

# Annual Report

## NHS Sustainability Leads Network 2021-22



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## Mission Statement and Terms of Reference

*To support the development of a more sustainable NHS by disseminating Best Practice and informing National Guidance*

- ◆ Provide a forum for NHS Sustainability Leads to discuss and share best practice – meeting quarterly.
- ◆ Liaise closely with the NHS England / NHS Improvement in a two-way process; helping to spread best practice and inform future policy developments.
- ◆ Invite expert guest speakers and appropriate contractors/suppliers to contribute to the group
- ◆ Undertake sustainability benchmarking across member organisations to help stimulate improvements.
- ◆ Encourage active participation amongst members by providing opportunities to present case studies and examples of best practice that can be replicated in other Trusts.
- ◆ Help move sustainability up the agenda in all organisations supporting NHS healthcare.

NB The ToR are reviewed regularly and will be revisited at the start of the 2022 –23 round of meetings.

## Introduction

Welcome to this Annual Report of the NPAG NHS Sustainability Leads Network.

NPAG introduced a National Sustainability Group in 2012, and this year we celebrate 10 years of growth and increasing influence.

All NPAG's national groups enable managers to compare and benchmark their services; to review processes; share experience; identify innovative and good working practice; and develop 'Best Value' services.

As we come to the end of another year, the NHS Sustainability Leads Network is very well placed to take a lead in preparing the NHS for Net Zero Carbon.

It has become an invaluable mechanism to share what is being done locally and hear what is happening across the country. It enables us to learn from national initiatives and hear what NHS Sustainability leads across the country are doing to make a difference. Crucially it provides peer support and 'time to think'.

We have been welcomed as an 'expert group' by central bodies such as the Sustainable Development Unit, NHS England and NHS Improvement, providing regular input to and feedback upon national initiatives. They regularly attend meetings giving them invaluable, direct contact with Sustainability leads.

**John King**

**NPAG Facilitator**

## Chair's View

*"The NPAG Sustainability Leads Group is extremely well positioned to support sustainability professionals working in the healthcare sector. Members contribute to and drive the agenda, and discussion is lively and varied. Receiving regular updates and early sight of national opportunities and strategic direction leaves members feeling like the quarterly meetings are a worthwhile commitment and they leave with renewed energy, ideas, and the support of a group of peers in an often-challenging area, particularly important as we are now trying to deliver a Net Zero NHS.*

*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!"*

Heidi Barnard, Joint Chair

NHS Sustainability Leads Network

## Meeting Dates & Formats

The following meetings were held in this round. Once again we were affected by the impact of the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. All Meetings in this series were held virtually via MS Teams. In view of this, NPAG offered the Members and additional meeting at the end of the round, making five events in total in 2021—22.

- 13 May 2021
- 5 August 2021
- 25 November 2021
- 10 February 2022
- 7 April 2022

## Member Testimonials

*“Pleased to be back in 2021!  
Thanks for your ongoing support and inspiration.”*

Group Member who re-joined for 2021

*“I will be re-joining as it is the best way to stay informed and to see what all the cool sustainability people are doing so I can replicate.”*

Group Member 2021—22

*“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!”*

Group Member 2019—20

## Dissemination of Information

### **NPAGNetwork**

The NPAGNetwork provides the facility for members to ask questions of any individuals, group or groups within the overall NPAG membership. Questions can be sent to the NPAGNetwork Coordinator who disseminates them across the NPAG membership. Responses are collated and returned to the originator and others who declare an interest in the question asked.

### **NPAG Library**

The NPAG Library holds presentations from NPAG best value groups and conferences, together with policy and other documents sent in by members. Access to these items is via the NPAGNetwork Coordinator.

### **NPAG Website**

The NPAG website includes a private Members Area for each of the NPAG BVGs. Through these sites, BVG members can access and download meeting agendas, minutes, presentations and survey forms. The areas are accessible by the group members only and are password protected.

### **MS Teams**

Over the last year the most exciting development has been the way in which Teams has been expanded for the benefit of our national groups.

Members can now meet, chat, share ideas and documents and keep in touch between meetings. Because of their particular role and interests, Sustainability Members have been at the forefront of these developments— which will continue into the new round of meetings.

## Meeting Content and Topics

Once again, this has been a longer round than usual due to the impact of Covid-19. At the start of the series, we advertised a four-meeting round to include one face-to-face meeting in Central London. In the event, this was not possible, so, by way of compensation, NPAG offered an additional meeting at the end of the round.

