

External Affairs Working Party Meeting Minutes – 18 February

Apologies – *none received.*

Doris-Ann Williams (DAW) read out the Competition Law notice to attendees.

Working Party Chair Ollie Mitchell (OM) addressed the previous meeting notes and no actions needed the group's attention.

Guest Speaker presentation from Alexandra Hammond, Head of Sustainable Procurement and Supply Chain at NHS England

- Alexandra presented on the activities relating to NHS Net Zero, Sustainability and the impact on supplier practices.
- The Sustainable Procurement team sits within the commercial directorate at NHS England/Improvement, and reports to the new Chief Commercial Officer Jacqui Rock. The team has a close relationship with the Greener NHS team also, who partly fund their work and have aligned deliverables.
- There are three sub-workstreams, procurement practice, supplier engagement and operational interventions.
- The Net Zero report identified 13 interventions within the Supply Chain workstream. These include reducing paper/food waste, device re-use, decarbonising construction, and importantly, ensuring pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical suppliers meet NHS commitments on sustainability and environmental protection.
- In 2022, NHSE&I will launch the Evergreen Supplier Assessment and adopt the PPN 06/20 that says all NHS tenders include a minimum 10% net zero and social value weighting.
- A roadmap to 2030 has been published already for suppliers to reference.
- Lots of suppliers already have carbon reduction plans ready ahead of the April 2023 requirements for large-size contracts. From 2024, this will be required from all suppliers (SME's, voluntary, community and social enterprises have a two-year grace period).
- From April 2028, carbon footprinting info for individual products will be required, this is important as it informs people on decision-making levels how they can select lower carbon product options. By 2028, this could be quite a standard approach to buying, procurement in many areas.
- The PPN 06/20 being adopted by the whole of NHS and Cabinet Office Social Value Model will ensure Net Zero and Social Value are embedded in all procurement decisions.
- Jacqui Rock is very passionate about social value and delivering benefit through procurement.
- The NHS Evergreen Supplier Assessment creates a single centralised source of info recording how suppliers are aligning with NHS's net zero trajectory. It is partially built already in Atamis, a procurement management tool, it is free to self-assess. A supplier must complete an annual self-assessment to be on the framework.
- It will act as a single repository for your climate and social impact reporting. There are three levels: an early adopter, an influencer or a mature supplier.
- By January 2023, the Assessment will be ready for use. A small pilot is taking place from now with 10-15, carefully-selected suppliers involved. A second phase will take place in summer of this year, with an expanded list of suppliers.
- A [call for feedback](#) survey on Scope 1 and 2 emissions is still open for input until 28 February and Alexandra encouraged attendees to submit responses to this.

Summary of current BIVDA activities – Doris-Ann Williams

- Planning is underway for the BIVDA 2022 AGM event which will be in-person and taking place at One Great George Street on Thursday 24 March. We have invited George Freeman from BEIS to speak and also the NHS Finance Director Julian Kelly. Helen will be doing a presentation on membership activity also.
- DAW also invited the University of Westminster to come and share information on student placement options for life sciences programmes.
- An ICS Workshop is being held on 23 February, with presentation from NHS Insight Director David Thorne, Patrick McGinley and Jamie Curtis.
- Meetings have been held with CTDA team on test validation processes. DAW has been receiving updates on the free-trade agreement with India that is being worked on at the Department for International Trade. DIT has also announced the UK has moved to the second phase of accession talks for the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
- DAW met with Roz Campion, the new head of the Office for Life Sciences and has a meeting scheduled with the new NICE Chief Executive Dr Samantha Roberts on 28 February. Please send [Doris-Ann](#) any requests you may have ahead of this meeting.
- The Access and Adoption Board is doing a series of meetings with AHSN's across the country. DAW will be attending one of these on 7 March with UCL Partners and attending a dinner with Chris Whitty that evening, which is a great opportunity to work that relationship.

Member Involvement:

- It's essential for the External Affairs WP that it is agenda-led and member-led. Members are encouraged to feed-back to [the BIVDA team](#) any topics they'd like to see on meeting agendas for 2022, any feedback, ideas for speakers/organisational engagement, documents that could be compiled.

AOBs:

- Stevan Cirkovic, Senior Policy Lead (MedTech regulation) at Department of Health and Social Care, did a short introduction the legislation regarding transparency of payments made between companies and health professionals, organisations.
- The Cumberledge Review highlighted a need for more transparency in industry dealings with healthcare professionals, and the Government has accepted this in principle.
- Clauses have been inserted to the Health and Care Bill regarding declarations of payments to the health sector and individual clinicians. The details of this are being worked on at present.
- Over the next two months, engagement will take place on what the regulations would look like. The public consultation will be drafted soon and will be shared by BIVDA once available.

Next Meeting Date:

The next External Affairs Working Party meeting will take place on **9.30-10.30 on Friday 18 March. Register [here](#).**

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