

# NPAG News

## January 2022

Edition 183

Welcome to the first Edition of NPAG News of 2022 and Happy New Year!.

The Covid pandemic has dominated our lives—and NPAG News—for over 18 months so, at the start of a new year, we are trying to beat the January blues by dedicating much of the newsletter to green issues and the pursuit of a Net Zero National Health Service.

The international COP26 Sustainability Summit held in Glasgow in November helped to raise the status of the Sustainability agenda for all of us.

NPAG first established a national Sustainability group in 2012. Before that we ran a series of themed Sustainability days. Our national group, the NHS Sustainability Leads Network has grown significantly in membership and in influence, with ongoing contact with central bodies such as NHS England / NHS Improvement and the recently established Greener NHS Team.

Our joint NHS Sustainability Leads Network Chair Heidi Barnard, from Northern Care Alliance has shared her winning card on page 4.

The NHS was the first national health body in the world to set out a clear commitment to become Net Zero Carbon at the end of last year. One of our Member Trusts, Newcastle Hospitals was the first in the country to declare a Climate Emergency.

In this edition we also look at the NPAG IT & Connectivity group and their 'greening IT' agenda and other activities underway in some of our other national groups.

The NPAG Network has been busy again and, as usual, we feature a selection of recent requests— see Page 8.

A number of our national groups are commencing new rounds shortly—see inside.

We wish you all a peaceful 2022 and please stay safe.

**The NPAG Team**

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*“Collaboratively exploring new ideas and learning from members experience makes the network a must-join. New members are always welcome. If you're thinking about joining, then give it a try!”*

**NPAG NHS Sustainability Leads  
Network Member**

## IT and Connectivity Network 2022

### Greening IT

#### Meeting 1: 26th January 2022, MS Teams

The NPAG IT and Connectivity Network was formed in 2016. From the outset, it attracted a good mix of managers, initially from the IT and clinical engineering departments across the UK. These staff understood the demands of working at the front line of clinical science while bringing together complex Medical Devices and IT systems. The group established useful links with various suppliers as well as NHS Digital, the National Cyber Security Centre, CARE-Cert and NHS Supply Chain.

The group has a dynamic agenda, which has continued to develop following a re-launch in 2019. Digital transformation and the need to ensure successful engagement with all parties has become an important area for the membership over the last two years.

A major challenge for the next few years will be to work with colleagues to ensure that IT and Connectivity services contribute to carbon reduction in pursuit of a Net Zero NHS.

We have a regular dialogue with NHS Digital and are looking forward to a session on 'greening IT' at the first meeting of our new round starting on:  
**26 January 2022.**

At our last session with Ben Tongue from NHSD we covered these opportunities:

- Circular economy
- Net-gain design principles
- Data storage, transfer, and sizes
- Upstream ethics and supply chain

#### Why Join? Our Chairs Say:

*'There is no doubt in our minds that the NPAG IT and Connectivity Group is rich in talent and experience, supportive of its membership and keen to explore innovation and new ways of working.'*

Each of our meetings provides members with a very rare and valuable opportunity, the time to think. The space our meetings create allow us to explore with like minded professionals the challenges – and the successes – of our work; and there has been some lively and interesting discussions over the year.

We have especially valued the chance to:

- **Hold professional discussions across the widening variety of disciplines attracted to the group**
- **Explore current topics and professional challenges**
- **Support each other by extending our contact with NPAG members between meetings**
- **Hear from others through reference presentations from credible and informative guest speakers and suppliers**
- **Learn from each other and exchange good practice.**

There is no doubt that the NPAG IT and Connectivity Group is rich in talent and experience, supportive of its membership and keen to explore innovation and new ways of working. It may have been a challenging year, but for our group it has been a good one.

Our new series of meetings starts on **26 January 2022** on the virtual platform MS Teams, followed by a further three more meetings across 2022.

#### Interested?

Please contact Laura Howe for further details or to secure your place:

e: [laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

Try before you buy places are available, please contact Laura for more details.

## What the NPAG groups are doing - implementing a Net Zero NHS

In addition to the NHS Sustainability Leads and the IT and Connectivity Networks, many NPAG groups are looking at supporting the green agenda.

*The NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport group* has been shifting its emphasis towards sustainable travel. In the current round we explored declaring a Climate and Health Emergency in a Trust and the implications for transport and travel. We received a very illuminating presentation early in the round from Mark Hand, Group Business Development Director, Liftshare that introduced us to 'Mobilityways'. Mobilityways provides:

- The ability to benchmark and understand your employee commute emissions and to compare these with other Trusts across the UK
- Understanding the art of the possible – what commute options do your employees have whether on a 9-5 or 2pm to midnight shift
- Identifying changes in service provision based on data to enhance the employee commute experience.

