

# NPAG News

August 2022 Edition 190

Welcome to the August edition of NPAG News. We are busy planning our autumn programme of meetings and events, traditionally one of our busiest seasons.

One of the considerations will be the future format of events. Until March 2020 and the start of the pandemic all NPAG meetings and events were, of course, face-to-face. Covid altered everything.

We began trialling virtual best value group meetings via Microsoft Teams in the spring of 2020. Fittingly, our IT & Connectivity Network was the first—holding a mini virtual meeting in May 2020. The success of that event encouraged us to develop our now well-established programme of virtual meetings, training events and major conferences.

As Covid began to retreat last year some NPAG groups sought a return to traditional meetings. In our August 2021 edition we announced:

“...The first one, taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup> August will be the Resilience Development Network (RDN) hosted at a Member Trust - St Pancras Hospital. RDN Facilitator, Dale Atkins said: ***We are delighted to be the first group to return to face-to-face meetings. This is a very positive move and we will be monitoring the day closely and feed back all the learning points to the NPAG Team.***”

From there began a gradual return to a more familiar way of meeting and, a year on, most (not all) NPAG groups have tried at least one face-to-face meeting. Larger events and conferences too have been able to return to a traditional format.

What about the future? A request that has come up from Members is for a blended or hybrid meeting format. This is something we have attempted—with a physical meeting being set up, and with the option of joining remotely. The trials have not been entirely successful to date. There may be several reasons for this. They include the need for excellent connectivity - not always available; the focus of the facilitator on the day being necessarily on the meeting room itself, rather than on those dialling in - who can feel ‘left out’; and the difficulty for NPAG in planning a successful event, where numbers attending may be unclear until the day itself.

So, we continue to explore different approaches aimed at providing the best possible experience against a backdrop of continued uncertainty.

Please see inside for all the coming meetings and events.

**The NPAG Team**

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***“So pleased to be back!  
Thanks for your ongoing support  
and inspiration.”***

**NPAG NHS Sustainability Leads  
Member, who left the group and  
recently returned**

# Operating Theatre Managers Best Value Group

Meeting 1 of 4: 3rd August 2022, central London

The Operating Theatre Managers BVG is a well-established and respected group. Membership continues to grow year on year. With the increasing pressures on this hugely important part of the NHS, the role of this group has become ever more important.

One of the major benefits of joining the Operating Theatres BVG is that it is a national group. NHS managers meet and share new ideas, evaluate products, discuss common problems, and provide cost effective solutions. Members are leaders in their field with extensive knowledge, experience, and drive; always pursuing the highest standards and find the meetings informative, informal, open, and transparent. Members have identified standing agenda item topics that they aim to cover at each meeting. These items include:

- **Corrective actions arising from audits**
- **WHO Checklists**
- **Governance**
- **Theatre Efficiencies**
- **CIPs**
- **Audits**
- **Job Descriptions**
- **Safer Surgery / Patient Safety**
- **Theatre Staffing – Skill Mix, Training, etc.**
- **Benchmarking**
- **Never Events**
- **Procurement**

In addition to the above, each meeting has a 'Hot Topics' slot where members can raise current issues that are of concern to them or that they need help and advice with. This slot has been particularly beneficial during the COVID -19 period with members gaining great support in challenging times. We also include 'Sharing Good Practice' and 'External/Commercial Presentation' slots on each agenda.

***"NPAG for theatre managers has enabled me to build a professional network, to ask clinical questions to peers who are experiencing and encountering the same operational issues. NPAG has also helped me to undertake some qualitative research for my PhD in the form of focus groups."***

2021-22 Member, Lead Theatre Manager, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS FT

## Why join? Our Chair says:

***"This group is vital for all Theatre Managers and Theatre Leads. The benchmarking element gives the members a strong sense of awareness of how other theatre departments are performing. CIP programmes are continually shared in meetings, contributing to a big difference to an organisations financial stability. The governance aspect is amazing, we are dedicated to sharing never event incidents and audit types to keep theatres safe. We have members who work with the CQC and add great feedback and value to the group. With the NHS financial challenges we face over the coming year, we will essentially be concentrating on staffing cost and financial cost reductions, plus continue to examine all of the above."*** Head of Theatre Services, Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS FT

The members have agreed to a further 4 meeting dates across 2022-23 with the first taking place in **London, 3rd August**. One of these meeting will be held on MS Teams and one will be attendance at the annual **NPAG Theatres and Decontamination Conference**, May 2023, Coventry.

## Interested?

Please contact Marie Cherry for further details:

e: [marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk) or visit our website: [Operating Theatres Best Value Group | NPAG](https://www.npag.org.uk)

Try before you buy places are available.

