

April 2026 | Edition 226

NPAG News

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and much more...

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Welcome to NPAG News for April

Welcome to the April edition of NPAG News, a month when spring goes into full bloom after the many false starts of March. A time of renewal and of brighter, more hopeful, and cheerful days - this year Easter, of course, falls in April too.

In keeping with this springtime spirit and the theme of renewal and growth, the NHS itself is undergoing meaningful change. With reforms to NHS England now underway, we take a look on page 4 how NPAG is helping members navigate change to stay informed, connected and confident throughout.

During this time of change for the NHS, on pages 7-9 we explore with Members from Scotland, Wales Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands, as well as from England, how they benefit from learning from one another about the many differences, and indeed commonalities of approach to healthcare across the whole of the country.

We share too, ways in which members can get the most out of their membership as we enter the new financial year. We continue with the new Facilitator Focus series too, this month featuring one of our longer-standing NPAG Associates, Dale Atkin.

We also feature the upcoming Theatres and Decontamination Conference, which Dale will again be hosting, along with Trevor Garcia. And, as usual, we bring you all the latest BVG news and a round-up of all our forthcoming activities.

Let's end on an optimistic note too: "Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all your eggs in one basket.", Evan Esar.

Have a great Easter season, everyone!

“ Being part of NPAG has been an inspiring and invaluable experience. The network provides a supportive, collaborative community where colleagues from across organisations can share experiences, benchmark practices, and gain practical insights. The discussions have directly influenced my day-to-day work, helping me improve patient care, support staff, and strengthen services. NPAG's focus on learning, networking, and professional development makes it a truly unique and rewarding forum, and I feel privileged to be part of it.

Operating Theatre Managers BVG member 2025-26

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News in Brief

World Earth Day: Practical Sustainability Wins



World Earth Day on 22nd April highlights the importance of environmental action across health and care. NPAG's BVGs continue to play a part in helping NHS organisations reduce waste, cut emissions and work more sustainably.

The Waste Management BVG recently supported an award-winning clinical waste efficiency pilot which went on to win Bronze in the NHS Waste Innovation of the Year Awards. The NHS Transport & Logistics BVG is helping Trusts transition to cleaner fleet operations, including electric rapid response vehicle trials and the rollout of EV chargers across ambulance stations. The Estates BVG is working closely with the NHS Sustainability Network to drive carbon reduction through energy audits, solar opportunities and improved building performance. Together, these BVGs showcase the practical progress being made across NPAG networks in support of NHS Net Zero.

If you have a sustainability success story to share, we'd love to hear from you. Find out more about these BVGs and how to get involved [here](#).

NPAG Trainer Honoured with Cavell Star Award

We are delighted to share that Lucy Kenyon and her Occupational Health colleague Angela Whitehead have been honoured with Cavell Star Awards for their exceptional service to colleagues through their tireless and longstanding support of iOH as board directors and trustees.

Lucy also leads NPAG's Occupational Health training workshops, where she plays a key role in developing and supporting OH professionals across the NHS. A wonderful and well-deserved achievement for both.

Trevor Garcia Recognised for National contribution

In more awards news, NPAG Facilitator, Trevor Garcia, has been awarded the Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS) Chair's Award for Excellence 2026.



Trevor received this honour at the AHCS Honorary Fellowships 2025 Ceremony & AHCS Chair Celebration, held in March at 116 Pall Mall, London. The award recognises his outstanding contribution to developing a Decontamination Science qualification structure and his leadership in ensuring this evolving discipline is formally recognised across the wider healthcare science community. The event celebrated exceptional achievements from across all sectors of healthcare science, making Trevor's accolade especially meaningful. NPAG is proud to see his dedication, expertise and national influence acknowledged in this way.

New Podcast Shines a Light on Clinical Engineering

Jonny Wall, ex-Business Development Manager at Medecon Healthcare, has launched a new podcast, 'The Clinical Engineer', to raise the profile of Clinical Engineering across the NHS.

The podcast tackles issues such as recruitment challenges, career progression and stark variations between Trusts in equipment replacement. It will also spotlight the people behind the profession, their realities and the future of the field.

