

NPAG News

August 2020

Edition 166

Welcome to the August edition of NPAG News.

As we head into late summer, this is traditionally a time of great activity as we complete our plans for autumn / winter. Despite the ongoing impact of the pandemic, this year is no different. We are also now concluding our series of complimentary Mini Virtual Meetings for our national groups - which have proved a great success with members. This is a brief report from the Estates and Facilities groups:

June saw the first virtual meeting of the Estates, Facilities North and South groups. The meetings were a great success with positive feedback received from members. This was followed by a second virtual meeting. The June meetings' primary focus was on Covid 19, looking at the challenges and how trusts had to adapt very quickly to a changing environment and working practices. The second meeting focussed on normal business activities but Covid remained on the agenda as it is a key factor on how we carry out our business activities going forward.

Many different ideas were expressed about how we might continue to provide a service going forward and, as revealed in the last Edition, we decided to survey all of our members for their views.

So, in preparation for the coming months NPAG have now undertaken the Member Survey and we report a summary of the findings on Page 2 along with the new, exciting and flexible approach we are offering you.

In the meantime, NPAG also continue to support you with the Members' Areas on our website and the NPAG Network (see P.3).

We hope to see you all again soon. In the meantime, stay safe.

The NPAG Team

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The Health Visiting and School Health Services Network will soon be starting a new round. This is what one member said about the meetings:

"The national leaders and speakers are invaluable and enable raising issues to support discussions for solution focused decision making."

BVGs - New approaches for 2020/21

During the course of the Mini Virtual Meetings that NPAG have been running, we invited views on how we might continue to provide a service going forward, having in mind the ongoing restrictions caused by Covid-19.

We were very pleased to receive a number of useful comments and, as revealed in the July Edition of NPAG News, we decided to carry out a more formal analysis of our Members' wishes using Survey Monkey.

NPAG have now undertaken the Survey. Thank you for taking time to help us. It has produced some interesting responses.

One of the first things to say is that the development of a Teams meeting etiquette has been well received and practiced.

Members also very much appreciated the fact that NPAG added value to all by offering a complimentary 90 minute session that will be added to their CPD certificates.

As to the way forward, responses were mixed. A small number of Members were very keen to return as quickly as possible to normality, with regular face-to-face national meetings from the autumn. About the same number felt we should focus solely on virtual meetings for now.

Others - almost 80% of those that completed the return - preferred to opt for a mix of virtual and traditional meetings. Many felt this should be the approach for some time to come.

Understandably, some Members have asked about the financial position if we were to move to a different service model with a mix of meeting types.

NPAG gave a commitment to look at the pricing structure in light of the possible new approaches and this work has also been undertaken.

So, we are now in the process of drawing up plans for each group trying, as far as possible, to respect the wishes of the membership of each.

Some of you will already have received a message proposing the way forward. The email will include:

- ◆ details about meeting dates
- ◆ whether meetings are to be face-to-face or virtual
- ◆ the outline format of each meeting and
- ◆ any adjustment to the pricing structure.

(The dates and locations could be subject to change as the pandemic unfolds).

Summing up with some of the very positive comments that you sent us following the Mini Virtual Meetings:

"Thanks very much for the information. I would like to say I really enjoyed the meeting today and I would like thank the guests for their advice."

Waste Management Member

"Thanks for that. I thought the session went really well and was really informative. In most of the meetings I have attended everyone just talks over each other and it becomes messy and long. This was really structured."

Security Network Member

"Another NPAG success and in such challenging times too! "

NHS Sustainability Leads Network Member

Thank you all for your ongoing support and taking time to give us your invaluable feedback.

Helping our Members - NPAG Network

The NPAG Network continues its support to all NPAG Best Value Group and Network members.

The service was developed by NPAG, recognizing the need for a forum for healthcare providers to ask questions, request assistance and information, share documents, and get professional and practical advice from their peers throughout the UK, saving time and money in not re-inventing the wheel.

Members of the NPAG's Best Value and National Networking Groups form the nucleus of the Network – providing over 600 contacts throughout the UK. Evidence shows that they are all keen to share their experiences.

Extracts from some recent requests for information reveal the breadth of interest in this service:

“Looking to change our current Food & Beverage Management Software to more of a one stop shop solution (instead of the current 5 different pieces of software at present. The ability to cover not only patient menu card reading or bedside ordering but food ordering / stock / transfers / hospitality / EPOS system / nutritional information / allergens (particular allergens / labelling under Natasha’s Law next summer) etc / etc. Does any of the group know of any good / well established but forward thinking providers of this type of software?”

Facilities South Member

“Have you procured external consultants to provide a Travel plan and if so could you please provide contact details with feedback from the service delivered.”

Car Parking & Sustainable Transport Network Member

“We are reviewing our sustainability engagement and are interested to hear from any Trust that have a dedicated sustainability social media account. Furthermore do you have any evidence to support how successful it has been as a means of engagement?”

NHS Sustainability Leads Network Member

“Are any Trusts offering staff subsidised meals in their Restaurants due to COVID?”

Facilities South Member

“Does anyone have a JD for Associate Director of Estates and Facilities they would be willing to share please?”

Facilities South Member

“Can the theatres in the network please tell me what their theatre management structure is please with WTE and job titles from band 7-8a/b?” Operating Theatres Member

If you don't currently use the service, please do so. You will not be disappointed! Please send your NPAG Network requests to: E: npagnetwork@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

(Please note: You need to be an NPAG member to submit an enquiry)

Waste and Sustainability Conference: A Net Zero NHS

NPAG, once more with the support of NHS England & Improvement, is very pleased to announce its second national conference on Waste Management and Sustainability. The conference will take place on the 26th November 2020 in the Midlands.

