



Minutes of the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change Executive Committee

Held online 19 June 2025, 14.30-16.30

Present: Juliet Dobson (BMJ), Elaine Mulcahy (Director, UKHACC), Richard Smith (Chair, UKHACC), Rodney Morton (FNF), Emma Radcliffe (GP), Rose Gallagher (RCN), Jacob Kranowski (RCPsych), Sandy Mather (ICS)

Apologies for absence: Jill Belch (RCPE), Chris Banks (Treasurer), Ranee Thakar (RCOG), Eleanor Roaf (FPH)

Summary of actions:

- Suggested projects for registrars to work to be discussed at the next meeting > On agenda
- EM to share Climate and Health Scorecard questions with trustees when available, and also ensure that Intensive Care Society is on their list of organisations to send the survey too > EM has chased
- EM to draft exit feedback questionnaire for leaving members following the 2025/6 renewal campaign > For Dec/Jan
- RS to remind RT to contact Royal College of Midwives about joining > Done
- EM to notify members of BIA joining and finalise the joining process > Done
- RS to sign the final set of end of year accounts produced by Godfrey Wilson > Done
- EM to submit the signed accounts to the charity commission > In progress
- Trustees to be notified of outcome of chair interviews > Done
- EM to investigate the potential of using the Electoral Reform Society to oversee the elections > In progress
- EM to issue the call for nominations and schedule for trustee elections during the first week of July > Done
- EM to provide detailed information on how the single transferrable voting system works > On agenda
- EM to add charity number to our website > Done
- EM to explore process for registering the with the fundraising regulator > Carry forward
- EM to investigate process for donations through CAF > Carry forward
- RS to thanks Rachel Armitage for the work she has done on this > Done
- EM to set up a Just Giving page > Carry forward
- Trustees wishing to volunteer to be on the recruitment committee to contact EM
- EM to put a call out to members for volunteers to join the recruitment committee
- EM to publish the nuclear position statement > Done
- EM to thank the working group group who helped produce the nuclear position statement > Done
- EM/RS to draft a letter to NICE for sharing with UKHACC membership organisations for signatures > Done, shared with SHC and CSH
- EM to notify the climate and health communications campaign project that UKHACC is interested in being a collaborator > Done

- EM to add UKHACC signature to the national food policy 10 point plan > Done
- EM to ask if the call for signatures to the food policy 10 point plan could be extended to allow a call to be put to UKHACC membership organisations > Done
- EM to follow up with ERoaf regarding contacting ADPH about lack of climate change in their annual review > Done
- EM to notify the heat strike coalition that we will not be a partner > Done
- EM to publish ECOSAM blog on their heat report > Done
- EM to finalise Scottish manifesto following the deadline for feedback of 27 June > Done
- EM to circulate first draft of Wales manifesto by first week of July > Done

1. Welcome from the Chair

RS welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Conflicts of interest

No Conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Minute from the May meeting

The minute from the May meeting was accepted.

The following actions were discussed and/or carried forward from the previous meeting

- We will wait until the after outcomes of the adaptation roundtable to draft a letter to MPs
- RS received a response to the complaint to the BBC but they have not addressed any of the points they made. JB has complained to Ofcom.
- We received a response from the King's assistant about setting up a meeting but nothing has been set
- GCHA has completed a risk assessment in light of concerns related to the political environment in the US.

4. Risk register

The risk register has been updated to reflect comments at the previous meeting.

5. New member approval

An application to join was received from the British Infection Association. RS and EM met with their President and Sustainability Lead on 17 June. The trustees approved the application.

Action:

- EM to notify members of BIA joining and finalise the joining process

6. May Director's report

The May Director's report was shared prior to the meeting. Points noted were:

- GCHA strategic planning workshops have now completed and a strategic plan is being developed
- A lot of work on the adaptation report is being completed throughout May with finalising the content and development of the design and infographics.
- The government's new guidance on scope 3 emissions was published today. Uplift will produce a summary and share this with us. We should aim to follow up with a letter drawing on what we have said previously.
- We should aim to publish new content on the website regularly

7. Budget

The May budget update was presented. There were no major issues to report. EM and CB have met to talk through the budget.

8. 2024 end of year accounts

The accountant Godfrey Wilson has worked with EM to produce the trustees report and end of year accounts for submission to the charity commission. The Treasurer CB has also reviewed the statements. Trustees approved the accounts.

Action:

- RS to sign the final set of end of year accounts produced by Godfrey Wilson
- EM to submit the signed accounts to the charity commission

9. Update on Chair Interviews

Interviews for the next Chair of UKHACC will take place on 25 and 26 June. The interview panel includes:

- Terry Kemple (former trustee)
- Elaine Mulcahy (Director)
- Chris Banks (Treasurer)
- Juliet Dobson (Trustee)

Candidates and trustees will be notified of the decision following the interviews.