The podcast welcomes contributions from anyone wishing to share their background, experience, or emerging topics shaping their work. The first episodes are available now on Spotify and YouTube, with insights spanning Technical Training, Medical Equipment Resale, Decontamination and EBME. Or [click here](#).

New beginnings: Navigating NHS Change Together



Spring brings a renewed sense of momentum and this year the NHS is undergoing a renewal of its own. With the Government's 10-Year Health Plan moving firmly into delivery, and major reforms now being implemented, 2026 is shaping up to be a year of meaningful change across health and care.

A central part of this transformation is the abolition of NHS England, with its functions transitioning into the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) over a planned two-year period. This marks a significant shift in how national policy, oversight and delivery are brought together, with greater focus on system-level accountability and frontline impact. The King's Fund has described this period as one focused on operationalising major strategies, with the emphasis now firmly on translating ambition into practical delivery.

The 10-Year Plan: Shifts Becoming Reality

The Government's 10-Year Health Plan sets out three major transformations: moving care from hospitals into communities, accelerating digital access and technology and focusing on prevention over treatment.

These priorities are now shaping operational plans and investment decisions, as systems and providers take on greater responsibility for delivery during the transition to a new national operating model under DHSC leadership. Neighbourhood care models, expanded digital access and a stronger focus on population health are increasingly becoming reality.

Primary care is central to this shift.

Changes to the 2026/27 GP contract include a £485m uplift, a practice-level GP reimbursement scheme, strengthened same-day urgent access requirements and refreshed QOF indicators. Together, these reforms aim to stabilise general practice, boost capacity and support care closer to home.

What This Means for NPAG Members

Across estates, clinical engineering, facilities, digital and operational roles, NPAG members are at the heart of turning reform into delivery.

In 2026, members are navigating evolving governance and performance expectations, increasing digital integration, and new opportunities to redesign services as care moves into community and neighbourhood settings. The focus is not only on what the NHS delivers, but how it operates.

How NPAG Will Support You This Spring

Throughout this transition, NPAG's mission remains to help members feel informed, connected and confident through change. We will continue to provide:

- Targeted workshops responding to emerging NHS priorities.
- National events interpreting policy into practice.
- Strong peer networks for sharing solutions and challenges.
- Benchmarking opportunities to support improved local decision-making.

While the scale of change is significant, it brings genuine opportunity to simplify, modernise and improve how care is delivered. NPAG will continue to support members in turning national reform into positive, practical progress for teams, services and patients. Find out more [here](#).

Making the Most of your NPAG Membership

As we move into the start of a new financial year, many teams are taking stock, refocusing priorities and looking for fresh ways to strengthen performance. It's an ideal moment to make the most of the support, insight and collaboration available through NPAG.

Being part of an NPAG network offers far more than simply attending meetings. It is an opportunity to collaborate, learn from peers across the NHS and bring back practical improvements to your organisation. Here are some simple but effective ways members can maximise the value of their membership.

Prepare Ahead of Meetings

A few minutes of preparation can greatly enhance what you take from each session. Reviewing the agenda, thinking about current challenges and bringing examples or questions from your Trust helps generate more focused, productive discussions. It also enables you to get tailored support from colleagues who understand your operational realities.

Share Learning and Good Practice

NPAG networks thrive on shared experience. Offering brief updates on projects, sharing tools or templates, or talking honestly about lessons learned adds enormous value for the whole group. Often, what feels routine to you can be transformative for someone else.

Build Connections Between Meetings

Much of NPAG's impact happens between sessions. Staying in touch with fellow members, reaching out through the community of practice, or exploring ideas in smaller working groups helps build trusted relationships and maintain momentum. Many members say these peer connections become their most reliable source of advice.



Bring Learning Back to Your Organisation

Ensuring NPAG benefits your wider team is key. Sharing key points after meetings, applying small improvements and incorporating insights into quality improvement work or appraisal evidence helps show the tangible return on your Trust's investment.

Shape Future Agendas

Your input directly influences the content and direction of each network. Let facilitators know what topics matter to you, suggest relevant speakers or case studies, and give feedback on meeting formats. This keeps NPAG member-led, practical and closely aligned to real-world challenges.