Many Member Trusts have since looked at implementing this scheme or started exploring similar alternatives.

We also engage in regular dialogue with NHSE / NHSI looking particularly at the need to support the Government's Manifesto commitments to provide free parking to certain groups of visitors to hospitals, and to balance that need with supporting a longer term pursuit a Net Zero NHS.

NPAG's *Waste Management group* hosted a major event in association with the NHS Sustainability Leads Network last spring with the theme of 'A Net Zero National Health Service'.

Speakers covered a wide range of interests and topics. These included:

- A Net Zero NHS – the National Perspective, Fiona Daly, national Sustainability and EFM Workforce Lead, NHSE / NHSI
- Designing Sustainability and Environmental Breakdown Resilience into Digital Health Services, by Ben Tongue, Sustainability Lead, NHS Digital
- Barriers for Recyclability of Plastics in Healthcare by Robert Massey, Principal Development Engineer, Amcor, and Steven Meun, Director HPRC Europe
- Net Zero Ambulance Service, by Alexis Percival of Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

Another group that has been busy looking at opportunities presented by the new technologies is the *Health Visiting and School Health Services Network*.

The Covid pandemic has changed the way visits and consultations take place with families—much contact having become virtual over the last two years.


Although no one wants to move away from face-to-face meetings completely, Trusts are now exploring a 'blended approach', which envisages a future mix of virtual and face-to-face contact.

Agile working that reduces the need to regularly return to base to complete reports and the need for improved connectivity at Trust premises have also featured in discussions over the last few years.



## What the NPAG groups are doing - continued.

Heidi Barnard, Group Head of Sustainability from Northern Care Alliance has created a Top Trumps card to share her experience as joint Chair on the NPAG NHS Sustainability Leads Network. We think this is a winning card!

<b>NHS Sustainability Leads Network</b>		
		
<p>The values of the NHS to protect health and wellbeing empower us to take the lead on making healthcare more sustainable.</p> <p>As one of the world's biggest employers we can make a huge difference.</p> <p>Its a great knowledge sharing network, with its members having so many skills and experiences, being a member of NPAG enables us to learn from each other, share experiences and to not 're-invent the wheel', when another Trust have already tried and tested something.</p>	Established	2012
	Members	42
	No. of Meetings	4
	Location	Virtual

### NPAG and Sustainability

At NPAG, we are reviewing our own approach to Sustainability. Over the next few weeks we will be reviewing our current approaches to managing our meetings and events. The scope of the project still needs to be agreed, but we will be looking at all of the issues below:

- Initiative - Reducing the number of unnecessary emails we send within our organisation and to members.  
Possible Actions - Utilising the website and MS Teams more efficiently in place of email correspondence. For the sharing of agendas/minutes/supporting documents/presentations.
- Initiative – Reduce the amount of printing we do for day to day tasks, face to face meetings and conferences.  
Possible Actions – to utilise technology in place of paper/printing. For example:  
Organising events – Digital Images for signage / QR checking in codes / Electronic Ticketing / Virtual Conferences/meetings.  
Face to face meetings – Sharing of the agenda on the screen/TV instead of paper format. Taking of register electronically. Using laptop for notes.

## National District Nurses Network Meeting 1: 25th January 2022, MS Teams

The NPAG National District Nurses Network is a large, dynamic, friendly group. It brings together District Nurses from all over the country to meet and share new ideas, discuss common problems, provide solutions, whilst being creative and innovative.

The NDNN works closely with the Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI), NHS England/Improvement, The NMC and Health Education England, collaborating to provide information, encouragement and support for our members as well as working with them to develop District Nursing Practice on a National Level.

It is an important resource for these organisations by providing expert focus groups to lead and develop National strategy. The group has been running for several years and has consequently developed a rich membership, which continues to grow. Over the last 2 years the Network has adapted to the new way of meetings brought about by the COVID 19 global pandemic. We have grown our membership throughout the pandemic, and we continued to meet virtually to support members.

The Network holds an annual conference which is open to District Nurses Nationwide. Last year the event focused on "Excellence in District Nurses and the Post-Pandemic Future", delivering a plethora of presentations from several high-profile guests, NHS Leads and Directors.



