

January 2024 | Edition 207

NPAG News

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- Waste, Energy & Sustainability Conference
- Upcoming best value group meetings
- Keeping in touch between meetings

and much more...

Welcome to NPAG News for January 2024

As we take our first tentative steps into 2024, we would like to wish you all a safe and prosperous New Year.

Thank you for supporting NPAG over the last year, whether as a Member of one of our national groups, an attendee at a workshop or as a delegate at one of our major conferences.

We are planning an exciting programme of products and services over the coming year – consolidating the new Energy Best Value Group, which launched towards the end of 2023, delivering our second Conference with a focus on a Net Zero National Health Service in March and planning a range of other Workshops and Conferences for later in the year.

We also have groups beginning new meeting rounds. If you are thinking about possible membership of one of our groups, but haven't quite made up your mind, why not join as a guest on a try-before-you-buy basis?

In addition to four virtual / face-to-face meetings per year, as a valued Member, you also benefit from access to the NPAG Network, which enables you to ask questions across the wider NPAG membership, CPD points to support your career development, and additional support from the NPAG Team.

Speaking of the NPAG Network, it has seen an exceptionally busy December and we bring you a small sample of requests from last month.

That's about it, except to wish you all a very positive and productive month.



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Networking on NPAG's platform is a great opportunity to exchange best practice knowledge, learn about business techniques and stay well-informed of the latest decontamination developments. The membership has provided an excellent place to discuss common challenges in decontamination! The advice of experienced members is an important benefit of networking.

Member of Decontamination BVG

News in Brief

NEW Waste, Energy & Sustainability Conference for 2024

We're delighted to announce a new one-day virtual conference for 2024, delivered in conjunction with NHS England. Under the theme, 'A Net Zero NHS', the conference will debate and discuss how much progress has been made, challenges being faced and tangible steps Trusts are taking. Primarily aimed at NHS Managers and Leads in Waste Management, Sustainability and Energy, it will be of benefit to anyone with an interest in pursuing a Net Zero National Health Service. See details on how to attend on page 4.



Goodbye to Paul and welcome to Lawrence!

December sadly marked our last meeting hosted by Paul Blackett, Facilitator for the Clinical Engineering Best Value Groups. Paul has been a pleasure to work with and will be missed by NPAG team and members alike. We thank him for his dedication and contribution to the Clinical Engineering Best Value Groups.

Excitingly, we have secured a new Associate and Facilitator for the Clinical Engineering Best Value Groups, Lawrence Barker, who comes highly recommended by Paul.

Lawrence began his career as a Trainee Medical Physics and Physiological Measurement Technician before specialising in Medical Engineering. Since then, he has worked in a variety of senior roles in the medical engineering field. Lawrence stepped down in September 2023, to devote more time to leisure interests. He has several part time Biomedical Engineering roles and looks forward to joining University Hospitals of Leicester in 2024.

We're excited to be working with Lawrence going forward and we will continue to provide the service you expect from NPAG.



Lawrence Barker

January - a bumper month for Best Value Groups

It's a busy start to the year for NPAG's Best Value Groups. We have the first meeting in the new round for our Decontamination and Facilities South Groups, along with meetings for the Health Visiting & School Health Services Network, the NPAG Violence Reduction & Security Management Network and the NHS Transport & Logistics group. Added to that, we have the new Energy Group launching in February, along with the Clinical Engineering North and South rounds.

We run 20 best value groups in total, with many having links between common subject matter. Please contact us at info@npag.eastamb.nhs if you'd like to know more about the breadth of best value groups on offer.

Follow us on social media!

A monthly reminder that if you're not following us already, please take a look at our social media channels which will keep you updated on current and future NPAG meetings and events in real time.



Waste, Energy & Sustainability - A Net Zero NHS Virtual Conference

National Performance
Advisory Group

21st March 2024 | Virtual Conference



“Meeting this commitment will only be achievable if every part of the NHS – more than 1.3 million of us – are working together.” NHS England

Join us at a one-day virtual conference, delivered in conjunction with NHS England, exploring where the NHS is at with its 'Net Zero' promise.

Where are we now? How much progress has been made in pursuit of these goals? What has NPAG been doing to support managers across the country?

In 2021, we delivered our first conference under the theme 'A Net Zero NHS'. With the health and care system in England responsible for an estimated 4-5% of the country's carbon footprint, we had a major role to play in supporting the objective, concluding 'the NHS has committed to reaching Net Zero as soon as possible, requiring the support of all 1.3 million NHS employees'.

Added to this, we recently launched a national group focused on energy efficiency, which sits alongside our established networks for Waste Management and Sustainability. Many of our national groups are now focused on the pursuit of a Net Zero NHS and the subject features regularly on agendas so it remains a hot topic.

With this in mind, the time feels right to re-explore this topic. We will bring together an exciting programme combining speakers from national bodies, NHS Trusts and providers to healthcare.