Use the Shared Resources

Presentations, notes, benchmarking data, policies and other materials available through your network can save time and support best practice. Making use of these resources helps you apply learning quickly without reinventing the wheel.

See NPAG as Your Support Network

Above all, NPAG is a safe, professional space to ask questions, explore ideas and seek advice from peers who face similar challenges. The groups and network offer trusted support and genuine opportunities for learning and development.

AI in NPAG Member Organisations: Enhancing Productivity and Service Quality

This season often reflects the quiet but powerful changes happening around us - gradual shifts that lead to better, brighter outcomes. Artificial Intelligence represents a similar moment of positive transition for healthcare professionals, offering practical tools that support efficiency, insight and collaboration.

Used responsibly, it can help staff work more efficiently and confidently.

AI is particularly effective at reducing administrative time. By generating drafts, summaries, reports or schedules in seconds, it frees staff in Procurement, HR, Facilities, Clinical Engineering and Decontamination to focus on higher-value work and specialist expertise. This also reduces the risk of burnout and boosts accuracy in day-to-day processes.

It also supports better decision-making by highlighting trends and risks that might otherwise be missed. Estates, Energy, Waste and Transport teams can use AI tools to analyse data, plan resources more effectively and build stronger business cases. Faster access to clear insights helps services anticipate needs rather than react to them.

Service quality can also improve. Groups such as EPRR benefit from more consistent responses, improved communication and quicker access to relevant information. This leads to smoother interactions and greater reliability for patients and service users.

Knowledge sharing is another area where AI can make a real difference. By organising information and summarising discussions, it helps all BVGs reduce duplication, improve onboarding and maintain organisational memory. AI also reduces errors by checking calculations, validating compliance documents and strengthening SOP development.

AI contributes to innovation too, helping members explore ideas, model scenarios and progress improvement initiatives more quickly. And across all groups, it supports well-being by reducing repetitive tasks and cognitive load.

How NPAG Can Help

As AI becomes increasingly embedded across the NHS, NPAG members are exploring how to harness future benefits safely and practically. Member discussions reveal interest in tools that genuinely ease operational pressures, from predictive maintenance in Clinical Engineering to ambient documentation, smarter telecoms and improved data-driven decision making. Of course, any use must be implemented with Information Governance approval.

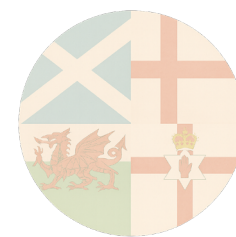
There is also growing awareness of AI's environmental impact, with NPAG groups keen to understand how to balance innovation with sustainability. Together, these conversations highlight a shared appetite for practical, evidence-based AI that supports patient care, reduces workload, and aligns with national priorities for digital transformation.

NPAG is uniquely positioned to support safe, practical AI adoption by:

- Sharing case studies and best practice across BVGs
- Providing templates, tools and AI-ready resources
- Creating a forum for discussion, learning and confidence-building
- Helping Trusts reduce duplication and strengthen consistent standards

Thoughtfully used, AI can help NPAG members deliver better services, empower staff and create more sustainable ways of working.

Connecting Experience Across Borders



Across the NHS, the landscape is shifting. With the abolition of NHS England and the transition toward new national structures, the drive for cross-system collaboration, shared learning and reducing unwarranted variation remains as important as ever. This moment offers a renewed opportunity to look outward, not only across regions, but across national borders.

NPAG has long recognised that many of the challenges faced by organisations in England are mirrored in Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and the Channel Islands. Just as importantly, these nations are often developing innovative approaches, policies, and models of care that offer valuable insight for services operating within England's evolving national framework.

For many of our BVGs, engagement from colleagues in the devolved nations has become an essential part of each meeting. Their regular updates bring different policy contexts, alternative operational models, and fresh thinking into the conversation, giving members in England a richer understanding of what is happening beyond its new health governance arrangements.

As England moves into a new phase of health system organisation, with increased focus on integration, digital maturity, productivity and patient experience across the new national bodies, learning from countries with different structures and strategic priorities provides a wider lens through which our members can reflect, plan, and adapt.

