

Sustainable Kidney Care committee

Date: Wednesday 13th April 2022, 2pm

Attendees: Suren Kanagasundaram (SK), Rona Hutton (RH - chairing), Shazia Adalat (SA), Fiona Adshead (FA), Catherine Floyd (CF), Emily Horwill (EH), Frances Mortimer (FM), Eleanor Murray (EM), Chris Stait (CS)

Apologies: Keith Channing (KC), Mark Harber (MH), Karen Jenkins (KJ), Jo Pywell (JP), Katie Vinen (KV), Mark Wright (MW), Stephen Palmer (SP), Manraj Phull (MP)

Minutes: UKKA Sec

Welcome & introductions

Matters arising

The committee agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were accurate. Actions from the last meeting were discussed in their respective areas.

Roadmap, pledge & comms

SK gave recap of broad targets: to meet or exceed NHS carbon zero goals, and to meet zero waste kidney care goals. Second target more contentious: some flexibility in interpretation of waste, important to minimise risk of greenwashing with demonstrable and specific detail. SK had call with Sustainable Healthcare Coalition (SHC) & ERM group, which was helpful. SK did approach DEAL team to discuss, but no response, received.

10% minimum social weighting target now implemented in NHS procurement in England; not currently in place in devolved nations but other initiatives being worked on. Social weighting hoping to be used to drive more ambitious targets and shift waste up hierarchy as often responsibility of end user. Potential to develop procurement toolkit to show what circularity might look like.

SA asked about current initiatives; FA mentioned the Greener NHS team who are managing sustainable procurement and having conversations on circularity, and also the [Sustainable Markets Initiative](#) to engage industry with sustainability. SK also mentioned Newcastle project and that encouraging discussions with industry are happening as a result. FM felt the second target was very ambitious, with significant mobilisation and resource required across the community to ensure its success.

SK asked group to consider the targets over the next two weeks and send in any feedback or questions. Aim to agree high level targets prior to or at next committee meeting.

SK noted that the Clinical Affairs Board had requested that the committee formulate one key annual objective – SK presented 5 goals to the group: (*Deliver Green Nephrology toolkit (workstream 1), Integrate metrics package with UKRR returns (workstream 3), Deliver first iteration of ICHD carbon calculator and start integration with UKRR (Newcastle), Complete baseline assessments for non ICHD care pathways to inform development of suite of carbon calculators (Newcastle), Deliver procurement toolkit for ICHD (workstream 2)*) and felt the first and second could be incorporated into annual objective.

Comms – planning strategic comms to clinical leads around goals/activities, e.g. metrics, green nephrology, UK Kidney Week talks, scholar's programme, the pledge, the Workstream 3 survey and

launch of course in Sept/Oct this year. SK and RH to work on drawing this up with input from UKKA comms (Caitlin S).

SKC webpage

Nothing further on this from previous meeting – aim to agree high level goals/objectives and then update pages to reflect this.

Scholar's proposal

Proposal from WS1 for an educational development programme for x10 staff to be trained/mentored to work on sustainability initiatives, in situ within their centres.

Call sent to CDs, have 8 units who have expressed interest in proposal. Still working on attracting full amount of funding; some of this planned to come from industry, SK will chase and update FM/CF. Awaiting sending out further information until funding agreed. EM noted that there may be some uncertainty around process which could lead to units not expressing interest despite having a desire to be involved. FM said that recruitment is currently aimed at Trusts/Boards as their commitment is required to appoint scholar and provide with protected time/institutional backing. RH noted the proposal included MDT staff, which is positive.

Progress reports:

Workstream 1: Action, Learning & Education

Last meeting in March, had Jessica Notzing join who is a scholar in Cardiff and also a renal trainee.

