



Minutes of the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change Trustee Board Meeting

Held online 8 January 2026, 14.30-16.30

Present: Hugh Montgomery (co-Chair, UKHACC), Elaine Mulcahy (Director, UKHACC), Rose Gallagher (RCN), Eleanor Roaf (FPH), Rodney Morton (FNF), Chris Banks (Treasurer), Jill Belch (RCPE), Andrew Mackenzie (TPS)

Apologies for absence: Sandy Mather (co-Chair, UKHACC), Raneer Thakar (RCOG), Emma Radcliffe (GP), Sandy Robertson (RCEM)

Summary of actions:

- EM/HM to collate discussion points on the strategy proposals to integrate into revised version for strategy workshop > Done
- EM to collate member feedback on strategy outcomes ahead of the next workshop on 11-12 February > Done
- Proposal to revise the Commitments to be discussed in more detail at the strategy workshop in February > Done
- EM to finalise the end of year report and share it with members > Done
- Discuss alternate funding for corporates at the strategy day - e.g. family owned corporates > Done
- EM to circulate the scorecard to UKHACC members and encourage completion > Done
- EM to revise brochure and funding policy to reflect comments and recirculate ahead of the strategy workshop for further discussion/approval > Done
- EM to chase RCOphth application form > Done
- EM to follow up with UKPHR about joining
- HM to follow up with RCR about joining
- EM to review list of potential members and current status of engagement for further outreach
- EM to circulate the revised MOU with Real Zero for approval > Done

Carried forward from previous meetings

- HM to draft letter to King's private secretary to ask about securing a date for a roundtable meeting > Done
- Task and finish group involving EM, AM, ERad and SM to be established to review the risk register layout > Follow up after strategy approval
- ERoa/EM to discuss potential FPH registrar project > In progress
- EM to draft exit feedback questionnaire for leaving members following the 2025/6 renewal campaign

1. Welcome and introductions

HM welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Conflicts of interest

No Conflicts of interest were declared.
RM has become a Fellow of RCS Ireland.

3. Minute and actions from the November meeting

The minute from the November meeting was accepted as factually accurate

STRATEGY

4. Strategic planning

Our next strategic planning session will take place in Glasgow on 11-12 February.

Strategic proposal

A strategic proposal outline was shared prior to the meeting as a starter for 10 and discussed. Points noted:

- The strategy should be amended to explicitly mention political advocacy
- Some items, such as delivering a public awareness campaign, would need significant funding to deliver
- At the previous strategy meeting in November we discussed that UKHACC's role was not about decarbonising NHS/healthcare - need clarity in terms of strategy to reflect this (e.g. the focus on plant-based food in hospitals seems at odds with the principle that our role is not to decarbonise healthcare)
- Structuring strategy: Purpose, Strategic focus around organisations, then actions
- Needs to be a wider discussion around net zero / Real Zero as part of the February strategy day. Some concern we may lose people if we spend too much time talking about net v real zero.
- Idea of engaging boards and the agenda is good
- A lot of education has already been developed, we should not duplicate this but address a gap if it exists
- We should consider a four nations approach in a way that amplifies our work politically
- Support organisations to cascade information down to members. How does what we do benefit what members do - e.g. more work around active travel, healthier workforce, etc., plant-based food about more nutritious.
- Engagement around NHS, health and social care sector are critical - lots of people interested but not sure what to do
- Constructively challenge and support members to increase their reach to members.
- Internal requirements of members / Actions by members themselves - what happens if they don't do it - ask them to have a plan to decarbonise and support them to do it
- Need clarity on what our role is in terms of delivery and where we sit with other orgs. Be clear on the audience we want to engage.
- Being clear what success looks out and key measurable - this is where we want to get to, this is where we are, and this is the route to get there - climate health check of our members, potentially something Wellcome might fund
- Need clear objectives for the strategy day
- Discuss how much we engage with political parties

Logistics for 11-12 February

Details for the strategic planning workshop on 11-12 February were provided:

Venue: Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, 232-242 St Vincent Street, G2 5RJ

Wednesday 11 February

12.00-13.00: A soup and sandwich lunch will be provided at RCPSG for arrival

13.00- 17.00: Workshop Part 1 (agenda will be shared prior to meeting)

17.00-18.30: Break to allow time to check in to hotels, etc.