# Violence Reduction and Security Management Network

To be passed to:  
LSMS  
Security Managers  
Facilities Managers

Meeting 1: 20th October 2022, MS Teams

The role of Violence Reduction & Security Management in the NHS has never been more important and so too the role of the NPAG Violence Reduction & Security Management Network. This network provides invaluable support to all those who have a lead role in these areas within their trusts. The Violence Reduction & Security Management Network continues to grow and to go from strength to strength.

**Why not come and join us if you work in this field?  
Meeting 1 of 4 will take place on Thursday 20  
October 2022 on the virtual platform MS Teams.**

The NHS violence reduction & security agenda is large and complex. To help address some of the challenges that this presents, the following have been identified by the members as standing items to feature on meeting agendas:

## Physical Security

- ✓ Policy Work
- ✓ Legislation
- ✓ CCTV/Body Cameras
- ✓ Lockdown
- ✓ Thefts/ASB
- ✓ Access Control
- ✓ Security of assets
- ✓ Lighting / Fencing
- ✓ Manned Guarding
- ✓ Counter Terrorism
- ✓ FP10's, Medicines, Gases
- ✓ Protecting Estate & Assets

## Violence Reduction/Staff Safety

- ✓ Policy Work
- ✓ Legislation
- ✓ Assaults
- ✓ Hate Crime
- ✓ PMVA/Restraint
- ✓ Panic & Static Alarms
- ✓ Lone Working Solutions
- ✓ Application of sanctions
- ✓ Conflict Resolution & Safety Training

*"I find the meetings a fantastic way of sharing lessons learned and information with other Security Managers. The meetings have covered some fantastic and very informative topics, all of which are provided to you after the meeting so you can take them away for your own knowledge. I personally find that the most useful tool is the way the group share information. There comes a time when we would all like to compare a policy or just get the thoughts and opinions from other professionals in the same role and the NPAG provide this information through the networking scheme. See you next year!"*

2021-22 Member, Security Manager, Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust

## Benefits of Membership

- ✓ This is a national NHS network, bringing together a wealth of experience & skills from across the whole NHS
- ✓ Expert input from NHS England, Health & Safety Executive, industry representatives, & NAHS
- ✓ Agendas are member led. Members raise issues, concerns, share advice & best practice at every meeting
- ✓ Send a deputy to meetings if you cannot attend
- ✓ Access to the NPAG Network & Document Library
- ✓ Use of the Inter Email Discussions facilitated by the Network Facilitator
- ✓ Access to the Members Area via the NPAG website
- ✓ CPD certificate of attendance
- ✓ Meetings take place on MS Teams, reducing the cost of travel & supporting the NPAG Green Plan initiative
- ✓ A year's membership is less than the average cost of employing a management consultant for a day!

## Interested?

Please complete the PDF Registration Form and email it to Marie Cherry, or alternatively you can complete the online form to secure your place:

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

**w:** [NPAG Violence Reduction & Security Management Network | NPAG](https://www.npag.org.uk)

**Try before you buy places are available.**

# Clinical Engineering Conference

## ADVANCING CLINICAL ENGINEERING

15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

DoubleTree by Hilton Coventry

Through a range of presentations, both clinical and technical, our 2022 conference seeks to offer opportunities for those in a senior leadership role within Clinical Engineering. Learn from speakers who have first hand knowledge of service improvement, training, education and personal development. Often referred to as the 'friendly conference', NPAG welcomes delegates old and new for a day of learning, networking new ideas and challenges.

*"Excellent venue and great to see so many of the NPAG members in person. Excellent sessions throughout the day and a joy to be able to engage with the companies."*

2022 Conference Delegate

Trust leadership teams require consistent assurance that medical devices are being managed effectively and in an efficient and safe manner within set financial restraints. The well established North and South Clinical Engineering (CE) Best Value Groups deliver opportunities to share best practice and ensure best value at meetings throughout the year. New trusts continue to join NPAG with membership geographically well dispersed within the NHS.

### Why Attend?

This annual one-day conference provides opportunities to learn from others' best practice. An associated exhibition will enable technical staff to have valuable and in-depth discussions with a large number of suppliers and manufacturers in a relaxed atmosphere. Previous delegate feedback has been extremely positive with 100% of respondents recording the day as Excellent or Good and everyone voted they would recommend this conference to others!

