

NPAG News

May 2023 Edition 199



Welcome to NPAG News. We are entering May, the month of the Coronation of Charles III and his wife, Camilla, as King and Queen.

At NPAG we have always been impressed by our new King's long-time concern for the environment. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (his title at the time) addressed the Countryside conference as far back as 1970, aged 22, and did not pull any punches. "There is the growing menace of oil pollution at sea, which almost destroys beaches and certainly destroys tens of thousands of seabirds," he said.

King Charles entered green activism early on. He made his first speech on the environment in 1968 – seven years before the phrase 'global warming' was coined. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s he frequently found himself a lost voice as he called for a balanced approach to living.

It may be tempting to think of the King as an icon of a previous age. But look more closely at his speeches, books and projects and we see a man ahead of his time in many ways. He was advocating concepts such as the circular economy and natural capital years before they captured the public's imagination, and he's followed his own principles, converting his farm to organic practices more than 30 years ago.

These are the kinds of values we share at NPAG and why we established a dedicated NHS Sustainability Leads Network back in 2012. Eleven years on and the group is larger and more vibrant than ever, celebrating its first face-to-face meeting since before the pandemic recently in London. Of course, we seek to support Members in pursuing a net zero NHS but we also share many of our new King's broader concerns about the environment. The importance of making our hospitals greener, pleasanter places for staff to work in and to support patient recovery are key to the work not just of our Sustainability group but also many others – Facilities, Estates and Arts, Heritage and Design.

We hope you have a good month and wish you all the best from

The NPAG Team

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"I have been a member of the Estates BVG for several years now and it has really benefited my personal development and also allowed me to add value to my organisation on the back of knowledge gained from the sessions. Guest speakers are always really informative and cover a wide range of topics which members have input on prior to the booking. The other members of the group are very open and willing to share experiences and lessons learnt along with fantastic networking opportunities to expand opportunities by being part of this group."

Estates BVG Member

Coronation Special for NPAG Members

*****50% off Membership When Joining a 2nd Group*****



We are pleased to announce a fantastic promotion offering members the chance to save over £200! For the month of May, any member joining a second group will receive a 50% discount* on membership fees for that group. With a wide portfolio it is unsurprising that there are strong links and members are increasingly electing to join more than one to benefit from cross-group networking opportunities, information sharing and expertise.

Groups include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| * Arts, Heritage and Design in Healthcare | * IT and Connectivity |
| * Clinical Engineering (North) | * National District Nurses |
| * Clinical Engineering (South) | * NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport |
| * EPRR | * NHS Sustainability Leads |
| * Estates | * NHS Transport & Logistics |
| * Decontamination | * Temporary Workforce |
| * Facilities (North) | * Operating Theatres |
| * Facilities (South) | * Telecomms |
| * Health Visiting and School Health Services | * Waste Management |
| | * Violence Reduction and Security Management |

What our members say...

"This group lifts my spirits and hope for the acknowledgement of arts managers in the NHS and healthcare network. To be part of network with likeminded teams and individuals, gives me inspiration and much needed support."

Member of Arts Heritage and Design in Healthcare BVG 2022

"The discussions and advice given in the friendly, confidential and professional environment that is NPAG, allow me to keep abreast of the current situation within Clinical Engineering. I take this knowledge and information forward into my teaching."

Member of Clinical Engineering South BVG 2022

"The group invites some excellent guest speakers who are keen to share their knowledge and listen to our challenges. The group all help each other and share their successes and challenges and apart from meeting 4 times a year we are in regular contact by email. Anyone working in temporary staffing would benefit from the great work this group does collaboratively."

Member of Nursing and Temporary Staffing BVG 2022

"I find it useful to have access to a forum where decontamination issues can be discussed and good practice can be shared. There is a range of roles represented within our membership, both internal and external to the NHS as well as operational and industry representatives. This adds depth to the discussion and to hear viewpoints I would otherwise not have the opportunity to appreciate."

Member of Decontamination BVG 2022

* A 50% discount is applied when an existing NPAG group member joins an additional NPAG group. This only applies to the higher membership rate for the first member from an organisation.

* This offer is valid from the 1st to 31st May 2023. After this date the discount will return to 25%.

Interested?

