

Director's Update | 06 May 2022

Dear all,

Following approval of our strategic priorities at the Council meeting on 23 March, we agreed to develop and share an operational plan for the year ahead. The plan was subsequently discussed and approved at our Executive Committee on 20 April. I am pleased to be able to share this [Operational Plan](#) which provides an outline of regular operational delivery and project-specific work planned for the year ahead.

During the Council meeting, we also discussed the process of incorporating to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This work is being taken forward by the Executive Committee, supported BMJ legal advisors. We expect to submit the application over the coming weeks and will keep you informed of progress.

Many of you will be aware that my appointment to Interim Director of UKHACC was a temporary secondment from my role as Head of Communications at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, which was due to end on 30 April. The former Director, Nicky Philpott, has informed us that she will not be returning to the role due to taking up a permanent role with the NHS. Nicky has been a wonderful Director for UKHACC and a valuable support and colleague to myself and to Richard and we wish her every success in her new role. I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to stay as the Director on a permanent basis. Thanks so much to everyone who has supported me in this role to this point, and to the College for enabling me to take up the opportunity.

With best wishes

Elaine Mulcahy, Director UKHACC

NHS Long Term Plan Refresh

Many thanks to all who attended our lunchtime session on the NHS Long Term Plan refresh. I hope you found the presentations and workshops to be helpful in shaping thinking regarding your input to the Plan.

During the session, we agreed to follow with a response from UKHACC as well as individual action by the member organisations. Individual members of the Alliance each placing climate change and sustainable practice as a key priority in their responses, will be essential to influence the need for these updates in the LTP refresh. In order to support this activity, we have produced the following:

1. A [letter](#) to Amanda Pritchard from the Chair and Director of UKHACC, noting the list of organisations that are members of the alliance. If there is any reason your organisation does not support this letter, please do let me know by Wednesday 11 May.
 2. A [template letter/content](#) for members of UKHACC to use when developing your own individual responses to the Long Term Plan refresh. We encourage you to tailor this content as appropriate for your organisation and do what you can to ensure sustainability is a priority for the NHS Long Term Plan.
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GMC Good Medical Practice Review

A review of the GMC Good Medical Practice is currently ongoing. The GMC standards team are also looking at education standards, outcomes and other levers to better understand how they can pick up on critical issues in sustainability in medical education and training.

The climate and ecological crises present significant threats to human health, with many of these health impacts already being experienced. Our healthcare systems are both vulnerable and culpable and the health community has a role to play in leading the transformational change that is needed to protect our health service and the people it serves.

The GMC GMP review provides an opportunity to ensure sustainability and climate change impacts for health are incorporated by proposing recommendations to the GMP that encourages and delivers sustainable practice in healthcare.

The [consultation](#) is open to everyone – it opened on 28 April 2022 and closed on 20 July 2022.

Greener Surgery project (previously referred to as the Net Zero Surgery Commission)

The UKHACC Fellow in Sustainable Surgery, Melissa Pegg started in the role on 4 April 2022. The first meeting of the stakeholder group took place on 3 May and was very well attended by all of the organisations involved in the project. The agenda and papers for this meeting can be viewed [here](#).

During the meeting a governance structure for the commission was discussed and approved. Breakout groups also discussed the aims, scope, knowledge gaps, opportunities and implementation of the project. Notes of the meeting will be circulated to stakeholders in due course.

IN CONVERSATION

SAVE THE DATE

Health inequalities, climate justice and the climate crisis in the UK

12.00-13.30, Wednesday 22 June 2022

The next session in our lunchtime In Conversation Series will focus on health inequalities, climate justice and the climate crisis featuring a panellist of expert speakers. The session will follow a similar format to the previous event with short presentations and opportunities for working in smaller groups, and open Q&A with the wider group.

Invitations to this session will be sent over the next week to all members of UKHACC.

A full programme for the series can be viewed [here](#).

COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP: INVITATION

Introduction to communicating climate justice

12.00-13.30, Wednesday 15 June 2022 (online)

Following feedback from our members, we are delighted to welcome Rhiannon Osborne to present a communications workshop exclusively for sustainability, policy and communications leads of UKHACC member organisations. This 90 minute workshop will:

- Introduce key climate justice concepts
- How to incorporate these concepts into health messaging
- Links to further resources
- Discussion of how these concepts can be introduced into communications

The invitation, with further details about the event can be viewed [here](#). Please RSVP to elaine.mulcahy@rcpsg.ac.uk by Friday 3 June if you would like to attend.

Environment Targets consultation

DEFRA published their [Consultation on environmental targets](#) on 16 March 2022. The consultation is open for eight weeks and closes on 11 May 2022. Due to a delay in publishing the evidence reports that support the consultation, DEFRA have indicated that this deadline will be extended.

A short life working group involving UKHACC members (RCPCH, BIASP) was established to develop the response for UKHACC. The proposal was presented to the UKHACC members comms/policy group on 3 May, and was supported by the group.

An overview of the content and plan can be viewed [here](#). We will continue to liaise with the policy/communications teams to develop this piece of work.

We will also continue to work with the Healthy Air Campaign Coalition to discuss coordinated activity and consistent messaging.

Member update meetings

The monthly meeting of the UKHACC membership policy and communications teams held on 3 May involved discussion on action to respond to and/or contribute to:

- Ride For Their Lives 2022 – guest presentation by Tom Clark
 - Shared calendar discussion
 - NHS Long Term Plan refresh
 - DEFRA environment target consultation response
 - In Conversation and Communications workshops
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Ride for Their Lives 2022

Ride for Their Lives 2022 was launched on World health Day on 7 April 2022.

The ride will build to a first event in Geneva at the [World Health Assembly 22-28 May](#) and ends with COP27 in November 2022. Groups of paediatric and/or neonatal healthcare providers - and other healthcare providers - from at least two different hospitals or healthcare settings to organise a cycle, walk or run from one institution to the other institution(s) over one day. At the end of your day, they would like you to record

(video or audio) a discussion following a three pillars strategy - improve, educate, advocate - around the topics of air quality, the benefits of active travel and [healthy cities](#).

The team will collate the campaigns and the recordings into an Inspiration Hub, to be launched in the summer of 2022 as well as a narrative report which will form part of an international PR campaign to the healthcare and mainstream media.

Please complete [this form](#) or email ride@climateacceptancestudios.com to book a call for further details. Full details of the campaign can be found in the [invitation to join](#) document and you can join a ride [here](#).

Promoting your events

Our monthly newsletter is usually issued on the third Friday of the month. Please use the [members' calendar](#) to provide dates and links to your event so that we can promote them in our newsletter. Please also tag @UKHealthClimate on Twitter and we can retweet.

Next Director's Update: Wednesday 1 June 2022