



UK Health Alliance on Climate Change

Minutes of the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change Executive Committee

Held online 11 September 2025, 14.30-16.30

Present: Elaine Mulcahy (Director, UKHACC), Richard Smith (Chair, UKHACC), Emma Radcliffe (GP), Rose Gallagher (RCN), Jacob Kranowski (RCPsych), Eleanor Roaf (FPH), Rodney Morton (FNF), Chris Banks (Treasurer)

Apologies for absence: Sandy Mather (ICS), Jill Belch (RCPE), Ranee Thakar (RCOG)

Summary of actions:

- EM to reply to BTS request for late trustee nomination to say late nominations cannot be accepted but encourage them to apply next year > Done
- SM to be given full access to the bank account and ability to make payments once she becomes chair > In progress
- EM to confirm purchase of insurance as quoted from Bradley Scott > Done
- EM to register UKHACC with the Fundraising regulator > Done
- UKHACC to produce statement following publication of NHS England net zero progress report > Done
- EM to share the amended letter to NICE to UKHACC members with a call for signatures > Done
- Decision regarding spend of budget and whether to consider Cadence proposal to be taken following the strategy day
- EM to continue liaising with the Lancet Countdown and working group partners to develop the UK policy priorities > Done
- EM to draft a letter of thanks from UKHACC trustees to Plant Based Health Professionals for producing the How to Guide > Done

Carried forward from previous meetings

- UKHACC to produce a response to the Scottish Government climate change plan
- ERoa to feedback on discussions at FPH regarding potential registrar projects
- EM to reach out to RCPsych and ACPUK to ask if any of the registrar projects might map to learning outcomes in their specialties
- RS to investigate potential working with James Lind Alliance
- 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 > Done
- EM to draft exit feedback questionnaire for leaving members following the 2025/6 renewal campaign
- ERoa to update on ADPH strategic planning following September meeting
- EM to investigate process for donations through CAF

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 August meeting

The minute from the August meeting was accepted.

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

- Scotland and Wales manifestos have been published and sent to all party leaders in Scotland and Wales
- We have not responded to the Scottish government's climate change plan. It closes on 19 September and might not have capacity to do this but will aim to have a look early next week.
- A date to meeting with ALUK to discuss joining has been set
- Cancer Research UK and Mums for Lungs might also be worth approaching
- We've had a meeting with RCOphth about joining
- The meeting with the the Kings Secretary was postponed and incoming chairs Hugh and Sandy will follow up
- RS has written letters to go to MHRA and SIGN. These have been shared with CSH and SHC. These have been handed over to the new co-chairs to pick up
- BTS has asked about a late nomination to be a trustee. It was noted that the incoming chair has indicated a preference to reduce the number of trustees on the board. If agreeing to this we would need to reopen the call to everyone to ensure fairness. Instead we should encourage them to apply next year. EM to reply to BTS to say late application is not possible but encourage them to apply next year.
- We have not submitted an application for the COACH fellowship

4. August Director's report

The August Director's report was shared prior to the meeting and approved.

Points noted were:

- EM noted it was a relatively quiet month as she was on annual leave or sick leave for a significant proportion of the month
- Since producing the report, we have been contacted by the Climate Change Committee following up on our adaptation policy roundtable. They have indicated that the outcome action we noted regarding collating evidence/case studies from other countries would be extremely helpful to their work. EM has previously had conversations with Public Policy Projects, who expressed an interest in completing a piece of work around this. EM is following up. GCHA and ATACH might have case studies. RG sent the adaptation report to a WG for Nursing group of NHS England.
- Adaptation seems to be an easier area for local government to work on than mitigation. Epidemiological risk must also be included in terms of adaptation. UKHSA and the Environment Agency are working on this.

5. Budget

The August budget update was presented.

Points noted were:

- One member - FNF - has not paid. EM has followed up but not had a response. RM has also chased and will chase again after this meeting.
- An end of year projection has been produced for the council meeting

- ERad offered to be on the bank account and do the payroll. It was agreed that the incoming chair SM would be given access so that she can do this
- CB, ERoa and RG are approvers on the bank account.
- Advisable not to have too many authorisers on the account.

Action:

- SM to be given full access to the bank account and ability to make payments once she becomes chair

6. Insurance requirements and options

Following a discussion regarding insurance quotes provided at a previous meeting, a paper outlining the specific requirements, options, sustainability credentials and recommendation for UKHACC insurance was shared prior to the meeting and discussed. The trustees approved a recommendation to choose the quote from Bradley Scott:

Bradley Scott - £574

- £2M Public Liability
- £10M Employer's Liability
- £1M Professional Indemnity (due to lobbying and environmental advice)
- £1M Trustee Indemnity

Our biggest risk would be around professional indemnity, but ensuring we stick to evidence and alignment with our charitable purpose should reduce any risk.

Action:

- EM to confirm purchase of insurance as quoted from Bradley Scott

7. Fundraising regulator code of conduct

Trustees were asked to read the fundraising regulator code of conduct and confirm they agreed with the code prior to UKHACC signing up with the regulator.

Trustees confirmed agreement with the code of conduct.

Just Giving page has been set up and we are in the process of registering for Gift Aid.

Actions:

- EM to register UKHACC with the Fundraising regulator

8. NHS net zero report

NHS England is expected to publish its net zero progress report on 23 September. RS is a member of the advisory committee. It's generally a good story - on track to meet the first target and they have improved the methodology.