### Why join? Our Chair says:

*"The forever changing focus of the NHS can be exhausting, what is clear is that community is the focus for the future. The NDNN offers its members to be actively involved in influencing the policy and services of the future. It offers a form of supervision for its members, directing, advising and offering solutions."*

*"The Network has introduced me to colleagues from across the country. It has made me realise that District Nurses have the same issues, and it has given me the opportunity to discuss the issues and to share solutions. The collaboration with the QNI provides us with the opportunity to have our say to lobby the government."* Group Member 2019-20

The NDNN have planned three meetings in this current round along with the annual conference. At present the group will hold its first meeting on **25th January via MS Teams**. This will be followed by a further three more meetings including the **NDNN 2022 Conference**. The conference will be face-to-face as the grand finale at the end of the round. Meeting agendas are member driven and, as a start, will continue to include:

- [Updates from QNI](#)
- [NMC—SPQ Standards](#)
- [NHSE/I Updates](#)
- [Community Nursing Plan](#)
- [Association of Nurse Educators](#)

*"This was an amazing experience considering our current climate . I was able to take time to reflect on the great work and resilience that we have been experiencing. it was very emotional at times and made me remember why I do what I do. I feel very proud to be a District Nurse , Thank you."*

**Conference attendee 2021, Clinical Matron, Northern Devon NHS Healthcare Trust**

### Interested?

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

The first meeting of the new round will take place on the 25th January 2022 via MS Teams.

Please contact Laura Howe for further details or to secure your place:

e: [laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

## Putting the Patient First Workshops 2022

*“The patients must be the first priority in all of what the NHS does. Within available resources, they must receive effective services from caring, compassionate and committed staff, working within a common culture”* Francis Report, 2013

This workshop was originally developed as a direct response to the Francis Report recommendations. The workshop has since evolved to further embrace the **NHS People Promise**: *“This is a promise we must all make to each other—to work together to improve the experience of working in the NHS for everyone.”* NHS England & NHS Improvement.

It is a one-day workshop delivered either face-2-face on your premise to your team, or via a virtual platform. The workshop is aimed at all NHS Staff. The agenda is designed to increase the awareness of the service user relationships, and its importance and impact on your organisation. The programme is bespoke to your objectives and will reflect on your organisational core values, ensuring the outcomes are successful and can be measured.

By the end of the day participants will have a skill set that enhances their ability to:

- Understand the impact of their behaviour on others
- Learn how to handle challenging situations & people
- Develop effective communication techniques
- Understand patient expectations
- Identify how and why perceptions are formed
- Demonstrate a positive attitude
- Take ownership

Further workshop benefits include:

- Evidence to the CQC of your commitment to improving patient care through staff training
- Supports the “Francis Report Recommendations” that relate to the service that is provided
- Contributes towards achievement of the Knowledge and Skills Framework
- Development of ‘Actions Plans’

Attendees will be inspired by the service they provide and want to apply best practice techniques to develop and support not only patient relationships but also each other.

*“I have seen a general uplift in staff returning from this session. Thanks for helping getting the conversation started on the importance of values and beliefs in ourselves, each other & the service we deliver.”*

HSSD, Jersey

### Meet the Trainers

Sheila Fisher, Training Consultant

Impact Training Consultancy Services Ltd

Sheila has 27 years of experience as a qualified Training and Development professional, 9 years of which within the NHS as the Organisational Development Training Manager in a large Acute NHS Trust. Sheila is enthusiastic, dedicated and a self-motivated person who enjoys supporting change in the workplace through existing and new initiatives. Sheila’s passion is in Organisational Development working closely with teams to enable them to be efficient and effective within their role to provide a quality service not only to their colleagues but to their clients. Sheila’s diagnostic approach enables her to design, develop and provide the right bespoke packages to meet the needs of any organisation that she works with. Sheila is experienced in working in multi-disciplined environments and has worked a variety of sectors inside and outside of the NHS.

Jaskiern Kaur, Training Consultant

*“People are my passion. We will all at some point in time be in receipt of the services we deliver. Working in the NHS for over 15 years I have progressed through operations to senior management level enabling me to understand both operational and strategic challenges. Currently leading the Equalities agenda through an Organisational Development lens at a large NHS trust allows me to bring current challenges to the table at all levels. To support this, I am also a specialist Advisor for the CQC. Values led programmes of work are close to my heart, supported with real time data I have a niche platform to which I am able to highlight and debate our unconscious bias that challenge our everyday practices.”*

**Interested?** Please contact Laura Howe for further details: E: [laura.how@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:laura.how@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

**Promotional Offer:** Book a date before the 31st March 2022 to secure the £1095 workshop rate. Normally £1500.



National Performance  
Advisory Group

## Theatres and Decontamination Conference

19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Coventry Building Society Arena

This conference will provide delegates with the opportunity to hear from key speakers on a variety of subjects affecting theatres and decontamination science personnel. The programme will inform and educate delegates on subjects that affect their everyday life all of which will help contribute to the safety and care of our patients.

**Why Attend?** This annual one-day conference provides new insights into issues that are being talked about in real-time, today. The conference agenda has been developed by Theatre Managers and Decontamination Leads.

There will be plenty of networking opportunities throughout the day with the chance to meet with NPAG Theatres and Decontamination members who have achieved success and savings through productive benchmarking.