Contact us for further details: e: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk w: npag.org.uk

Try before you buy places are available on all of our groups, contact us to book your place

Theatres and Decontamination Conference

18th May 2023

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 addition to the educational component of the day, this event will highlight products and services of commercial companies and how they can aid in the everyday, working lives of our delegates.

Who Should Attend?

This conference is open to NHS and non-NHS theatres, clinical, surgical, sterile services, decontamination leads, GP's, theatre nurses, infection control and endoscopy staff.

2022 Conference Delegate Feedback:

"Excellent Conference—was good to be able to network with both theatres & decontamination colleagues and also the suppliers. Great venue, easy, accessible from North West of England by either car or train."

"Overall great experience for my first time at the conference, details beforehand were great and we were kept well informed. A lot of companies to chat to and learn from and all presentations were great."

Interested?

e: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

w: [Theatres and Decontamination Conference 2023 | NPAG](#)

Speakers

Tinashe Nyamande & Carol Chapman,

B.Braun & Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Strategic Partnerships – What role can they play in tackling the challenges faced by hospitals today & how can they help strengthen our organisations for the future

Dan Pearce

Senior Implementation Manager, National Theatre Programme., NHS England

GIRFT – Getting It Right First Time

Mark Rigby

Head of Theatres Services, Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Nigel Roberts

Head Theatre Practitioner, Birmingham Women's & Children's. Visiting Lecturer at Birmingham City University, PhD student at the university of Derby

Quantitative research results from across NHS England. Surgical Safety Checklist, LocSSIPs, Human Factors & the next stages to the PhD research

Meredith Smart

Research and Development Director, 20/30labs

IFU's What's the Relevance

Ajay Sooknah

Head of Operations Surgery HCG, The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust

Project Management

Darren Mills

Independent Operating Department Practitioner, DM Health Consultancy

Tray Rationalisation – My Approach

Heidi Barnard

Head of Sustainability, Supply Chain Coordination

Theatres and Decontamination Conference

Meet our Sponsors:



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Theatres + Decontamination
Conference 2023



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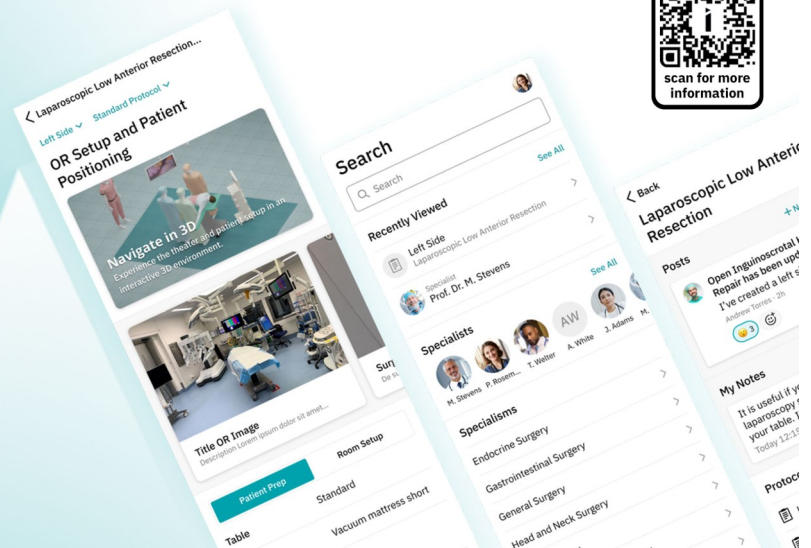
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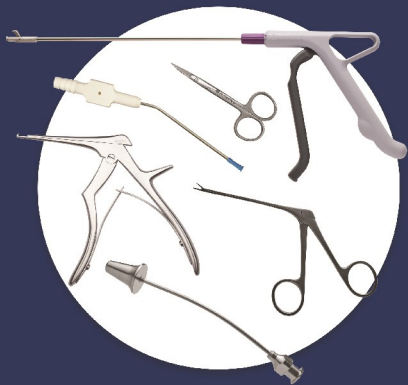
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Visit us at NPAG – Theatres & Decontamination Conference 2023

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My staff have all said it's brilliant, they find the training very interesting and very useful. It helps them understand the reasons behind what they do and why they do it, rather than just a test that they have been allocated to do. It also helps them to do everything within the recommended guidelines.