This is a one day conference aimed at Managers and Leads in Waste Management and Sustainability.

Why Attend?

This year, in consultation with others, we have decided to make the theme **'A Net Zero NHS'** – linked, of course, to the 'For a Greener NHS' initiative.

The health and care system in England is responsible for an estimated 4-5% of the country's carbon footprint so has a major role to play in supporting this. The NHS has therefore committed to reaching Net Zero as soon as possible, requiring the support of all 1.3 million NHS employees.

The UK was the first major economy to pass a law to end its contribution to climate change. This means that the UK will aim to balance any emissions generated through emission cutting or removal efforts – so called 'Net Zero'.

Given the importance of the NHS in our national life, how quickly the NHS can advance to Net Zero will affect how quickly the country as a whole succeeds.

Exhibition

Delegates will have access to an exhibition throughout the day, with plenty of opportunity to network with representatives from the waste management and sustainability industries. You will also, of course, have ample opportunity to network amongst yourselves – a key element at any conference.



NPAG will be working closely with the venue to ensure social distancing and hygiene measures are planned and adhered to. Updates on our measures will be detailed within your joining details.

The Programme

The Programme this year will be packed with informative sessions on how the NHS is pursuing the Net Carbon Zero agenda.

It will include a national view from Fiona Daly, National Sustainability and EFM Workforce Lead, NHS England and NHS Improvement plus presentations from several high profile Trusts across the country that have been undertaking ground-breaking work in the area.

There will also be a review from NPAG Sustainability Leads co-Chair, Heidi Barnard, Group Head of Sustainability, Northern Care Alliance NHS Group - 'A Year On - insights from my first year in the NHS'.

The afternoon session will include 'The Environment Agency's Perspectives' from Paul Fernee, Senior Adviser, Environment Agency.

The day will be led by NPAG's Dale Atkins and Fiona Daly.

Delegate Feedback from 2019

"As a new individual to waste management in the NHS I found the day very useful and informative with excellent speakers." 2019 Delegate, Robert Jones and Angus Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital

"The event provided a wealth of knowledge from a range of sectors within Healthcare waste including ample time for networking during the event. The venue and hospitality provided was excellent." 2019 Delegate, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

Interested?

Please contact Marie Cherry for delegate and sponsorship booking information:

E: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Health Visiting & School Health Services Network 20-21

We are a national networking group of NHS Managers and Professional Leads involved in the leadership and delivery of healthcare services across the 0-19 age group. We meet four times a year, in central locations in London / the Midlands, attracting members from across the country. Membership offers CPD points.

NB. Due to the ongoing impact of coronavirus some meetings may be virtual.

What have we been doing?

We have provided great benefit to our membership - partly through organising excellent speakers from, among others:

- ◆ Leads within Public Health England (PHE) and NHS England / Improvement - both very active supporters of our group
- ◆ Our own member Trusts on a range of innovative projects such as Home Conditions Assessment by Regender Athi and Randeep Kaur, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals, Surrey 0 – 19 Advice Line by Jayne White and Anita Lamb and 'Living Your Best Life' by Tatenda Chigodora, E. London
- ◆ Other Trusts and organisations working on innovative projects across the country and regular updates from professional bodies active in the field, such as SAPHNA, iHV and CPHVA.

Time to think, discuss and plan

But perhaps the most important feature of the meetings is the Members' Exchange, where anything can be brought to the table for discussion in a completely confidential environment.

Members all value the opportunity to learn about and reflect on the many different approaches to management, service delivery and the significant changes and challenges facing services to children, young people and families. We believe strongly in sharing and not reinventing the wheel, so policies and processes, innovations, ideas and good practice are freely shared. Between meetings we make use of the NPAG Network to ask questions of a wider audience and the documents stored on the protected area on the NPAG website.

'Meeting up with colleagues across the UK allows a rich exchange of information and experience sharing'
Network Member

Why join? Our Chair says:

Being part of the HV and SHN network provides the opportunity to network with other professionals nationally that lead our HV and SHN vital services to support children, young people and families. The group enables opportunities to share from one another and support shaping service delivery fit for the future. The national leaders and speakers are invaluable and enable raising issues to support discussions for solution focused decision making.

Interested? Why not come and see for yourself and you can try before you buy!

Please contact Marie Cherry for further details or to secure your place: e: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Working in partnership with NPAG



NPAG has established many important partnerships over the years. We work closely with a number of excellent training providers, consultants and key venues.

If you are interested in working with us either in facilitating one of our national groups or developing a training package that we could deliver together then please contact Marie at the address below:

Marie Cherry: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk.

What's hot for the coming months

National Networking Group Meetings

Dates below may be subject to change and meetings could be face-to-face or virtual:

August

- Waste Management
- Health Visiting and School Health Services
- Resilience Development

September

- Security Network
- Clinical Engineering North
- Clinical Engineering South
- Facilities South
- Estates
- NHS Sustainability Leads
- National District Nurses
- Telecoms
- IT and Connectivity
- Decontamination

Workshops & Events

Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses

Human Factor Onsite Training

Introduction to Resilience in the NHS, Onsite Training Workshop

Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops

Equality and Diversity Onsite Training Workshops

Assertiveness & Self Management Training Workshops

For details of the above please contact [Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

Book your place now.....

Waste and Sustainability Conference: 26th November 2020, Midlands

Register your interest with: [Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

Theatres and Decontamination Conference: 25th March 2021, Midlands

Register your interest with: [Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

Clinical Engineering Conference: 14th September 2021, Midlands - New Date

Register your interest with: [Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

Contact Us

Email: npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

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