The benefit flows both ways. Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales gain direct access to the lived experiences, trials, improvements, and practical solutions developed inside provider organisations in England. They also gain a clearer

understanding of England's direction of travel as its new structures, priorities and national guidance continue to develop. Together, this creates a unique cross-border network where shared pressures become shared learning. Geographical boundaries are no barrier to professional collaboration.

Why Cross-Nation Learning Matters

Despite their differences, the health systems share common goals: improving outcomes, enhancing patient experience, tackling inequalities, and ensuring financial sustainability. But their divergent governance models - from Scotland's central-regional partnership, to Wales' public-health-driven approach, to Northern Ireland's fully integrated system - create unique innovations and challenges.

By facilitating cross-nation knowledge exchange, NPAG can:

- Help members understand alternative delivery and governance models
- Strengthen regional networks and partnerships.
- Surface best practice that can be transferred or adapted across borders, enrich national programme discussions with diverse operational insights.

Cross-border Collaboration in Action

Overpage we shine a spotlight on the four nations and Channel Islands within NPAG, sharing perspectives, commentary, and profiles from members and policy leaders across the UK.

Their voices reflect the diversity of our health systems and the unity of our purpose: to support improvement, innovation, and better outcomes for the patients and communities we all serve.

Scotland

A Nationally Coordinated but Regionally Delivered System

Scotland's health services are overseen by the Scottish Government, which allocates funding and sets national priorities. Delivery happens through 22 NHS organisations, including 14 regional health boards and 8 national boards, responsible for both acute and community care across diverse mainland and island populations. These boards work closely with local authorities and partner agencies to integrate care and address health inequalities.

There is a strong emphasis on national coordination, with planning and policy direction set centrally but delivered regionally. There is also a long-standing commitment to reducing health inequalities through joint health-social care planning.

Learning: Scotland's integrated approach and centrally guided governance provide useful insights for programmes looking to strengthen national-local alignment.

“Scotland's distinct governance framework provides valuable opportunities for shared learning across the Four Nations, particularly in aligning proportionate security measures with patient-centred, planned care delivery.

My role involves providing strategic leadership for security governance within a national elective centre... A current priority is strengthening our approach to violence and aggression prevention; we are working towards ensuring that all staff receive appropriate training in violence and aggression awareness and management, which is not yet consistently embedded across the organisation. This forms part of a wider commitment to developing a proactive, prevention-focused culture, using data, environmental design and cross-sector collaboration to continuously improve safety.

Paul Dragsnes,
National Service Scotland, NHS Scotland Assure

Wales

Strong Public Health Focus and Fully Devolved Delivery

Wales operates a fully devolved NHS, funded through the Welsh Government block grant and delivered by seven local health boards.

As an integrated system without a commissioner-provider split, Wales places long-standing emphasis on prevention, public health and equitable access, including universal free prescriptions.

Governance has been strengthened through the Duty of Quality under the Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act 2020, with national support from the Quality Management System (QMS), Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) and the 2025–26 Oversight and Escalation Framework.

Wales also continues to drive national priority programmes, including value-based healthcare and digital transformation, through an all-Wales approach.

Learning: These reforms highlight how a small, integrated system can align quality, prevention and service improvement across organisations. For NPAG members, Wales offers practical examples of system-wide governance, value-based approaches and cross-sector planning that differ from the English model.

“Joining this group has significantly enhanced collaboration and driven substantial improvements in temporary staffing. The chance to learn from best practices and benchmark ideas across nations has been crucial in shaping effective policies and processes. Sharing experiences with colleagues and utilising the group as a sounding board has enabled me to approach challenges with greater confidence and clarity.

Daniel Owen,
Hywel Dda University Health Board

Northern Ireland

Fully Integrated Health and Social Care System

Northern Ireland is unique in the UK for its integrated Health and Social Care (HSC) system. Unlike the NHS model elsewhere, health and social care are managed together under a single structure. Distinctions include integrated commissioning, delivery and workforce planning across health and social services.

There have been recent challenges in publishing comparable performance data due to the rollout of a new patient system, highlighting operational complexities within integrated models.

Learning: Northern Ireland's experience with system integration provides rich opportunities for members exploring models that better connect clinical, community and social care pathways.

