

Sustainable Kidney Care committee

Date: 16th February 2022, 2pm

Attendees: Suren Kanagasundaram (SK), Rona Hutton (RH), Shazia Adalat (SA), Fiona Adshead (FA), Catherine Floyd (CF), Emily Horwill (EH), Karen Jenkins (KJ), Frances Mortimer (FM), Eleanor Murray (EM), Stephen Palmer (SP), Jo Pywell (JP), Chris Stait (CS), Katie Vinen (KV), Mark Wright (MW)

Apologies: Keith Channing (KC), Mark Harber (MH)

Minutes: UKKA Sec

Welcome & introductions

SK welcomed Rona Hutton, who has taken on the roles of ANN UK representative and committee MDT co-chair.

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

SK showed slides outlining plan to develop statement of ambition. Following this, intention to create a pledge to share with the renal community which centres can sign up to.

Split into two broad targets: to meet or exceed NHS carbon zero goals, and to meet zero waste kidney care goals. Key considerations for the latter include the complexity of the systems involved – focus is wider than simply decarbonisation. Looking at circular solutions, e.g. “pay-per-use” and modular design for dialysis machines. Zero waste target by 2040, 80% by 2032-2036 – consider target 2 as high-level statement. Slide of doughnut visual framework for sustainability, based on work of [DEAL \(doughnuteconomics.org\)](https://doughnuteconomics.org) – could apply this to kidney care. SK & RH are planning to discuss plans with key academic colleagues to potentially look at boundary setting exercise.

SK invited comments from the committee on the roadmap/pledge. CF flagged that NHS targets differed in devolved nations, so important to recognise this as based on England – further information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-health-services-make-landmark-pledge-to-achieve-net-zero>.

FA highlighted that something WS3 could look at is definition of waste, and what waste looks like in renal context. FA also noted that milestones could be useful to streamline work and measure progress.

FM questioned scope of doughnut model – SK indicated this would be broad and cover patients and staff as well as suppliers and wider stakeholders. The model could work effectively on local level.

SKC webpage

Nothing further on this from previous meeting – chairs will plan changes and liaise with UKKA team.

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.

Two aspects – seeking funding and getting host institutions involved. UKKA sending out call for interest to CDs, will share this with ANN UK and SPR club, and include in enews/Tweets.

Progress reports:

Workstream 1: Action, Learning & Education

Last meeting in January, multiprofessional group assembled. Alongside scholar's proposal, plan to develop a fellowship position who would support work of all workstreams/committee. Discussed with UKKA and Fiona/Keith at Sustainable Healthcare Coalition (SHC) and Association of Renal Industries.

Group has developed an online network for discussion:

<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/network/sustainable-kidney-care>. Intention to recruit local champions, letter of invitation drafted for CDs and also role description for approaching potential recruits at grassroots level. Plan to review these at next meeting (7/3), then work on online course and contributions to this.

FM will be giving a talk at the ISN World Congress of Nephrology on 27th Feb at 10am UK time (<https://www.theisn.org/blog/2022/02/15/sustainable-kidney-care-is-the-green-choice-for-the-world/>), where there will be a Q&A following this – committee members encouraged to attend if able. Good opportunity to foster links internationally and with ISN.

Workstream 2: Procurement, infrastructure and innovation

First meeting took place last week – attendees included Keith from SHC, Gaynor Whyles from Jera Consulting and is link to EcoQuip+, and representatives from NHS supply chain.

Meeting focused on scene setting and priorities – planning to access Academic Health Science Networks (ASHN) involvement to push forward initiatives. It was agreed that industry would interface as a special interest group, seeking input from Association of Renal Industries. SK speaking with Gill Manning to feed in to workstream.

Discussed future operating framework for Tower 8 (“Therapies” – includes Kidney Care) is to be refreshed in two years. There is a planned introduction in April of a 10% mandatory social value weighting score for tenders, based on a generic target set by the government (not healthcare specific). Intention to produce a framework for the renal community to apply this 10%. Innovation procurement strategy would, initially, will select a centre to work with, choose a pathway and map this process to develop strategy for tender, then develop guidance from this.