### Who Should Attend?

- ✓ Head of Clinical Engineering
- ✓ Clinical Engineering Manager
- ✓ IT Technical Lead
- ✓ Resilience / Risk Management Officer
- ✓ Trust information security officers (CISO's)
- ✓ Medical device trainers, medical device safety officers

### Interested?

Please contact Marie for further details:

e: [marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk) w: [Clinical Engineering Conference 2022 | NPAG](#)

Early Bird NHS Rate: Book by 13th August 2022

### Conference Presentations

**Chairman's Welcome and Introductions**, Paul Blackett, NPAG Associate, North & South CE Facilitator

**Presentation title TBC**, Fiona Daly, National Sustainability and EFM Workforce Lead for NHS England

**ISO 55001 - Asset Management in Healthcare Technology**, Lesley Sneddon, Technical Manager, Medical Equipment Management Greater Glasgow and Clyde Clinical Engineering

**Hazards of Surgical Plume**, Steve Veck, Electro Surgery Consultant/Clinical Lecturer, Surgivex

**Professional Registration**, Iain Threlkeld, Senior Head of Estates, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**The Future is Bright: Future proofing the Clinical Engineering STP Curriculum**, Dr Emma Bowers, Training Programme Director (STP) / Healthcare Science Dean for the North East and Yorkshire, National School for Healthcare Science

#### Open Discussions:

- **Medical Device Integration in EPR, Lessons Learned**, Nata Zaman, Head of Clinical Engineering, West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- **IT Roles in Clinical Engineering**, Robert Millard, Head of Clinical Engineering, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

**Everything involves computers, so you need to know six secrets... and some suggestions**, Prof Harold Thimbleby, See Change Digital Health Fellow at Swansea University, Wales

### Meet our Conference Sponsors:





## Keeping in touch - Email Exchange service

All our NPAG groups operate within a framework that seeks to ensure a consistent, high quality service.

The guidelines do allow for flexibility of operation, and some groups have developed their own Email Exchange Q&A service, which sits alongside the NPAG Network, covered elsewhere.

We thought it would be interesting to continue to share some of the recent, very varied traffic. Here is a small selection from recent weeks:



*"Leicestershire Partnership Trust are scoping routine enquiry into ACE's and embedding trauma informed practice into universal contacts."*

*"I am aware of the introduction within health Visiting in Wales and Scotland but wondering if anyone is using this or has piloted anything within England and if so have you any feedback you are willing to share with me  
Thank you."*

Health Visiting and School Health Services Network Member

*"We've been given the go ahead by our Executive Team to include sustainability/net zero/environmental considerations in our Board paper template alongside Patient impact, Equality Impact, etc which is brilliant news. I just wondered if anyone has the same and if so whether they would be willing to share the text they have included or the approach taken please."*

NHS Sustainability Leads Network Member

*"We are reviewing our current usage of temporary work force and refreshing our actions and housekeeping. I was looking for the national tool kits to support with action planning but couldn't seem to find anything on the NHS Future we site. Are you able to point me in the right direct? Or do you know of any members that have got an example of good practice in this area?"*

Nursing & Temporary Staffing BVG Member

*"We are looking to start our Offensive Waste rollout across our trust. Would anyone be willing to share with me what NHS Supply Chain codes they have used during your rollouts for small (20ltr), medium (42ltr) and large (70ltr) bins? I decided to order one of each available bag type from Supply Chain to find out which ones would be best for us to use; to find that only 3 of the 8 bag types had NHS Supply Chain codes on them which hasn't helped me. Also, for any trust's that operate a soft/light compaction unit for offensive waste – have they found that medium or heavy-duty bags are the best for this process to avoid any bags splitting? I would also be interested to see whether any trusts order their bags directly from a supplier (If so could you provide me with the details?)"*

Waste Management BVG Member

*"We are looking at furniture to go inside seclusion rooms? Due to choking issues. Do any of the group have furniture in their Seclusions rooms and if they do what type doe they use"*

Violence Reduction & Security Management Network Member

*"As a trust we are Trying to reduce either our Hand towel usage (non patient Areas) or remove hand dryers (reduce electric consumption /maintenance costs etc.) we are also trying to move hand towels from the domestic waste stream to recycling. Has anyone in NPAG implemented similar schemes?"*

Waste Management BVG Member

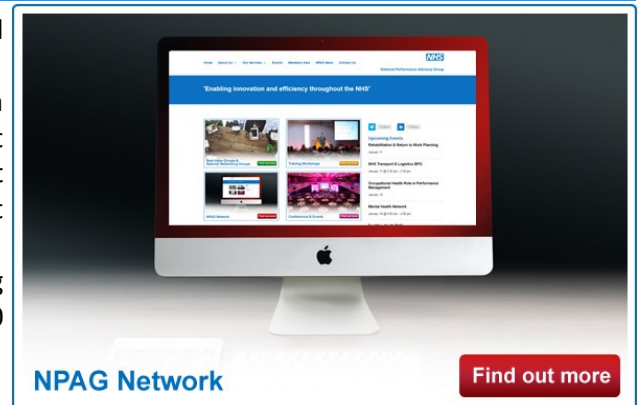
## NPAGNetwork

Supporting our Members

The NPAG Network is available to all NPAG Members and continues to provide a very welcome service.