 I have led Northern Ireland's preparation for the implementation of the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland).

This has involved supporting regional policy development, implementing ANPR cameras across five Trusts, and providing written and oral evidence to the Northern Ireland Assembly Health Committee alongside colleagues from the DoH.

Over the years, I have aimed to offer practical insights into the challenges associated with the removing hospital parking charges, grounded in real-world experience. I encourage NPAG colleagues to remain alert to the political landscape in England and to respond proactively and compassionately to claims that hospital parking represents a tax on the most vulnerable. I am a strong advocate for well-designed parking policy that promotes fairness and equity, and which aligns closely with sustainable and active travel planning.

NPAG offers members a unique platform for all four nations to share learning and adopt a cohesive and strong voice to inform and influence strategic direction.

Jeff Thompson
Assistant Director South Eastern HSC Trust

England

A Large System Under Major Structural Change

England's NHS is centrally funded through the DHSC, with services delivered by Trusts, foundation trusts and GPs, and commissioning led by Integrated Care Boards (ICBs).

Major reforms are imminent, with England shifting toward more community-based, digital and prevention-focused care, while also facing significant cost-reduction and productivity demands. In the next year NHS England will be abolished, with its functions moving to the DHSC and ICBs required to reduce running costs. These changes mark one of the most substantial restructurings in the history of NHS management.


Learning: navigating a rapidly changing national operating model, with increased central oversight and shifting commissioning responsibilities makes cross-nation learning and shared best practice more valuable than ever.

Channel Islands

Independent but Aligned

Healthcare in the Channel Islands is delivered independently of the NHS, with Jersey and Guernsey each running its own system and funding model. Both islands follow UK best practice, but services are a mix of public and private provision, and most residents contribute directly to the cost of care.

Learning: This highlights the value of cross-border knowledge exchange, collective problem-solving and ensuring that specialist knowledge, policy updates and national frameworks flow freely across organisational and geographical boundaries.

 Working on an island can feel isolating... the conference gives me the face-to-face communication with other managers and reassurance we are all facing similar challenges.

Louise Langlois,
Government of Jersey

Facilitator in Focus: Dale Atkins

As we move into a new financial year and welcome a sense of renewal across our networks, NPAG continues to highlight the facilitators who help our groups develop, adapt and look ahead with confidence.



This month, we shine a light on Dale Atkins, an experienced NPAG Business Associate whose extensive NHS background and collaborative approach make him a valued source of insight and support.

With more than 35 years working in and around the NHS, Dale has built his career across commissioning, health service planning, management information and service redesign in both primary and secondary care. He has also supported GP practices with business planning, resilience planning and management information systems, giving him a rounded view of patient pathways and operational pressures.

Facilitating & Co-chairing

Dale facilitates five well-established and attended NPAG BVGs: the EPRR Network, Operating Theatre Managers BVG, Temporary Workforce Network, Violence Reduction & Security Management Network and the Waste Management BVG. Under his guidance, the Waste Management BVG has expanded to almost 100 members, now the largest group of its kind in the NHS.

His facilitation approach is steady, inclusive and focused on supporting members as priorities shift in light of changes at a National level.

Alongside this, a significant aspect of Dale's NPAG contribution has been his role as co-chair of the NPAG Theatres & Decontamination Conference. Working alongside colleagues

to shape the programme and guide the day, Dale brings clarity, member feedback and an enthusiastic leadership style that delegates value. He will again co-chair this year's Conference on 19th May (see more overpage), continuing his involvement in one of NPAG's flagship national events. His long experience facilitating the Operating Theatre Managers BVG and his relationships across national bodies further strengthen his contribution to this high-profile programme.

Connections, Communication & Engagement

Dale's communication experience ranges from Board-level briefings and public consultations to community engagement sessions and hands-on staff training. He brings clarity and diplomacy to each setting, supporting open discussion and helping teams navigate complex issues, something particularly important at this time of year as organisations refresh operational plans and priorities.

This experience benefits NPAG groups as Dale uses these skills to forge strong working relationships with organisations such as NHS England, NHS Employers, the Environment Agency, NHS Supply Chain, Shakespeare Martineau solicitors, DEFRA, NaCTSO and NAHS. These partnerships provide valuable national input into NPAG's networks and enrich the discussions he facilitates.

