedback, and promoting collaborative working across organisations and professional groups.

I would value the opportunity to represent neonatal nursing colleagues nationally and help influence policy, workforce development and standards of care for neonatal services across the UK.

Lynsey Clarke

Job Title: Senior Network Manager

Hospital: West Midlands Perinatal Network (BWCH NHS Trust as Host)

I am an experienced neonatal nurse with 30 years in nursing, including 28 years in neonatology and over 20 years working across neonatal networks. This breadth of experience has enabled me to develop a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing nurses and ANNPs across different unit levels and organisational settings.

Through my network role, I regularly engage with a wide range of professionals, allowing me to represent diverse perspectives from bedside staff to national organisations such as BAPM and the NNA. I have established relationships across regions and with devolved nations, providing a solid foundation to contribute effectively at a national level and support inclusive engagement.

My background in education has involved collaborating with multidisciplinary stakeholders to design and deliver study days and regional conferences. This has strengthened my skills in project management, communication, and strategic organisation, alongside an ability to bring people together to deliver high-quality professional development.

I am passionate about advocating for neonatal nurses and ANNPs, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are reflected in strategic decision-making. I am committed to supporting BAPM's work by promoting membership, contributing to policy and education initiatives, and helping to

shape services that improve outcomes for babies and families.

This role represents an opportunity to contribute my experience, leadership, and networks to BAPM's strategic priorities while championing the nursing workforce.

Caroline Nyawira

Job Title: quality Improvement Manager

Hospital: Bromley Healthcare

I am an experienced senior neonatal nurse leader with over 15 years of experience across clinical practice, quality improvement, governance, and system leadership, and I am keen to contribute this expertise as an Executive Nurse Representative for BAPM.

My career spans senior neonatal nursing roles including Neonatal Matron and strategic transformation leadership across maternity and neonatal services. I currently work in a quality and safety leadership role, alongside my appointment as a Mortality Reviewer, giving me a strong understanding of assurance, learning from adverse outcomes, and the importance of translating data into meaningful improvement. I have co-led a monthly neonatal NNAP improvement collaborative across multiple trusts since 2022, supporting multidisciplinary teams to use benchmarking data to drive sustained change.

I am particularly passionate about amplifying nursing and family perspectives within national neonatal forums. Through my work in family-integrated care, quality improvement, and, more recently, co-hosting The Unrecorded Shift Podcast, I have focused on surfacing voices that are often underrepresented in strategic decision-making, while maintaining strong alignment with evidence-based practice and professional standards.

As an Executive Nurse Representative, I would bring a credible, collaborative and system-focused nursing voice, with the ability to bridge frontline realities, executive leadership and national policy discussions. I am committed to supporting BAPM's mission and strengthening nursing influence within neonatal leadership at a national level.

Fergal O' Malley

Job Title: Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Hospital: Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

Paediatric and neonatal nursing has shaped my entire professional life and I want to help ensure that the voices of nurses and ANNPs continue to influence the future of neonatal care across the UK. For more than 30 years I have worked in neonatal and paediatric critical care, and I currently practice as a Senior Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner within the NHS. Alongside my clinical role, I have been fortunate to contribute to regional and national programmes focused on patient safety, quality improvement, culture, leadership and service transformation. Most recently, I served as an associate with NHS England on the Perinatal Culture and Leadership Programme and currently support systemwide improvement initiatives through Health Innovation South West. I believe that connecting frontline experience with system-level change is essential to continue to develop the quality of service our families deserve. Throughout my career I have seen the difference that skilled, compassionate and empowered nurses make to babies, families and multidisciplinary teams. I have also seen how important it is that those voices are heard when decisions are being made about the

future of our services. I am particularly passionate about strengthening relationships across our multidisciplinary workforce. At a time when there can appear to be growing divisions around professional roles and advanced practice, I believe we have an opportunity to come together around our shared purpose.

I would be honoured to represent nurses and ANNPs within BAPM and to ensure our profession continues to play a central role in shaping the future of neonatal care.

Jacqueline Smith

Job Title: Neonatal Transport Nurse

Hospital: CenTre Neonatal Transport, Nottingham Hospital

I am applying for the role of BAPM Representative for Nurses and ANNPs because I am passionate about ensuring the nursing voice remains central to the development of neonatal services, education, and policy across the UK.