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. The Network has continued to attract a number of enquiries throughout July of which these are just a few:



*"I am trying to find out which Member Trusts use Penalty Charge Notices to help manage car parking violations. Would you please let me know if you currently use PCNs."*

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

*"UHNH has standardised on B.Braun Infusomat space volumetric pumps, some of which are over 13 years old. We are looking to explore the market, could the members advise which volumetric they currently utilise and provide any relevant feedback?"*

Clinical Engineering North Member

*"Would anybody be willing to share any information that is shared with patients regarding regular outpatient attendees for free parking? I would assume these would be displayed on websites, outside outpatients etc."*

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

*"Would any Trusts be willing to share job description for Accommodation Manager? "*

Facilities South Member

*"Could members please advise what mattress systems they use in their organisations to treat patients with unstable spines. Are those products indicated for use for those patient groups too."*

Clinical Engineering North Member

*"I'm currently working on implementing regular ward level waste audits and was wondering if the group would be willing to share their templates or digital systems. I'd like to bring in something that can auto score wards on compliance."*

NHS Sustainability Leads Network 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.

The NPAG Network will not be operating between Friday 5th—Friday 19th August 2022.

## National District Nurses Conference 2022

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE FOR COMMUNITY NURSING –  
PUTTING NATIONAL STRATEGY INTO PRACTICE

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

DoubleTree by Hilton Coventry



National Performance  
Advisory Group

To be passed to:  
Director of Nursing,  
Lead Nurses for District Nursing,  
Community Nursing Leads,  
District Nursing Leads, Heads of Nursing

This is a one day conference aimed at NHS Managers, integrated Managers and SPQ Students within District Nursing. There has been so much excellent work done via NHSE/I with the Community Nursing Plan. Working closely with the QNI and with new standards, our members have also been busy in their work area's implementing new initiatives. But how does this all morph into practice?

In this conference we will be hearing from the network members experiences: How they are implementing the strategies: The success of the workstreams: What barriers they are up against, and in particular solutions to these barriers, so we share and learn together as a National Network.

### Exhibition

Delegates will have access to an exhibition throughout the day, with plenty of opportunity to network with representatives from the District Nursing industry. You will also, of course, have ample opportunity to network amongst yourselves – a key element of added value at any conference.

### The Venue

The conference will be taking place in The Minster Suite at The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, in Coventry. With easy access by car, just off the M6, and, only 5.2 miles from Coventry Rail Station.



*'I'm really looking forward to our third NDNN conference this year. NHSE/I and the QNI have really been putting community nursing in the spotlight recently. This conference hopes to showcase how we can put the national strategy and innovations into practice at ground level, by showcasing some great examples and inspiring you to take on the challenge of improving the care you provide for people at home.'* Rebekah Matthews, Integrated Pathway Manager, Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS FT, & NDNN Chair

### Interested?

Delegate places will open shortly, please register your interest with Laura Howe:

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

### Presentation secured so far from:

- **Queens Nursing Institute**
  - Workforce Modelling
  - NMC Standards
  - Practice Teacher Standards
- **NHS England**
  - National Team—Nursing Directorate
  - Greener NHS National Programme
  - Safer Staffing Tool
  - Patient Safety
  - Career Progression, Recruitment and Retention
  - Community Nursing Plan
- **Health Education England**
- **Members Exchange**

### Meet our Business Partners so far:

malinko



NTH  
SOLUTIONS

### Pictures from London 2021:



## What's hot for the coming months

### National Networking Group Meetings

#### August

- Estates
- Operating Theatre Managers

#### September

- Decontamination
- Facilities South
- NHS Car Parking & Sustainable Transport
- Waste Management
- Nursing & Temporary Staffing
- Telecoms

### Workshops & Events

**Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses**

**Human Factor Onsite Training**

**Introduction to Resilience in the NHS, Onsite Training Workshop**

**Equality and Diversity Onsite Training Workshops**

**Assertiveness & Self-Management Training Workshops**

Please contact [Marie Cherry](#).

**Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops**

Please contact: [Laura Howe](#).

### Conference Dates

#### Clinical Engineering

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

Register your interest with:

[Marie Cherry](#).

#### NDNN Conference

**22nd November 2022**

Register your interest with:

[Laura Howe](#).

### Clinical Engineering Conference

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