A Collaborative & Supportive Colleague

Colleagues and group members consistently value Dale's professionalism, steadiness and genuine commitment to supporting others. Whether leading meetings, facilitating inter-meeting discussions, shaping national events or assisting organisations during periods of change, he brings a thoughtful and collaborative approach that embodies NPAG's values.

We thank Dale for his continued commitment and partnership.

Theatres & Decontamination Conference 2026

National Performance Advisory Group

Design for Life, Innovation & Collaboration Across Theatres and Decontamination

19th May 2026 | Radisson Blu Stansted Hotel

Join colleagues from operating theatres, decontamination services and industry for a dynamic one-day conference focused on innovation, collaboration and whole-life thinking across surgical services.

Hear from national NHS leaders, frontline experts and industry specialists as they showcase real-world case studies, emerging technologies and future-focused approaches that are transforming theatres and decontamination services.

Conference Highlights

- **Keynote Address:** Professor Tim Briggs – The importance of collaboration across surgical services.
- **Digital Transformation:** ePre-Operative Assessment (ePOA) and its impact on theatre efficiency.
- **Innovation & Technology:** 3D printing of bespoke implantable medical devices.
- **Robotic-Assisted Surgery:** Implications for theatres and decontamination services.
- **NHS Supply Chain:** What it means for surgical services today and tomorrow.
- **Interactive Panel Session:** Design for Life, Innovation & NHS Supply Chain.

Why Attend?

- ✓ **Collaborate:** Break down silos and explore joined-up solutions by learning alongside theatre teams, decontamination professionals and system partners.
- ✓ **Learn from Experts:** Gain practical insights from national NHS leaders, clinicians, engineers and suppliers on governance, digital transformation, innovation and sustainability.
- ✓ **Stay Ahead of the Curve:** Discover emerging technologies, evolving standards and new ways of working shaping the future of surgical services.
- ✓ **Network:** Meet peers, NHS colleagues and commercial partners during dedicated networking and exhibition breaks.

Exhibition

A dedicated exhibition will showcase the latest products, services and innovations supporting theatres and decontamination services, with built-in time to explore, network and ask questions.

Exhibitors confirmed to date:



The conference gives me the face-to-face communication with other managers and to see from the suppliers the new products on offer...Communication-interaction-new technologies and just to know that we are all facing similar day to day challenges.

2025 Conference Delegate

Interested? Visit our website [here](#) or contact us for further information or a booking form by emailing us at: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Theatres & Decontamination Conference 2026

National Performance Advisory Group

Design for Life, Innovation & Collaboration Across Theatres and Decontamination

19th May 2026 | Radisson Blu Stansted Hotel

Sponsorship packages are now open for the NPAG Theatres & Decontamination Conference 2026!

PLATINUM Package Exhibition Stand - £1,550 + VAT. Package to include: -

- Choice of stand location (on a first come basis)
- 2 x 3 metre exhibition stand space
- Company logo included within conference marketing material
- Company logo included on NPAG website in run up to conference
- Social media exposure
- Hand-outs on registration
- 1 x 1/2-page advertisement within NPAG News
- 4 x Delegate Passes (for the exhibitor stand staff)
- 2 x NHS Guest Passes

GOLD Package Exhibition Stand - £1,350 + VAT Package to include: -

- 2 x 3 metre width exhibition stand space (stand position will be allocated by NPAG)
- Company logo included within conference marketing material
- Company logo included on NPAG website in run up to conference
- Social media exposure
- Hand-outs on registration
- 1 x 1/2-page advertisement within NPAG News
- 4 x Delegate Passes (for the exhibitor stand staff)
- 2 x NHS Guest Passes

SILVER Package Exhibition Stand - £1,150 + VAT. Package to include: -

- 2 x 3 metre width exhibition stand space (stand position will be allocated by NPAG)
- Company logo included within conference marketing material
- Company logo included on NPAG website in run up to conference
- Social media exposure
- Hand-outs on registration
- 1 x 1/3-page advertisement within NPAG News
- 2 x Delegate Passes (for the exhibitor stand staff)