Workstream 3: Sustainable Kidney Care Pathways

Meeting took place late in 2021, had intended meet more recently but Covid pressures delayed this. Developed questionnaire for renal units to gauge current practices, and what the barriers are to energy and water consumption and waste reporting. Have sent pilot questionnaire to 4 units so far, with plan to roll out more widely to renal tech centres/managerial teams – awaiting initial data. Some variation noted amongst centres in coding data, e.g. use of acronyms which will need addressing. Following this, plan to discuss reporting, then with UKRR on how data could be received/structured.

Carbon calculator – SK noted that the now completed life cycle analysis (LCA) of the ICHD care pathway in Newcastle – undertaken with the SHC - was allowing the development of a carbon calculator for use by individual units but also to allow high-level inter-unit comparisons. The next phase of the Newcastle project was to extend LCAs to other Newcastle care pathways to allow

development of similar tools for other Kidney Care pathways. Their preliminary report can be shared on a privileged basis with an intention to submit for peer-reviewed publication, pending.

Greener NHS update

To be covered at the next meeting.

UKKW 2022

Committee has submitted proposal for 90min session, format of invited speakers and panel discussion. Offer to liaise on conference sustainability also made.

Green Nephrology conference 2022

SK asked committee whether aiming for a conference in 2023 would be preferable, to allow time for project work to mature and continue to generate interest and support within the community from different sources. The committee agreed and will aim for 2023 event. FM asked if committee could look at scheduling events in the year (e.g., webinars) or offer spaces within other conferences to facilitate meetings/discussion.

FM also suggested that if scholars are in place by 2023, part of conference could be built around their work. There was also discussion around session format, workshop/masterclass sessions with information sharing elements would be beneficial. Action to discuss convening of a conference organising committee at the next meeting.

Research strategy

JP gave update – long-term work continuing. There has been a recent medical technology call/competition, applicants have now been shortlisted and JP will update if there are candidates with projects focused on sustainability.

Dialysis research network being established, ToRs have been drafted and will be circulated for comment shortly. UKKRC meeting in May and hoping to recruit leads.

Discussion around research priority setting work – example:

<https://research.cmft.nhs.uk/research/wythenshawe-hospital/greener-operations-ppp>. SK

requested that committee members send 3/4 key unanswered questions from workstreams for JP to feed to next UKKRC meeting.

International collaboration

ERA/EDTA – no active conversations since last contact, can share committee outputs as work progresses. FM linked with ISN (see above), MH expressed interest in acting as international liaison for the Committee.

Devolved nations inclusion strategy

New agenda item to look at ways to ensure devolved nations are represented and included within work of committee/plans. RH has started gathering contacts for inclusion, has nursing contact from RCN. CF highlighted the CSH devolved nations engagement group and the importance of ensuring statements of intent encompass variations between nations.

AOB

AZ have approached individuals for funding systematic literature review, keen to make formal arrangement. Formal request to be sent via UKKA.

CS raised the [Transplant Games](#) taking place in Leeds this year, SKC could have some input into this to promote sustainability – MW possibly able to find out who is organising and put CS in touch.

EM flagged that the Scottish Renal Association, who are keen to run annual green events and provide funding for benchmarking – have been in contact with all renal units in Scotland and there is a high level of enthusiasm to be involved with refreshed network.

Next meeting: Wednesday 13th April 2022, 2 – 3:30 pm

Actions

AP1	SK to approach DEAL team to look at adapting model for renal community and feedback to group.	SK
AP2	SK and RH to work on refresh of pages on the UKKA site	SK/RH
AP3	UKKA Sec to forward CD message re: scholar's program to be circulated within ANN UK	UKKA Sec
AP4	Discuss convening of a Green Nephrology conference organising committee at the next meeting	All
AP5	Workstreams to send key unanswered questions to SK for collation for JP to take to UKKRC	All
AP6	FM to confirm with MH whether MH would like to lead on international collaboration	FM