Despite to ongoing impact of the pandemic, there were many stand-out sessions again and in this section we feature some of the presentations and other meeting highlights.

### 13 May 2021—virtual meeting

#### **Presentation – Liftshare ‘Mobilityways’ update by Mark Hand and James Shepherd, Liftshare**

Liftshare and NPAG had collaborated down the years, particularly through the NPAG Car Parking Network.

Mark commenced with a brief overview and history of Liftshare and their extensive work with NHS Trusts. In the changed circumstances created by the pandemic, the organisation had been obliged to review its portfolio of services and Mark thanked Members for giving him and James the opportunity to share their latest developments. These had first been shared with the NPAG Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Members back in January 21.

Mark outlined some changes Trusts were confronting:

- ◆ 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.

He asked, in view of the requirement to provide annual travel plans and data reporting under the NHS commitments to net zero by 2040, if Members could consider whether:

- ◆ They have the tools available now to understand and measure improvements in the level of commute emissions
- ◆ The time and resource likely to be needed to deliver this
- ◆ Travel survey data (pre Covid) and access to anonymous postcode data/shift patterns for staff.

Mark’s colleagues have been developing the new service, ‘Mobilityways’ with a dashboard that is the ultimate commute planning and travel surveying tool to track and incentivise behaviour change. Mark and James explained how the system could benefit Trusts and discussed the potential for collaboration.

## Meeting Content and Topics continued.....

### 5 August 2021—virtual meeting

#### Presentation: NHS Supply Chain update by Martin Toomey

NHS Supply Chain has been following a sustainability agenda since 2013 when it first introduced the Labour Standards and Assurance Scheme (LSAS) for its highest risk suppliers in terms of potential violation of human rights.

In 2019, the SCCL executive team commissioned a structured assessment of the business's approach to sustainability using external assistance, which culminated in the development of a Sustainability Strategy and Activation Plan for the business. This was intended to coincide with the launch of the "Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service", which Martin said underlined NHS SC's commitment to support NHS Sustainability goals.

Martin then updated us on activities since he last attended. NHS SC is using a series of Assessments on UK Government Online Portal to collate detailed information from Suppliers on Modern Day Slavery, Labour Standards, Carbon Waste and Water. NHS SC have Risk Assessed all their Procurement Frameworks for key

Sustainability Themes and will be using the Portal to engage Suppliers on the key issues. 'Cross-pillar' planning is underway to achieve Net Zero by 2027 in logistics.

Martin said he found attending meetings of the group very useful and was keen to keep in touch and work with Members to make improvements in all the above areas. Members thanked him and looked forward to collaborating.

### 25 November 2021—virtual meeting

#### Update from The Greener NHS Team and discussion about working together by Hiten Patel and Sammy Fell

In November we continued to develop our close working relationship with the Greener NHS team, exploring ways of collaborating across a number of areas.

Hiten commenced by reminding us of the background to the Greener NHS Programme. Led by Dr Nick Watts, the NHS's first Chief Sustainability Officer, the Greener NHS National Programme exists to drive this transformation while delivering against our broader environmental health priorities. Laid out in the [NHS Long Term Plan](#), these extended sustainability commitments range from reducing single-use plastics and water consumption, through to improving air quality.

The Greener NHS Team was 'the baby of the SDU'. They now head the responsibility for Net Zero delivery. Two clear and feasible targets are outlined in the [Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service](#) report:

- ◆ The NHS Carbon Footprint: for the emissions we control directly, net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032
- ◆ The NHS Carbon Footprint Plus: for the emissions we can influence, net zero by 2045.

Identifying a route to net zero emissions for a complex system as large as the NHS was particularly challenging.

The Greener NHS Team works closely with key managers in NHS England / Improvement including Fiona Daly (Estates), Paul Chandler (Travel) and Alex Hammond (Procurement). Climate Change Adaptation will sit with Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR).

NPAG Members were very keen to establish a relationship with all key leads and we agreed an ongoing programme to address that over the coming year.

# Meeting Content and Topics continued.....

### 10 February 2022—virtual meeting

#### **Presentation / Discussion: Procurement by Alexandra Hammond, The Greener NHS team**

At the February meeting we began the process of developing ties with leads across the wider Greener NHS Team. We already had a very well-established relationship with NHS England / Improvement , particularly with Fiona Daly (Estates). Paul Chandler is now a regular speaker at the NPAG NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Leads meetings. Our February meeting was an opportunity to explore procurement issues with Alex Hammond.