I have worked in neonatal nursing for over 30 years across a range of clinical settings, including tertiary neonatal intensive care units, neonatal transport services, and international healthcare environments. In Australia, I worked as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) for 15 years, including 7 as a Senior NNP, providing advanced clinical leadership, autonomous practice, education, and service development. These roles enabled me to work closely with multidisciplinary teams, influence clinical practice, and contribute to the delivery of high-quality, evidence-based neonatal care.

My current role in neonatal transport has further strengthened my understanding of regional neonatal networks, collaborative working, and the challenges facing services across organisational boundaries. I have extensive experience in leadership, governance, quality improvement, workforce development, and education, and I am committed to supporting excellence in neonatal care and professional practice.

As a BAPM Executive Committee member, I would actively engage with nurses and ANNPs across the UK to understand their priorities, challenges, and aspirations. I would seek to ensure that nursing and advanced practice perspectives are fully represented in BAPM's standards, educational programmes, policy discussions, and strategic work. I am enthusiastic about contributing my experience, knowledge, and leadership skills to support BAPM's mission and the continued advancement of neonatal nursing and ANNP practice for the benefit of babies, families, and neonatal professionals.

Vanessa Sturt

Job Title: Senior advanced neonatal nurse practitioner

Hospital: Ashford & St Peters foundation trust

I would like to join BAPM's Executive Committee to help shape the future of perinatal and neonatal care and ensure the nursing voice is strongly represented within national strategy, service development and professional standards.

I am an experienced neonatal nurse leader and Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner with almost 20 years of NHS experience across clinical practice, leadership and service improvement. I currently lead Transitional Care within my Trust, promoting family integrated care, safe admission avoidance

and collaborative multidisciplinary working to improve outcomes and patient experience.

Alongside my local leadership role, I contribute regionally through neonatal network and professional groups across Kent Surrey Sussex and Thames Valley & Wessex, supporting quality improvement, shared learning and service development across organisations.

In addition, I currently work with Donna Ockenden as part of the neonatal review team supporting national maternity investigations. This work has strengthened my understanding of patient safety, governance, learning from adverse events and the importance of ensuring the voices of families and frontline staff drive meaningful improvement.

I am passionate about advocacy, professional standards, workforce development and collaborative leadership. Being recognised at the Global Health Awards as Nurse of the Year was a significant professional honour and reflects my commitment to compassionate, high-quality neonatal care.

I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my experience, enthusiasm and strong commitment to neonatal nursing within BAPM's Executive Committee.

Susan Townend

Job Title: Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Hospital: Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Over the past 30 years, I have built extensive experience in neonatal care across both tertiary and level 2 neonatal units. This breadth of practice has given me a strong understanding of the challenges, priorities and opportunities facing neonatal services and the professionals who deliver them.

I currently work as an Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (ANNP) on the tier 2 rota in a level 2 neonatal unit and, for the past two years, I have also served as Lead ANNP. In this role, I have contributed not only to the delivery of high-quality patient care, but also to service review and the development of strategic direction. This has strengthened my ability to balance frontline clinical insight with broader organisational and professional priorities.

I am proud to represent my team and to advocate for the nursing and ANNP workforce. Having recently taken partial retirement, I now have the time and capacity to dedicate more energy to using my knowledge, experience and commitment to help influence positive change across perinatal medicine.

I am deeply passionate about the role of nurses and ANNPs within perinatal care and about ensuring that their voices are heard, valued and represented at a strategic level. I would welcome the opportunity to give back to this part of the NHS by contributing to the continued strength and development of BAPM. I believe I am well placed to represent nurses and ANNPs effectively and to make a valuable contribution as a member of the Executive Committee.

AHPPP Representative – 3 Applicants

Catherine Casewell

Job Title: Specialist Neonatal Dietitian

Hospital: Ashford and St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey / South East Neonatal Network Lead Dietitian

I have been working as a Neonatal Dietitian for over 23 years within a Level 3 Neonatal Unit, bringing a wide variety of practical understanding of neonatal care and working within a multidisciplinary team. My role as a dietitian embedded within the multidisciplinary team (MDT) has enabled me to develop collaborative working relationships, with appreciation of the diverse roles, responsibilities, and challenges faced by healthcare professionals and families.