Silvana Tidbury - Duty Manager
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust



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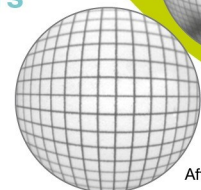
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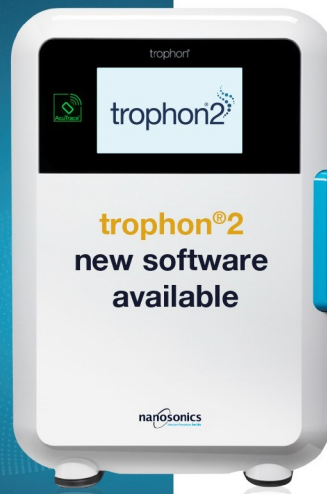
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IT and Connectivity Network 2023-24

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.

Each of our meetings provide members with a 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.

Group aims:

- ◆ 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

If you happen to be working in a technology based NHS service, 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.

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

w: www.npag.org.uk | [IT and Connectivity Network](#) | [NPAG](#)

NPAG Temporary Workforce Network 2023-24

The Temporary Workforce Network is a well-established and respected group that has been running for several years. It continues to grow year-on-year as word spreads about its many benefits and acts as a professional sounding board for national bodies such as NHSE and DHSC. *(Previously Nursing & Temporary Staffing Group).*

NHS managers working in the field of temporary staffing come together to share knowledge and ideas, solve problems, discuss items of national interest, address resource issues and to support each other in what is a very challenging area. Members come from acute, community, mental health, and specialist trusts from across the country giving the group a national status.

As we move in to 2023-24 the group will continue to:

- Develop relationships with national agencies including: NHS England, NHS Employers, NHS Counter Fraud Authority and the Department of Health and Social Care
- Act as a reference point / sounding board for these organisations supporting for example the DHSC Temporary Staffing Strategy Team
- Allow members to openly discuss concerns via the regular 'Hot Topics' agenda slot, work with commercial organisations that can bring education and innovation to the meetings, focusing on rostering, resource management and employment law – including with Shakespeare Martineau.

"The group provides an excellent opportunity for discussion and sharing experiences. This is a forum where we can share best practices and discuss strategies for meeting these benchmarks... It provides an opportunity for us to learn from our peers and collaborate on ways to improve patient care. It also allows us to stay up-to-date on the latest research and trends in healthcare performance management."

Member Testimonial 2022-23

Specific topic areas will include:

- Bank Agreements & Staff Contracts
- Bank v Agency Staffing
- Appraisals & Induction
- On and off Frameworks
- Recruitment & Retention
- Agency Negotiations
- Employment Law and Policies
- Training and Education
- Job Descriptions
- Bank Admin Staffing and Structures
- Electronic Rostering
- Competencies

Why Join? Our Chair says:

"The group is now able to challenge and influence policy and practice relating to the temporary workforces throughout our organisations.... It will continue to help and support its members in rising to the ongoing challenges of working within this field and will help to ensure that services, particularly those associated with temporary staffing, are delivered to the highest standard in the most efficient and effective way."

Interested? Try before you buy places are available. Please contact Lynn Maddison for further details.

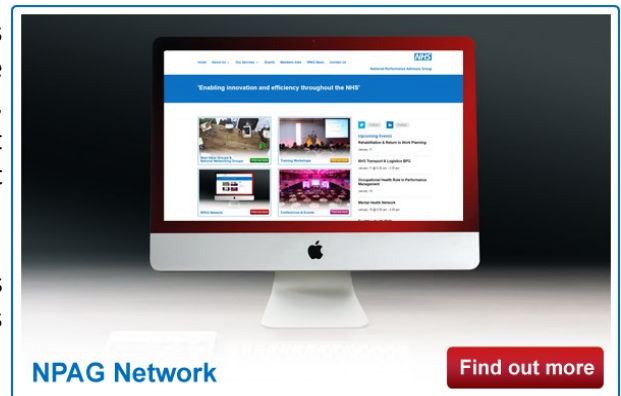
e: lynn.maddison@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk w: npag.org.uk

NPAGNetwork

Supporting our Members

The NPAG Network is available to all our Members and continues to provide a very welcome service. It was created to meet 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 reinventing the wheel.