Actions:

- Trustees to be notified of outcome of chair interviews

10. 2025 Trustee election

Two trustees: Juliet Dobson and Jacob Kranowski are due to retire at the AGM in September. One of the current trustees may also be moving to the role of Chair.

Elections will take place to find replacements on the board. Trustees are eligible to stand for a second term.

A call for nominations will be issued during the first week of July followed by voting opening during the first week of August. A transferable voting system will be used.

Points noted:

- Trustees getting to the end of their first term say that it takes a while to get fully on board and feels like a high turnover when you are just getting into it.

- RG found restanding gave a lot of legitimacy when she stood for a second term.
- It was suggested that we could use an external agency such as the Electoral Reform Society to oversee the election process. EM to look into the cost of this.

Actions:

- EM to investigate the potential of using the Electoral Reform Society to oversee the elections
- EM to issue the call for nominations and schedule for trustee elections during the first week of July
- EM to provide detailed information on how the single transferrable voting system works

11. Just Giving proposal

The Fundraising Committee has proposed setting up a Just Giving account to encourage individual donations to UKHACC. A paper was shared prior to the meeting and discussed.

Points noted were:

- Not high risk
- Figures do not make clear how much others have made - CSH have made £10000-15000 without doing much. Active campaigns make a bit more but require resource to deliver campaigns
- Just Giving is a well used tool
- We don't list our charity number on our website and should do this
- Need to register with the fundraising regulator
- Can we put a link on the website for direct donations to us. Funders can donate through CAF. There might be a tab we can click on with CAF to set up donations.
- Clever approach and supportive
- With gift aid is it possible to have gift aid by default unless you opt out.
- Should think at some point about having a campaign.
- Thank Rachel Armitage for the work she has done in putting the paper together

Actions

- EM to add charity number to our website
- EM to explore process for registering the with the fundraising regulator
- EM to investigate process for donations through CAF
- RS to thanks Rachel Armitage for the work she has done on this
- EM to set up a Just Giving page

12. Recruitment committee terms of reference

Following previous discussions, it was agreed that UKHACC should establish a recruitment committee to support efforts to recruit new members. A terms of reference was shared prior to the meeting and discussed.

Points noted:

- Lots of groups out there, particularly specialist societies and charities that are in the same area but are not organisations of health professionals
- We should contact Marie Curie who might be interested

Actions:

- Trustees wishing to volunteer to be on the recruitment committee to contact EM

- EM to put a call out to members for volunteers to join the recruitment committee

13. Nuclear position statement

A position statement on nuclear power was produced with a small working group involving UKHACC membership organisations. The statement was previously reviewed by the trustees and shared with members to allow time for feedback and comments. The deadline for this has now passed and trustees were asked to approve the statement.

In terms of capacity of Sizewell C and the development of small modular reactors (that was announced in the spending review) this is consistent with the recommendations from the Climate Change Committee's carbon budget. It says nuclear needs to increase from 6GW today to 13GW by 2050. Sizewell C will produce 3.2GW once it is operational.

But, it appears that 30% of the money allocated to GB Energy (which is focused on renewables) has been given to GB Nuclear to fund the nuclear project. The total budget allocated to GB Energy was £8.3bn - £2.5bn of this has been allocated to a new company GB Energy - Nuclear (which is essentially a renaming of GB Nuclear). There's a Guardian piece about this here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2025/jun/11/gb-energy-83bn-of-funding-raided-to-pay-for-small-nuclear-reactors>

Based on our position statement, we recognise the role of Sizewell C and small nuclear reactors for the future energy mix, but this should not come at the cost of investment in renewables.

Actions:

- EM to publish the nuclear position statement
- EM to follow up publication of the position statement with a statement on Sizewell
- EM to thank the working group who helped produce the nuclear position statement

14. Keeping up the pressure on NICE

Points noted:

- One trustee said that as someone who is referring to their guidance every day it is disappointing that sustainability is not there at all. NICE should be leading on this.
- UKHACC has already done quite a lot
- If there was something from the ground they might be more likely to listen to it
- Could get 100s of signatures calling on them to act
- This sits firmly within our remit and we should be doing more
- If RCGP said something to them it might carry more weight that UKHACC and CSH
- We haven't asked our members to take action - if we had a letter signed by some of our colleges it might have more impact - with their logos on it
- The divide between people's understanding about sustainability is vast - can feel like speaking different languages. People have different views of what it is.
- A letter with three concrete asks of what we want NICE to change in the next 12 months

Actions:

- EM/RS to draft a letter to NICE for sharing with UKHACC membership organisations for signatures

15. Climate and Health Communications campaign request

UKHACC has been asked to collaborate in a project to deliver a public relations and advertising campaign - What is good for health is good for the planet. The request has come from Hugh Montgomery. They are scoping potential interest in being a collaborator at this stage. Trustees agreed that UKHACC should support this.