Primarily aimed at NHS Managers and Leads in Waste Management, Sustainability and Energy, it will be of benefit to anyone with an interest in pursuing a Net Zero National Health Service.

Speakers will include:

Fiona Daly, National Deputy Director of Estates NHS England

Dave Tucker, Waste, Energy and Sustainability Manager & Chair of the NPAG WM BVG

Heidi Barnard, Head of Sustainability, NHS Supply Chain

Dr Tim Ballard, National Clinical Advisor - General Practice, Online and Independent Healthcare, The Care Quality Commission

Mike Burns, Gentian Management Services Ltd

Dr Mike Musil, MD, Exergy

TBC, Crown Commercial Service

The NPAG virtual conference guarantee

NPAG is again opting for a virtual event as the most sustainable way for us to deliver this important conference to you.

The experience will provide ample networking time with peers, presenters and exhibitors. There will be time too for Q&A and engagement.

The programme has been managed to ensure sufficient break times which you can use to step away from your screen or schedule meetings with fellow attendees.

All attendees will receive a CPD certificate.



A very good conference, it was well presented and managed. I enjoyed the varied content.

2021 delegate, Great Ormond Street Hospital

Interested? This one-day virtual conference, in association with ReAttendance, will take place on Thursday 21st March 2024. Note: The virtual platform is compatible with Chrome or Microsoft Edge only. Please contact NPAG for further details or a registration form: info@npag.eastamb.nhs

NPAG Energy Network 2024

Meeting 1 of 4: Thursday 29th February 2024, virtual via MS

Following the success of the inaugural meeting, we are excited to launch the NPAG Energy Network 2024!

With healthcare buildings contributing 15% of the total NHS carbon footprint, this means reducing emissions in this area is essential if the health service is to reach its world-first net zero goal.

At NPAG we have a long track record of supporting healthcare managers in reducing emissions, effecting cost savings, and providing better health and wellbeing services. Improving energy efficiency in hospitals delivers value for the NHS and the communities it serves – in more ways than one.

To work alongside the NPAG NHS Sustainability Leads Network, and our Waste Management Best Value Group, and in response to requests from our membership, we are now launching a new national group focused on Energy.

Why attend?

- The opportunity to discuss topics, identify those to be explored further, agree meeting agendas and identify speakers that people consider would add value for the group.
- Updates and information from NHS England, Trust representatives and suppliers about the issues.
- Collaboration will not be confined to the formal meetings and members will be able to openly and actively communicate with each other using the NPAG Network.
- Every member will receive a CPD certificate for meeting attendance.

Why Energy?

NPAG are always keen to consult with healthcare professionals on how we can better support you in your everyday roles. We have had a number of approaches asking if we would consider introducing a group dedicated to Energy in the NHS. The subject is already covered on the agendas of other groups such as Estates and Sustainability but, given the increasing challenge of planning for a net zero National Health Service and the national work being undertaken to update the Energy HTM 07-02 under the heading of making energy work in healthcare, we felt the time was right.



NPAG Best Value Groups continue to prove popular with members, offering a wide range of benefits, including the sharing of innovative practice, by bringing together colleagues in a facilitated environment. Our groups have helped influence government policy, many of these involved in formal consultation with the central bodies such as NHS England and the DHSC.

Interested? Why not come and see for yourself! Try Before You Buy places are available.
To register your interest please contact Laura Howe for further details:
info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Facilities South Best Value Group 2024

The NPAG Facilities South Best Value Group is becoming increasingly recognised as an expert group of senior NHS professional managers who have a wealth of expertise in facilities management in the healthcare sector.

The 4 meetings a year give members the opportunity to network, share best practice, discuss operational issues, measure service performance and carry out benchmarking activities which allows for critical review of the facilities management function.

The constant expectation of continuous improvement means there has never been a more important time to network with likeminded NHS Facilities colleagues who have a wealth of experience and to use the group knowledge and synergy to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

This group has been established for over 20 years with membership increasing year on year with representation from Acute, Primary care, Community and Mental Health Trusts.

Members have the opportunity to have a say in national initiatives and have an excellent working relationship with NHSE. Meeting agendas are member lead and each meeting includes a presentation on national initiatives, products and services.



I find Facilities South NPAG to be a very valuable Group, bringing together a broad range of knowledge and experience from across the NHS to one forum. The agenda allows for specific conversation with invited subject matter specialists and there is also time to talk about matters arising. As one NHS I feel these Groups are the way forward, sharing benchmarks and reducing duplication making them productive for all those who engage.

Head of Estates and Facilities, RJA Orthopaedic
Hospital Foundation Trust

2024 Agenda items include:

- Apprentices and workforce
- Premises Assurance
- National food standards strategy
- ERIC
- PLACE

Why Join? Our Chair says...