Members of NPAG's Best Value and National Networking Groups form the nucleus of the Network – providing over 600 contacts throughout the UK.



Here are some extracts from recent Network questions:

"I wonder if anyone can share a guaranteed ride home policy in case of emergency? We are issuing lots of permits at the moment due to extenuating circumstances like potentially needing to rush to a relative in an emergency."

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

"Does anyone have a search policy that could be shared for security services. We presently have this incorporated into our Security Policy, however we are looking to separate this due to increases in incidents."

Facilities South Member

"Would it be possible to ask members if anyone has a policy/SOP for non concordant patients or patients that DNA clinics they are happy to share please? We are looking to develop something so any help/ guidance would be appreciated."

NDNN Member

"Please can you ask the group if anyone has any Portering or Patient Transport Method Statements that they would be willing to share."

Facilities South Member

"In regards to Day surgery staffing template – Does anyone have a staffing template tool they use to work out how many registered and unregistered staff they require to run the service?"

Operating Theatres Member

If you don't currently use the service, please do so. You will not be disappointed! 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 and members must have permission to share documentation with NPAG.

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.

This also allows for questions to be put to the group Members from NHS England and Improvement contacts, etc. and for sharing of documents and ideas between meetings.

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:

"I would like to know if anyone has ever looked into or already installed a pyrolysis unit on their site for onsite waste treatment? One of our facilities managers would like one of these installed in the new elective care centre we are building however I am not entirely sure how sustainable of a solution this is or what one looks like e.g. its footprint. Any information/experience people can share on these units will be really valuable!"

NHS Sustainability Leads Network Member

"I'm super excited to have gone LIVE with our Band 6 Arts Producer vacancy – a permanent Band 6 role within the CUH Arts team at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

"The Arts Producer is a vital role, leading on the implementation of a number of engagement projects within the year-round programme. This is a fantastic opportunity for a creative individual with a professional background in arts producing, a passion for creative health, and exceptional organisational skills."

Arts, Heritage and Design in Healthcare Member

"Could the membership let me know if anyone operates their own in-house shuttle bus operation?"

"I have been asked to explore options of a Shuttle bus service from a local park and ride site, I have been quoted £500 a day for a 16-29 pax bus on a continuous 15 minute loop 2 miles each way. I just wondered if anyone has approached it differently?"

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

"At SWFT, we have been tasked by our Board Chairman to look into the possibility of having a tree planted for every baby born and every person who has died at our hospitals. We wanted to enquire whether any other Trust does something similar to this and which external organisation they use for this purpose."

NHS Sustainability Leads Network Member

"We are currently reviewing our CCTV policies and structures, would you be able to share and CCTV policies or CCTV group terms of reference if you have groups. Also do you make the distinction between CCTV and patient monitoring. CCTV being used for security purposes only and CCTV being use to monitor patients?"

Violence Reduction & Security Management Network Member

"What additional measures trusts are taking to improve their utilisation given the pressure everyone is currently under, particularly with regards to theatre systems and data management?"

Operating Theatre Managers BVG Member

Working in partnership with NPAG

NPAG has established many important partnerships over the years. We work closely with a number of excellent training providers and business associates. We are currently looking to recruit either one or two associates with experience of in the following areas, or an interest in:

Energy

If this is of interest to you, please contact us:

e: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

What's hot for the coming months

National Networking Group Meetings

May

- IT and Connectivity
- Decontamination (Conference)
- Health Visiting and School Health Services
- NDNN
- Operating Theatres (Conference)
- Estates

June

- Arts, Heritage and Design in Healthcare
- NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport
- Clinical Engineering North and South groups
- Facilities North
- Waste Management
- Temporary Workforce

Workshops & Events

Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals

Please contact Marie Cherry

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 Laura Howe

Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops

Please contact Laura Howe

Sponsors! 2023 Conferences:

Please register your interest to sponsor the following conferences:

- **Theatres and Decontamination Conference, Thursday 18th May 2023, Coventry Building Society Arena**
- **Clinical Engineering Conference, Tuesday 12th September 2023, Midlands**
- **National District Nurses Conference, Tuesday 28th November 2023, The Park Inn, Northampton**

Please email your interest to sponsor the relevant conference above, and your details will be recorded. You will be contacted with booking details shortly. Please email: e: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

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e: npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

w: npag.org.uk

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