I also have experience in national-level working, currently working as a Neonatal Network Lead Dietitian, where I contribute to shaping policy, developing best practice guidance, and promoting quality improvement and innovation to support consistent, evidence-based care across services. As part of this role, I also develop and deliver education, training and clinical updates to the wider MDT in the field of nutrition and dietetics working closely with Allied Health Professional colleagues to achieve a holistic education experience. My leadership role has strengthened my strategic thinking and ability to influence positive change in neonatal practice.

As a committee member of the Neonatal Dietitians Interest Group (NDiG), I play a key role in organising the NEWtrition national webinar series, working collaboratively with healthcare professionals and partner organisations to ensure high-quality, up-to-date information is shared effectively with members.

I am enthusiastic about broadening the scope of neonatal care to include all members of the MDT, particularly Allied Health Professionals, and raising the profile of their essential contributions. I would bring commitment, experience, and a collaborative approach to this committee role, supporting ongoing improvements in care standards and professional engagement.

Claire Marcroft

Job Title: Clinical Specialist Neonatal Physiotherapist

Hospital: Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

I am a Clinical Academic Neonatal Physiotherapist at Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, holding an Honorary Contract with Newcastle University. My clinical and research roles are closely linked, covering neonatal inpatient and follow-up care. My PhD research examined the priorities of parents and professionals in neonatal follow-up to identify improvements for care.

From 2022 to 2024, I was Lead Physiotherapist for the Northern Neonatal Network, building regional and national connections with multi-professional teams across acute and community services. I have support from the Association of Paediatric Chartered Physiotherapists (Neonatal Committee) for this role. I value collaboration, demonstrated through my work with healthcare colleagues, academics, and parents. My research experience is broad, including the use of qualitative methods and co-investigator roles on NIHR-funded clinical trials. I am aware that research needs to incorporate implementation science and systems thinking to better meet the needs of neonatal patients and their families.

In 2024, I completed the King's Fund Leadership for Population Health programme, gaining expertise in health equality, prevention, and cross-sector collaboration. I have experience working with Voluntary, Community, and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations, which are well-positioned to help tackle health inequalities and maintain relationships with underserved communities.

If selected for the BAPM Executive Committee, I would help implement the strategic plans. Specifically, I would work to enhance collaboration among the individual AHPPP bodies to support a more integrated approach to neonatal care. I would endeavour to strengthen links between the organisation and individual AHPPP professional bodies to ensure that all AHPPP perspectives are represented in the BAPM's work. Importantly, I would seek to understand how the BAPM can better support underserved families and would work to ensure that neonatal care is prominently represented in national health inequality strategies.

Elisabeth Norton

Job Title: Principal Clinical Psychologist

Hospital: Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital

I am a Principal Clinical Psychologist and Honorary Clinical Lecturer at the University of East Anglia with 20 years of NHS experience. As a member of my Trust's Health Inequalities board, I am committed to advancing the BAPM 2025–2028 strategy by championing inclusive, multidisciplinary perinatal care.

My practice is rooted in the BAPM mission to facilitate safe, family-integrated care. I consistently advocate for the AHP and psychological voice within medical hierarchies to ensure that the needs of marginalized families are central to our strategic vision. I am actively involved in diverse research projects considering the impact of neonatal care on families and staff, for example a study exploring the experiences of healthcare professionals navigating their own pregnancies while working in the NICU. This focus on staff wellbeing and clinical excellence directly supports the BAPM aim to attract and retain a skilled, well-supported workforce.

On the AHPP Executive Committee, I will bring:

Strategic Alignment: Experience in board-level governance regarding equity and inclusion, ensuring BAPM's work reaches on-the-ground practice.

Genuine, Action-Oriented Leadership: Colleagues describe my approach as transparent, thoughtful, and positive. I pride myself on being approachable and genuine, steering groups toward actionable outcomes.

Evidence-Based Advocacy: A commitment to utilizing data and research to support quality improvement, as outlined in the BAPM strategy.

Support for BAPM's Ambitions: I deeply admire BAPM's commitment to connecting staff across the MDT and providing high-quality, accessible training. I am eager to help expand these educational opportunities to foster a truly collaborative culture.

I would be honored to represent the AHPP voice, driving the innovation necessary to support babies, families, and professionals across the UK.