- Smaller working group in workstream are supporting the network and posting on the forum ([Sustainable Kidney Care network](#)); another working group looking at developing role of champions in each unit.
- FM's WCN talk took place in February for ISN
- Mark H is happy to lead on international links and currently planning calls with international groups
- CSH course coming together well, should be available in September/October
- BMJ article sent for review
- Technician training: Stephen Palmer leading on this
- Scholar's programme (see above); also proposal for full time fellow, submitted application for funding to KCUK but missed deadline for consideration in April round so have been asked to re-submit for October round
- Patient rep found via NKF, hoping to join next meeting in May
- Talks – small pool of people willing to give talks as demand high. FM can share some slides to be adapted.
- Next meeting: 16th May

Workstream 2: Procurement, infrastructure and innovation

Last meeting was before main committee meeting, so currently up to date with activities. Metrics output from WS3 partly will define procurement strategy. SIG is in set up with industry, had positive feedback on this with SHC. Planning to use in-centre haemodialysis as exemplar of high resource use and planning a toolkit on this, mapping pathways and key stakeholders. Next meeting will be next week (20th), and RH will join.

Workstream 3: Sustainable Kidney Care Pathways

MW not in attendance but SK has joined previous meetings – group is currently defining package of metrics and a questionnaire survey is planned to be sent out via the ART very soon, with data collected/analysed by UKKA. Also looking at rollout of metrics, and hierarchy, e.g. bronze/silver/gold defined in terms of increasing detail on data returns in 3 key areas (water use/energy use/waste

production). Goal that by 2023 all units would return information on these via the Registry, will keep committee updated on developments.

Greener NHS update

Manraj Phull, Greener NHS fellow, has 1 year tenure, so may be approaching end of tenure - SK to check.

UKKW 2022

Session scheduled for 8th June, 90minute practical – MH, FM, RH each will deliver section then have a panel discussion. Intention to livestream, committee keen for session to be accessible remotely. Unit-wide registrations now open and good for those wishing to dip into virtual elements of programme.

Green Nephrology conference 2023

Aiming for conference in spring 2023, to give time for projects to mature/scholars to start roles, as this could form part of their work and give them an opportunity to present their work. Also plan to run webinars in lead up to conference. RH asked if anyone in committee was willing to volunteer to become member of conference committee, SK and SA interested; FM possibly if scholars will be in place by then. To identify suitable date to allow for planning, then start promotion.

Research strategy

JP sent apologies and provided update - the date of the next UK Kidney Research Consortium meeting is on Monday 13th June, which will allow slightly longer for committee members to forward their key unanswered research questions through to JP.

The advertisement for the co-chairs of the new Dialysis Research and Innovation Network is due to go live on the KRUK website either later this week or early next week and KRUK have allowed a 4-week recruitment period. Sustainability in dialysis is firmly embedded in the Terms of Reference for this group, so hopefully this will lead to exciting developments in the future.

International collaboration

See WS1 report – MH working on this.

Devolved nations inclusion strategy

RH working on this – some difficulty in reaching out to devolved nations, but has linked with Jessica Notzing in Wales who has website on green kidney care. RH has also been in contact with 2 renal nurses in NI who are keen to be involved and work to develop support for sustainable kidney care there. FM encouraged RH to flag the SHC network as a resource to these groups.

AOB

SK invited to help deliver green nephrology workshop at live kidney donor workshop at end of April, will feedback to group following this.

FA noted the launch of the Newcastle report planned for June, intention to involve committee/UKKA. SK said group are planning to send for peer review so can share copies on privileged basis with group before wider publication.

FM said the British Transplantation Society are interested in starting work on sustainability and will use their annual meeting in Belfast to launch this, scheduled for September.

Next meeting: Wednesday 22nd June 2022, 2 – 3:30 pm (TBC)

Actions

AP1	Agree high level targets in next meeting	All
AP2	Refresh pages on the UKKA site – ongoing	SK/RH
AP3	Write communication to clinical leads on SKC activities with input from UKKA comms	SK/RH/Caitlin
AP4	Follow up with industry partners re: funding for scholar’s programme	SK
AP5	Discuss convening of a Green Nephrology conference organising committee at the next meeting - ongoing	All
AP7	Identify suitable date for Green Nephrology conference 2023	RH
AP6	Workstreams to send key unanswered questions to SK for collation for JP to take to UKKRC - ongoing	All