BRONZE Commercial Delegates - £450 + VAT. Package to include: -

- 2x Delegate Passes
- Inserts in delegate packs, as supplied by the sponsor and given to all delegates at registration
- Company logo to be included within all conference marketing material
- Company logo to be included on NPAG website in run up to conference
- Social Media exposure
- Company brochure / Information Sheet on registration
- 1 x 1/3-page advertisement within NPAG News

Additions to your package* could include:

- Attendance for two additional two people - £140 + VAT
- Double / bespoke stand space - cost to be discussed
- Additional NPAG News ad - £100 + VAT
- Stationery on the tables - £250 + VAT
- Bags / Handouts - £250 + VAT

*Terms and Conditions Apply

Interested?

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NPAG Best Value Groups

The following groups are renewing in the coming months:

NHS Transport & Logistics BVG - New round starting on 21st April 2026

This is a member-driven network focused on improving fleet management, logistics, parking and related services. The group shares proven practice while exploring new developments. Members lead the agenda and collaborate on topics such as fleet and pool car management, taxi services, waste and ADR, procurement and legislation. Despite efficiency pressures, NPAG supports this proactive community to drive improvement and share resources. With members from Trusts across England and Wales, the group also benefits from valuable insight into approaches taken across devolved nations.

[Find
out
more](#)

Facilities North BVG - New round starting on 15th April 2026

NHS Facilities Managers meet to share new ideas, service innovation, discuss topical issues, measure trust performance, provide cost effective solutions, learn from others creative service redesign and network with likeminded individuals involved in Facilities Management. The group has a broad membership from Acute, Community and Mental Health Trusts with members who have a wealth of experience in managing facilities. Members of the group continue to demonstrate enthusiasm for seeking out improvements and developments in their services, providing a solid basis upon which to provide the best available care for patients.

[Find
out
more](#)

EPRR - New round starting on 29th April 2026

NHS England is clear that the NHS must be ready to plan for and respond to a wide range of incidents from severe weather and disease outbreaks to major accidents, while still maintaining services. NPAG's EPRR Network provides a well-established national forum supporting those with responsibility for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response, offering invaluable peer support, shared good practice and access to documentation, procedures and responses to new guidance. Despite cost pressures, members consistently report that the value of this national network far outweighs the joining fee, particularly given the breadth of learning from organisations across the country. Meetings cover key topics such as cyber security, business continuity, major incident planning, industrial action, fuel planning, shelter and evacuation, hazmat/CBRN, disease outbreaks, identification of vulnerable people, dynamic risk assessments, and more.

[Find
out
more](#)

Estates BVG - New round starting on 18th June 2026

The Estates BVG brings together senior Estates and Facilities professionals from Acute, Community and Mental Health Trusts, plus NHS Property Services, to share expertise and work collaboratively on current challenges. With the NHS under increasing pressure and unprecedented demands on estates teams, national networking has never been more valuable. The group supports the Estates function as a critical enabler of clinical services, offering strong links with NHS bodies, experienced facilitation and member-led agendas. Meetings feature presentations on national initiatives, compliance, products and services.

[Find
out
more](#)

Interested? NPAG's Best Value Groups provide a structured networking forum for healthcare professionals to meet, discuss current issues and hear from internal and external experts. Visit our [website](#) to find out more or contact the NPAG team for more information at info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

NPAG Training Workshops For Healthcare Professionals

As part of our aim to support NHS and public sector managers, NPAG offers a variety of healthcare training workshops, working with a network of trainers who are experts in their field.

The NPAG training workshop portfolio includes:

Workplace Wellbeing

A one-day on-site workshop offering a supportive and practical space for to explore strategies that promote personal resilience, emotional wellbeing and a healthier workplace culture. Through interactive sessions, participants gain tools to manage stress, improve self-awareness and foster positive communication - empowering them to care for themselves while continuing to deliver compassionate care to others.

[Find
out
more](#)

Putting the Patient First: Customer Care & Communication

This one-day on-site training workshop increases awareness of the service user relationships and its importance and impact on your organisation. The bespoke programme will reflect on your organisational core values, ensuring successful and measurable outcomes. Using exercises and various other materials, it will challenge behaviours and attitudes helping promote an excellent service to all service users.

