

# IT and Connectivity Network 2023

Meeting 1 of 4: Thursday 2nd March 2023 - virtual, via MS Teams

**Do you work in IT, Medical Engineering or Digital Services? Are you looking to broaden your IT and medical engineering knowledge, maybe share your digital services learning, or to network with a wide group of professional peers?**

If you answered yes to any, or all of those questions the following may be of real interest to you.

The last two years have been especially challenging for the NHS, but that has not reduced the strength and commitment of the NPAG IT and Connectivity Group.

At the start of the last series of meetings, we continued to meet virtually rather than enjoy the many benefits of the traditional face to face sessions we've been used to. But in July we held our first face to face meeting for almost three years in central London.

For the coming series we are planning a mix of face to face and virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams. The traditional meetings will again be held in central London. Each of our meetings provide 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.

If you happen to be working in a technology based NHS service at the moment, you will know that the tentacles of IT reach into all areas of digital and healthcare technology; and just like a hydra's head, if you manage to resolve one IT issue you will also know that another two pop up almost immediately! In fact, sometimes it's just a challenge getting your own head around all the competing IT demands and complexities that are out there.

There are perhaps too many to talk about here, but we would like to share a few of them with you, in the hope that they may stimulate your interest enough to maybe come and join us next year? We certainly hope so.

- ◆ 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 presentations from credible and informative guest speakers and suppliers
- ◆ Learn from each other and exchange good practice

For the coming year we have identified some hot topics for discussion, set against a background of preparing to support plans for a Net Zero National Health Service.

**'Greening IT' in pursuit of a Net Zero National Health Service**

**Raising the IT literacy profile**

**Engaging People in IT developments and Supporting them through change**

**The Internet of Things (IOT) and Cyber Security / Cyber Essential**

**The Standards that Apply to IT in healthcare**

**Exploring 'themed' meetings where we can explore key topics in greater depth with invited expert guests**

*"The IT and Connectivity Network brings together NHS Acute and Community IT professionals, including Clinical Engineering, to understand and overcome some of the interoperability, security and connection issues they, and their teams, face on a daily basis. More recently the Network has widened its reach into the areas of digital leadership, the impact of digital transformation, and supporting people through major IT changes, so that organisations can better engage their staff in the design of new and replacement systems."*

**Communication and Engagement Lead, Kent and Medway NHS & Social Care Partnership Trust**

## Interested?

Try Before You Buy places are available. Please contact Laura Howe for further details.

e: [laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk) w: [npag.org.uk](http://npag.org.uk)