Single rooms and breakfast have been booked for trustees at the Premier Inn Buchanan Street, 141 Nile Street, G1 2RN

18.30-20.00: Dinner (location to be confirmed)

Thursday 12 February

9.00-12.00: Workshop Part 2 (agenda will be shared prior to meeting)

Member feedback on strategy outcomes from previous meeting

The outcomes of the initial strategic planning workshop were shared with members to allow time for feedback and comments. To date, only one response has been received. A reminder will be sent in the monthly Director's Update email on 9 January. The deadline for comments is 15 January.

Actions

- EM/HM to collate discussion points on the strategy proposals to integrate into revised version for strategy workshop
- EM to collate member feedback on strategy outcomes ahead of the next workshop on 11-12 February

5. Proposal to reduce the number of 'Our Commitments'

A proposal to reduce the number of our Commitments from 11 to 7 was shared prior to the meeting and discussed. Points noted were:

- Need to be clear what we want the commitments to be and do - need to be tangible, measurable things. Can't assume the same things apply for everyone.
- Need to clarify the purpose of the Commitments - what are they aiming to achieve (broader leadership role or achieving reduction targets)
- Need to assess how the How To guides we have been working on fit with revised list
- 11 to 7 would not implicate climate and health scorecard
- Need clarity of process of going from 11 to 7 - need to provide an explanatory note for members to go through due process to keep membership on board.
- Seek member feedback to avoid disenfranchising people
- Different views on seven versus eleven and being explicit about items like 'campaigning' versus grouping under 'have a plan'
- Reaching members' members as well as organisational level e.g. link between climate change and inequalities is motivational for getting people interested. Need to get organisations to understand the why/co-benefits of getting the emissions down. There are millions of ways in - part of the education programme is making these links rather than making them the primary thing

- Robust approach to public health - improve public health can also bring down emissions - need to have a conversation about this at the strategy day
- A wider discussion is needed at the strategy meeting

Action:

- Proposal to revise the Commitments to be discussed in more detail at the strategy workshop in February

PERFORMANCE

6. 2025 end of year report

A 2025 end of year report was shared prior to the meeting and approved.

Action:

- EM to finalise the end of year report and share it with members

7. Finance update

The end of year accounts were shared prior to the meeting and approved by trustees.

An outline budget for 2026 was also shared.

Action:

- Discuss alternate funding for corporates at the strategy day - e.g. family owned corporates

8. Climate and Health Scorecard

Following previous discussions and feedback to the CHS team regarding the questionnaire, two trustees reviewed a revised version. Minor amendments were requested and the trustees recommended approval subject to these being made.

Action:

- EM to circulate the scorecard to UKHACC members and encourage completion

ASSURANCE

9. Corporate funding brochure and Funding Policy

A draft corporate funding brochure and funding policy were shared prior to the meeting and discussed. Points noted:

- Amounts suggested for different sponsorship/funding options are consistent with Royal College asks
- HM agreed to ask some corporate contacts of amounts that are reasonable
- HM agreed to connect UKHACC with fundraising contact being used for Real Zero
- There was a question over requesting sponsorship of commitments - may be jarring
- It was suggested to remove numbers on brochure and the limit of the number of partners

Actions:

- EM to revise brochure and funding policy to reflect comments and recirculate ahead of the strategy workshop for further discussion/approval

10. New members

The CEO of RCOphth has indicated they wish to join but we are awaiting receipt of the application form.

UKPHR has indicated an interest in joining in 2026. EM/ERoa to follow up
Royal College of Radiologists has previously discussed joining at their board meetings. HM has recently been engaging with RCR and will follow up

Action:

- EM to chase RCOphth application form
- EM to follow up with UKPHR about joining
- HM to follow up with RCR about joining
- EM to review list of potential members and current status of engagement for further outreach

11. MoU with RealZero

The draft MOU with RealZero has been updated to reflect discussions at the previous meeting. The wrong version of the revised MOU had been shared prior to the meeting so we were not able to discuss.

Points noted:

- Kate from RZ was previously interested in volunteering but has withdrawn
- RZ would be able to provide support as required - e.g. PA support and meeting room availability

Actions:

- EM to circulate the revised MOU with Real Zero for approval

12. Member subscription payments update

All 2026 subscriptions invoices were issued in November for payment by 31 December 2025. A total of £127,645 was invoiced. To date £69,735 has been paid (31 organisations), £57,910 is awaiting payment (20 organisations). EM will begin a process of chasing unpaid invoices next week.

13. Any other business

There were no AOBs

14. Next meeting

11-12 February, strategic planning workshops
14.30-16.30 Thursday 12 March, Trustee Board
14.00-17.00 Thursday 26 March, Council meeting