Points noted:

- The advisory board has been asked to sign off the introduction. RS signature will be added.
- There will be an academic study that goes alongside it explaining the methodology.
- RS has arranged for the Greener NHS leadership to meet with UKHACC co-chairs ahead of the launch.

- Getting enthusiasm around the NHS and maximising the health co-benefits of net zero NHS is an area UKHACC could highlight.
- UKHACC can provide a positive message but not hold back from balanced constructive criticism. How we respond can be shared with trustees to ensure we have a good balance.
- Good progress on energy supply, but less on behaviour, transport and food transition and other areas of practice. UKHACC could say something on these areas if not covered in the report.

Action:

- UKHACC to produce statement following publication of NHS England net zero progress report

9. Letter to NICE

A letter to NICE to be signed by members of UKHACC was approved by trustees at the July meeting of the executive committee. However, since that meeting, incoming co-chair Hugh Montgomery has made significant changes to the letter.

Trustees approved the amended version of the letter.

Actions:

- EM to share the amended letter to NICE to UKHACC members with a call for signatures

10. Cadence proposal

Cadence roundtable has submitted a proposal to UKHACC to hold a series of roundtable meetings in 2026 drawing on the recommendations of our policy report on Building a Climate Resilient Health System. The outcome of the roundtable series would result in the production of a delivery action plan highlighting successes, barriers, quick wins and systemic changes to achieve the recommendations of the report.

Points noted were:

- Taking an output from UKHACC and doing something focused would be very valuable
- £10,000 is a reasonable fee and might be a potential for grant funding
- Might be better working directly with individual local authorities - would it make any difference to local decision makers using their budgets
- Concern it wouldn't end up as another iteration of the report - needs to move to more implementation
- Linking to productivity agenda and the 10 year plan might be a better way of linking the proposal to specific requirements

Actions:

- Decision regarding spend of budget and whether to consider Cadence proposal to be taken following the strategy day

11. Lancet Countdown UK policy brief

We received most of the indicator data requested for production of the UK policy brief for the Lancet Countdown on 22 August. We have not received all of the data related to adaptation that we requested and have requested this.

We have worked (with the data we have) on a first draft of the policy priorities with BMA and RCN. This draft will be submitted to LC for review and feedback.

It was noted that the content is very problems focused and may be more impactful to put policy actions to be taken first. This to be taken forward for consideration at second draft.

Actions:

- EM to continue liaising with the Lancet Countdown and working group partners to develop the UK policy priorities

12. COP30 preparation

EM provided an update on planned and proposed UKHACC activities planned ahead of COP30 in November.

1. Global health community policy recommendations

EM has fed into the development of the global health policy recommendations which are being led by the Global Climate and Health Alliance. The final recommendations will be circulated on 18 September for sign on.

2. Lancet Countdown UK policy priorities and global launch

We will lead in the production of the Lancet Countdown UK policy priorities, which will be published prior to COP30 and shared with the UK COP delegation. We will also support the launch and dissemination of the global report and messaging.

3. Promote parliamentary debate (TBC)

The Climate Coalition is in the process of working to secure a parliamentary debate in the weeks before COP30 following the successful Act Now Change Forever mass lobby as an opportunity for MPs to speak up about the widespread support they saw from constituents for stronger, fairer climate action around the mass lobby's 3 core asks.

4. Co-signed letter to UK COP delegation

We will coordinate a co-signed letter from UKHACC membership organisations to the UK COP30 delegation that calls for the UK to demonstrate global leadership at COP30 by delivering on financial commitments, calling for stronger wording on the phase out of fossil fuels in the COP text, and highlighting the need for faster action on mitigation and resilience to protect global health.

5. Opinion piece in BMJ and/or Lancet

We will write an opinion piece stressing the importance of health for driving forward action on mitigation and resilience at COP30.

13. How to guide: Prioritise plant-based and sustainably sourced food

The [How To Guide on Prioritise plant-based and sustainably sourced food](#) has been finalised. A launch event information session for UKHACC members will be held on 8 October.

An update on EAT Lancet 2.0 will also be presented at the launch (EAT Lancet 2.0 is being launched a few days before our session).

The guide has been produced and funded by the Plant Based Health Professionals. EM and RS have sent a message of thanks for their excellent work.

RS has sent the guide to the Greener NHS team to ask if they might be interested in sharing it through their networks. EM will also share it with colleagues in Scotland and Wales.

The guide has been devised for our members but relevant for many organisations. It was agreed UKHACC trustees should formally thank PBHP for producing the report

Actions:

- EM to draft a letter of thanks from UKHACC trustees to Plant Based Health Professionals for producing the How to Guide

14. Statement on conflict in Gaza

Following discussions at the previous meeting of the Executive Committee, a paper summarising our position was shared prior to the meeting and discussed.

Points noted:

- There is a climate, migration and health website that UKHACC could point to rather than producing an article of our own.
- RS may be able to produce a piece as former chair

15. Potential members

We had a meeting with the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and they are considering joining

RCNi and RCN have merged and RCNi will not be renewing its individual membership in 2026.

RS thanked trustees and EM for their support and good decision making and contributions. Trustees also expressed thanks to RS.

16. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held online at 14.30-16.30 Thursday 9 October 2025.