Actions:

- EM to notify the climate and health communications campaign project that UKHACC is interested in being a collaborator

16. Support for national food policy 10 point plan

UKHACC has been asked to add support to a policy statement signed by a number of organisations which outlines a 10 point plan for the National Food Strategy. The asks in the plan are consistent with UKHACC policy positions. Trustees agreed that UKHACC should sign the statement.

It was suggested that signatures from UKHACC membership organisations, Royal Colleges, would add authority. We could support this by sharing the call for signatures with our members but this would require an extension of the deadline for signatures. EM to ask if this is possible.

Actions:

- EM to add UKHACC signature to the national food policy 10 point plan
- EM to ask if the call for signatures to the food policy 10 point plan could be extended to allow a call to be put to UKHACC membership organisations

17. Response to ADPH annual review - no mention of climate change

The recent Association of Directors of Public Health annual review contained no mention of climate change.

Points noted:

- It would be better to contact the organisation directly rather than doing it in public
- Consult with Eleanor Roaf to decide if we should do more
- They might follow up with a separate report on climate change and health

Actions:

- RS/EM to follow up with ERoaf regarding contacting ADPH about lack of climate change in their annual review

18. Request to join Heat Strike coalition

UKHACC has been asked to join the Heat Strike coalition which calls for a heat strike for workers when temperatures exceed 36C with a furlough scheme to support workers.

Points noted:

- The coalition is joining with Just Stop Oil for a week on action in July
- UKHACC does not currently have a policy on workers during heatstrike

- UKHACC has endorsed The Physiological Society consensus statement on a [heat resilience roadmap](#) which sets out recommendations to protect workers that calls for occupational guidelines, support for small employers, and investment.
- Other ways we can raise awareness on heat such as the ECOSAM report
- We could not be encouraging health workers striking when they are most likely to be treating the most vulnerable people suffering heat
- Something on acknowledging impacts of heat on healthcare professionals - issue of heat is multi-factorial

Actions:

- EM to notify the heat strike coalition that we will not be a partner
- EM to publish ECOSAM blog on their heat report

19. Adaptation policy report launch and roundtable

The adaptation policy report was launched on Wednesday 18 June and will be followed by a roundtable event at RCP on Friday 20 June.

RS expressed gratitude to the working group and Anandita for their work on this. It is a good example of alliances working together.

20. Devolved nations manifesto

A draft of the Scotland election manifesto has been shared with the comms/policy group at the June meeting and subsequently shared over email for input and feedback by 27 June. It is also being reviewed by JB. The final draft will be shared at the July meeting of the Exec Committee for approval. The asks have been developed in line with existing UKHACC policy positions, evidence from the Climate Change Committee's carbon budget for Scotland, and policy asks from other alliances that we are members of, such as the Scottish Food Coalition.

Work on the Wales manifesto will commence in June aiming to circulate to the comms/policy group for feedback in July and publication in August.

Points noted:

- Should the Scotland manifesto be more high level and specific to Scotland. EM said the content and actions have been developed in line with Scottish issues and policies
- Might be an opportunity to get RCSEd to rejoin
- The Bevan commission would be a good group to contact in relation to the Wales manifesto

Actions:

- EM to finalise Scottish manifesto following the deadline for feedback of 17 June
- EM to circulate first draft of Wales manifesto by first week of July

21. Commitments How To guides

Sustainable food

Sarah at Plant Based Health Professionals has been working on the sustainable food How To guide, but is not yet finished. She has been on annual leave for the last couple of weeks, so we hope to return to progress on this over the next couple of weeks.

Bank switching

We have started work on the How To guide for switching to greener banks. We are asking members to complete a survey in order to identify the barriers experienced, and solutions/processes organisations have successfully implemented, along with any other insights. The survey will close on 23 June and Shashank Kumar will then review the results to inform production of the How To guide.

Specialist area

We are about to start working on the guide for making a plan in your specialist area. A number of organisations have already made significant progress on this and we are sharing a survey to gather information about the work that has already been done and how they achieved this.

The overview of the plan for supporting our members to deliver our Commitments can be viewed [here](#).

22. Potential members

It would be good if we could recruit one of these charities. We have approached three so far but none have been successful

23. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held online at 14.30-16.30 Thursday 10 July 2025.