In 2020, delegate feedback was extremely positive with 100% of respondents recording they would recommend this conference to a colleague.

**Who Should Attend?** This conference is open to all NHS and non-NHS, Theatres, Clinical, Surgical and Decontamination Managers/ Leads.

### Message from Trevor Garcia, Chair:

*"This conference will give you the opportunity to hear updates in decontamination science and from our colleagues from theatre, with some sessions providing an insight into how the same situation affects us differently."*

### 2020 Conference Delegate Feedback:

*"Really informative conference with some common themes around benchmarking and quality improvements. Mark Campbell's presentation at the cutting edge of Sterilisation was fascinating." with our teams upon our return."*

Presentations on the day will include:

- **Covid-19 Experiences and Learning**, Mark Rigby, Head of Theatre Services, Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **Procurement CIPs in theatres / New Hospital Project / Theatres Utilisation and Efficiency**, Ajay Sooknah, Head of Operations SHCG, The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust
- **Year 3 of Protein Residue Removal Study – University Hospital of Wales**, Mark Campbell, Decontamination Service Manager, Cardiff and Vale Health Board
- **Career Pathway for Decontamination**, Helen Campbell, IDSc Director of Education, & Consultant, Decontamination Education & Consulting
- **Human Factors**, Chris Gale, Training Academy Manager, Avensys

### Interested?

Please contact us for details or to secure your place:

e: [info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

**NHS Early Bird Rate: Book before the 28th February 2022 to secure the £95 rate.**

### Sponsorship Packages:

Please contact Marie Cherry for the sponsorship packages and exhibition stand availability.

e: [marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

## Helping our Members - NPAG Network

The NPAG Network continues to provide a very welcome service to all NPAG Best Value Group and Network members.

The service was developed by NPAG, recognising 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. People remain very keen to share their experiences for the benefit of all.



These are some of the recent requests received.

*"I am looking at a dedicated Lift share scheme, software platform/company. I have costings from Liftshare Ltd. but need some comparisons and cannot seem to find any dedicated frameworks with alternative companies, does anyone use a dedicated company, know of other companies or frameworks to use. Many thanks for your help."*

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

*"Can you tell me your organisation/trust's flow chart from top management to technicians? I require the structure in place and where Sterile Services dept sits in your structure."*

Decontamination Member

*"Please would it be possible to put out a query to members to find out if any other Trust's around the UK use APCOA Park Ltd. We have had an ANPR system installed via APCOA and would be interested in speaking with others who have or are using APCOA?"*

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

*"Has anyone experienced any problems with Belmont rapid infusers (specifically the RI2 model) tripping circuit breakers on the local distribution board whilst plugged in to ordinary 13A sockets? For those that have these devices, do you use them on dedicated supplies installed specifically for them or on any available socket?"*

Clinical Engineering North Member

*"We have discussed on few occasions about the PPM procedures and PPM schedules followed by different trusts for medical equipment.*

*My query is to understand as to how far we are following this for certain type of devices as given in the attached spread sheet. As we are trying to establish bench marking for various processes and procedures I think it would be of immense help if everyone of us could respond to the queries with as much facts and figures as possible."*

Clinical Engineering South 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](mailto:npagnetwork@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

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



## Customised Healthcare Waste Management Vocational Qualification

ICERMS has developed three distinct vocational qualifications in partnership with the Scottish Qualifications Authority and our own Waste Management BVG. These unique qualifications have been designed around the specific competencies required for the complex and demanding role of a healthcare waste manager.

Each qualification is mapped to the UK and EU Qualification Frameworks. The qualification units are each drawn from an overarching healthcare waste management suite of vocational education units and each qualification pathway reflects one of three key roles in the healthcare waste management sector:

1. Healthcare Waste Manager at a Healthcare Facility (15 Mandatory and 5 Optional Units)
2. Healthcare Waste Manager at a Healthcare Waste Treatment Facility (9 Mandatory and 6 Optional Units)
3. Healthcare Waste Manager at Healthcare Waste Transport Operations (9 Mandatory and 3 Optional Units)

**Interested?** For further information about this bespoke qualification and the assessment process please contact:  
e: [scott@icerms.com](mailto:scott@icerms.com) or e: [marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

## What's hot for the coming months

### National Networking Group Meetings

#### January

- Facilities North
- Facilities South
- Health Visiting and School Health Services
- IT and Connectivity
- National District Nurses Network
- Violence Reduction and Security

#### February

- Arts, Heritage and Design
- NHS Sustainability Leads
- Estates
- Resilience
- Operating Theatres

### Workshops & Events

**Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses 2022**

**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)

### Conference Dates

**Theatres and Decontamination Conference: 19th May 2022, Coventry**

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

**Clinical Engineering Conference: 15th September 2022, Coventry**

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

## Contact Us

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