This is a must join group for facilities professionals. The agendas are structured, & each meeting is supported by excellent presentations on very topical subjects specific to facilities management. I would like to thank all members & speakers for their continued support, input & contributions to the meetings. I would encourage potential new members to use the try before you buy facility that NPAG offers. I look forward to welcoming members old & new to the next round of meetings.

Interested? Join us on the 24th January on MS Teams for the first of 4 meetings.
Please contact Marie Cherry for further details: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Putting the Patient First

Organisational Training Workshops

Customer Care and Communication Skills in the NHS

This one-day onsite training 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. Bespoke to your objectives, the programme 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



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

Originally developed in direct response to the Francis Report recommendations, this workshop has evolved to further embrace the NHS People Promise “to work together to improve the experience of working in the NHS for everyone.”

Further benefits include:

- Evidence to the CQC of your commitment to improving patient care through staff training
- Contributes towards achievement of the Knowledge and Skills Framework
- Development of ‘Actions Plans’
- CPD accreditation



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

Interested? Contact Lynn Maddison for further information:
info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals

A series of practical training modules

Occupational Health advisors are leaders in public health in the workplace setting. Their role is pivotal to delivering better workplace support needed to prevent work-related ill-health and improve productivity by reducing the effects of presenteeism, health-related job losses and improve opportunities for job-seekers with health impairments.

It is imperative any training provides evidence-based knowledge, theory and professional confidence and competencies. NPAG's Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Professionals training does just that and is specifically aimed at professionals working in Occupational Health.

Each module will:

- ✓ Enable you to hit the ground running in clinical practice.
- ✓ Provide you with the daily clinical and professional skills you require to undertake your duties.
- ✓ Give you the clinical skills to support further academic qualifications and training.

Modules:

Each module introduces recent research and developments, teaching critical thinking over academic content. Choose from:

1. COSHH Health Surveillance
2. Employment & Pre-Placement Health Assessment
3. Fitness for Work
4. Human Factors in OH, Ergonomic Assessment & Adjustments
5. Long-Term Condition, Health & Disability Management
6. Noise & Vibration Health Surveillance & Case Management
7. Occupational Health Risk Assessment
8. Performance & Attendance

Applicants are encouraged to attend as many or as few workshops as they feel necessary.



Each module represents standalone professional participatory CPD hours. Delegates attending all 8 modules will receive a Certificate of completion of the NPAG Foundation Course in Occupational Health.



A great study day – very useful, relevant and well presented. Probably one of the best study days I have been on in many years.

2023 Participant

Don't miss out! Modules will run across 2024.
Contact us for more details: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk.

NPAGNetwork

Supporting our Members

National Performance
Advisory Group

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

NPAG developed the service, 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 reinventing 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.

[Find out more...](#)



Here are some recent Network questions:



We are drafting a tariff review paper and the palliative care team have asked for a concession for family members visiting an end of life patient – do any Trusts offer a specific concession for these visitors?

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

I am embarking on developing a rotational programme for community Nurses. In the first instance I am looking to develop a programme & process to rotate between community Hospitals and District Nursing. If you do have a rotational programme running in your organisation, would you be willing to share your programme and process? Any information would be greatly received.

NDNN Member

I am currently reviewing the organisations environmental policy, does anyone have an up-to-date policy to share?

NHS Sustainability Leads Member

“Please advise what Retail Catering franchising you utilise in your Trust Organisations. We are exploring our options at Epsom & St Helier Hospital and would like to look at alternatives to Subway for a benchmarking exercise.

Facilities South Member

We currently have around 100 vehicles leased from approximately 10 different companies. We are looking to move all of this to one supplier and are in the process of drafting a tender specification document. Does anybody in a similar role have a tender specification document which we can use as a template?

NHS Transport & Logistics Member

If you don't currently use the service, please do so. You will not be disappointed! Please send your NPAG Network requests to: 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.

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.

If this is of interest to you, please contact us: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

What's hot for the coming months

National Networking Group Meetings

January

- Decontamination
- NHS Transport & Logistics
- Violence Reduction & Security Management
- Health Visiting & School Health Services
- Facilities South
- Facilities North

February

- Energy
- IT & Connectivity Network
- EPRR
- Operating Theatre Managers

Workshops & Events

- Human Factor Onsite Training
- Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals training workshops
- Assertiveness & Self-Management Training Workshops
- Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops

Please contact info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk for more information.

Sponsors! 2024 Conferences:

On Thursday 21st March 2024 we will be hosting a Waste, Sustainability & Energy virtual conference. If you are interested in seeing the different ways you can sponsor this virtual event please get in touch.

Our Operating Theatres and Decontamination Conference will take place in Coventry in May 2024. Please do get in touch if you are interested in sponsoring this event and joining us as an exhibitor.

Please email your interest to sponsor the relevant conference above, and your details will be recorded.

CONTACT US

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