She said the purpose of her service was to ensure that every pound the NHS spends on products and services is socially and environmentally responsible. This is underpinned by an ambition to deliver net zero carbon and embed social value and eradicate modern slavery across our supply chain. To achieve this, there are three workstreams: Procurement Practice, Supplier Engagement and Operational Interventions

Alex went on to explore with Members their current issues and challenges and we agreed to work together as we move forward.

### 7 April 2022 - virtual meeting

#### **Presentation / Discussion: The Greener NHS team - Delivering a Net Zero NHS: NPAG with Hiten Patel, Sammy Fell, Tom Andrew, Benjamin Hayes**

We concluded our round of meetings with a mini workshop session with several key members of the national Greener NHS Team.

Hiten introduced Tom and Ben, who were attending their first meeting of the NPAG group. He explained that it was the intention to introduce as many members of the team as possible over coming months as part of developing a closer working relationship between the Greener NHS Team and the NPAG Sustainability Network.

As well as learning what was happening on a number of fronts it was also a great opportunity to discuss future collaboration between the NPAG group and the Greener NHS Team.

## Future Plans 2021-22

### **We have already identified some key themes for the next round in addition to Net Zero NHS:**

- ◆ Continue to work with The Greener NHS Team, and NHSE / NHSI more widely as a focus group, providing feedback on the implementation of a range of tools and guidance notes and offering them an 'open door' to our quarterly meetings
- ◆ Place a strong focus on Climate Emergency planning - how can we take the lead?

**Interested?** Meeting one will take place on **21st July** via **Microsoft Teams**, followed by three further meetings. Try Before You Places are available.

For more information please contact Laura Howe: e: [laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk) or visit our website: [www.npag.org.uk](http://www.npag.org.uk)

# NPAG Developments

### CPD Certification

The NPAG is a member of the CPD Certification Service. The Sustainability Leads Network has applied for CPD approval for 2022-23.

CPD Certification is a formal recognition of the contribution that membership of the Sustainability Leads Network makes to members' continued professional/personal development.

At the end of the annual round of meetings, members will receive certificates of attendance for all meetings attended during the year to evidence the contribution made as part of lifelong learning.

### NPAGNetwork

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### MS Teams

Each BVG member is added to the specific group MS Team allowing the contribution of files, links and documents via the Teams Channels. This is in addition to the above and adds an extra means of communication between meetings and is group led.

# Discounts and Offers

**Members Referral Fee** – Introduce a friend and receive a discount on your membership.

A member referral resulting in another Trust / Organisation registering for full membership of the same group will result in the referring member qualifying for a 25% contribution from NPAG towards their membership.

The discount applies to the full membership fee only (not applicable to the 2nd member rate). The discount will be applied once, at the start of the current meeting round. Mid round membership referral discounts will be processed at the start of the following year's membership round.

Multiple referrals will result in multiple discounts up to four referrals per meeting round.

**Second Club Membership** - A 25% discount will be applied when an existing NPAG member joins an additional Group. This does not apply to the £295 second member rate.

Introducing our **Try Before You Buy** option. Simply attend the first meeting of a group's new round, see what it's all about and if you decide it's not for you walk away commitment free\*.

*\*Try before you buy option is available to new members only. New members must inform NPAG in writing that they wish to 'try before they buy' prior to first meeting attendance. If the new member continues membership beyond the first meeting then the full group membership fee applies.*



## NPAG Best Value Groups

The NPAG organises and facilitates a national network of Best Value Groups that enables members to share experience, identify good practice; innovation and information to assist individual managers develop their own service improvement action plans.

Arts, Heritage & Design in Healthcare Network	National District Nurses Network
Clinical Engineering (North) BVG	NHS Car Parking & Sustainable Transport Network
Clinical Engineering (South) BVG	NHS Sustainability Leads Network
Decontamination BVG	NHS Transport and Logistics BVG
EPRR Network	NPAG Violence Reduction & Security Management Network
Estates BVG	Nursing and Temporary Staffing BVG
Facilities (North) BVG	Operating Theatres BM Group
Facilities (South) BVG	Telecoms BVG
Health Visiting & School Health Services DN	Waste Management BVG
IT and Connectivity Network	

For further information on the NPAG and our future activities, please contact Marie Cherry or Laura Howe by e-mail on:

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

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

### Some Group Testimonials...

*"I believe membership of NPAG helps me to be ahead of the changing world of healthcare, it's great to learn from others innovations and to try and replicate it in my own theatres, this can be anything from new roles, audits/training opportunities and changes to clinical practice . It's also helpful to hear how other theatres have responded to become safer from CQC feedback. On a financial aspect the savings offer an insight as where an organisation can look to find CIP and the savings far out way the cost of attendance."*

**Business Manager: Theatres and Critical Care , Stockport NHS Foundation Trust, member of the Operating Theatres BVG**

*"I find all the Facilities NPAG meetings extremely valuable to me in my job. The presentations are good and varied, the available resources are very useful and the network of colleagues with whom we can share experiences and knowledge are fantastic".*

**Facilities Manager (South), Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, member of the Facilities North BVG**

*"I have been attending the Clinical Engineering BVG for over a year and am finding it very useful. The Presentations are informative, interesting and relevant to my work. Meetings provide good networking opportunities. The group is quite big and discussions offer insight in to what other hospitals are doing regarding various common issues."*

**Head of Clinical Engineering, Barts Health NHS Trust, member of the Clinical Engineering South BVG**

# NPAG Network

Available to all members of NPAG Benchmarking and Best Value Groups, and individual subscribers, the **NPAG Network** provides the facility for members to ask questions of any individuals, group or groups within the overall NPAG membership.

The response to questions raised has been excellent. The **NPAG Network** provides a managed forum for colleagues to share information - saving time and money in not re-inventing the wheel!

Questions raised in the past month have included the following topics:

- ◆ Job descriptions and banding
- ◆ Staff parking charges
- ◆ Electric Vehicle (EV) charging
- ◆ Disposal of ionisation smoke heads
- ◆ HFSS food removal
- ◆ Reporting pressure ulcers
- ◆ Di Vinci Robot use
- ◆ Pathology waste policy
- ◆ Pool cars
- ◆ Decontamination of portable medical equipment
- ◆ Use of latex gloves

For full details of how to use the **NPAG Network**, please contact the NPAG by email on:  
e: [npagnetwork@npag.east.amb.nhs.uk](mailto:npagnetwork@npag.east.amb.nhs.uk)

## Forthcoming NPAG Events

Please visit [www.npag.org.uk](http://www.npag.org.uk) for all our current course, workshops, training & BVG meetings.

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

**Across 2022 - Putting the Patient First – Customer Care and Communication Skills in the NHS Training (On-Site Workshop)**

**Clinical Engineering Conference 2022 - 14th September 2022 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Coventry**

**NDNN 2022 Conference— 22nd November 2022 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Coventry**

## Contact Us

Email: [npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

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

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Broomfield, Essex  
CM1 7WS

# REGISTRATION FORM

National Performance Advisory Group

## NHS Sustainability Leads Network 2022-23

Organisation

Address


If you are a member of another NPAG Networking Group, to activate your discount please indicate which one here: \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 1 for a £465 Fee** (x3 MS Teams & x1 F2F meetings)

**Member 2 for a £295 Fee (4 meetings)**

Name

Job Title

Email

Special

Requirements

(Dietary / Access)

Phone No.


### Registrations

Please email your completed registration form to:

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

**National Performance Advisory Group  
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust  
Hospital Approach  
Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex  
CM1 7WS**

w: [www.npag.org.uk](http://www.npag.org.uk)

### Invoicing

If the invoice address is different from that above please enter below:


### REGISTRATION CONDITIONS:

A VAT invoice will be issued. VAT Registration No. 654 9195 01. VAT applies to any NHS organisation outside England and to any non-NHS organisation. Payment is due on receipt of invoice. DO NOT send payment in advance of receipt of invoice. When invoice is received, payment should be made to 'East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust.'

ALL cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations received within 14 days of receipt of the registration form will receive a full refund. After this date refunds cannot be made. A substitute is acceptable. NPAG cannot be held responsible for any travel expenses or accommodation costs in the event of a cancellation or postponement of a meeting, workshop or event.

A 25% discount will be applied when an existing NPAG member joins an additional Group. This does not apply to the £295 second member rate. As a registered contact you will receive our monthly NPAG Newsletter. Additionally, we may also send you more general information about our services, new products and offers. If you would prefer not to be contacted outside of your membership please tick here \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm that I have read and accept the above REGISTRATION CONDITIONS and would like to register as a member of the 'Sustainability Leads Network 2022-23. Please invoice me for payment .

Authorisation Signature ..... Purchase Order Number.....