[Find
out
more](#)

Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals

Part of a wider series of training modules for 2026, we are concentrating on two of the most in-demand workshops. Each will introduce recent research and developments, teaching critical thinking over academic content. Choose from:

- 17th April 2026 - Performance & Attendance
- 23rd April 2026 - Fitness for Work

Each module represents standalone professional participatory CPD hours.

[Find
out
more](#)

Benefits include:



- ✓ Evidence to the CQC of your commitment to improving patient care through staff training
- ✓ Evidence of contribution towards NHS England's *Promise* to provide a positive and compassionate working culture
- ✓ Practical 'toolkits' to help delegates hone additional skills to enhance their daily role
- ✓ All NPAG workshops are CPD certified, offering standalone professional participatory CPD hours
- ✓ As an NHS organisation, NPAG is able to offer training at very competitive prices

Who are our workshops aimed at?



Healthcare professionals. Training programmes are tailored and developed to meet delegate and organisational needs.

Interested? Visit our [website here](#) to find out more about our workshops here or
Contact Lynn Maddison for further details and booking information at info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Clinical Engineering Conference

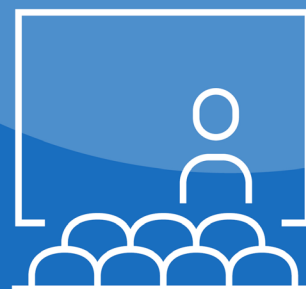


National Performance
Advisory Group

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, 22nd September 2026
Radisson Blu Stansted Hotel

npag.org.uk



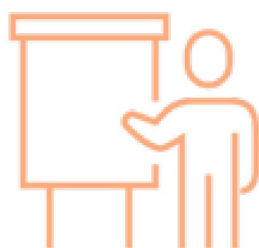
Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals



National Performance
Advisory Group

Practical Online Training Modules

- 17th April 2026 - Performance & Attendance
- 23rd April 2026 - Fitness for Work



- ✓ Strengthen clinical expertise
- ✓ Improve workplace outcomes
- ✓ Stay ahead of change
- ✓ Network & share knowledge
- ✓ Development of 'Actions Plans'

Cost: £200 per module

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.



Here are some recent Network questions:



When obtaining blood samples, what transporting equipment are clinicians using to transport bloods to their drop off point. Are any areas using insulated bags to mitigate for extremes of temperature, and if so what type of insulated bag?

National District Nurses Network Member

What are other services thoughts on the use of non-OEM (3rd party) consumable items? Do other trusts have a specific policy for the use on non-OEM (3rd party) consumable items, whether they be multiple use items such as re-usable NIBP cuffs or 3rd party service parts such as medical gas hoses, or single patient use items such as disposable wrap around SPO2 sensors?

Where non-OEM (3rd party) consumable items are used are they listed on any risk register?

Clinical Engineering North BVG Member

Would anyone be able to share a Staff Car Parking Policy with me. I'm writing one from scratch as SPFT hasn't had one previously, our parking isn't paid for, it would be great if anyone with a similar model could share an indicative policy.

NHS Transport & Logistics BVG Member

Do any colleagues know if they have a Honeywell Door Access system in operation within their organisations?

Are members systems standalone or linked with other IT databases?

Facilities North BVG 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

April

- NHS Car Parking & Sustainable Travel Network
- Facilities North BVG
- IT & Medical Connectivity Network
- EPRR
- NHS Transport & Logistics BVG
- NHS Sustainability Leads Network
- Violence Reduction & Security Mgt Network

May

- Facilities South BVG

June

- Temporary Workforce Network
- Estates BVG
- Telecoms BVG
- Waste BVG
- Clinical Engineering North and South BVGs

Conferences

- Theatres and Decontamination Conference (19th May 2026)
- Clinical Engineering Conference (22nd September 2026)

Workshops & Events

- Clinical Development for Occupational Health Professionals training workshops: April 2026
- Putting the Patient First on-site training workshops
- Workplace Wellbeing training workshops

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

CONTACT US

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