



## Get involved – Become your Kidney Unit’s Sustainability Champion

### Background - Why do we need a joint approach?

- The climate crisis is a health crisis: here in the UK, air pollution is the single greatest environmental threat to human health, accounting for 1 in 20 deaths. Reducing emissions will mean fewer cases of asthma, cancer and heart disease
- The health service emits energy at a staggering rate, with almost 5% of the country’s emissions health related, and around 40% of all public sector emissions. One year on from setting net zero targets, the English NHS is on track to reduce its emissions equivalent to powering 1.1. million homes for a year
- We know that NHS staff overwhelmingly support a greener NHS – almost nine in ten support the NHS net zero ambition

### How can our Unit get involved?

The [UKKA Sustainable Kidney Care Committee](#) (SKC) is working collaboratively with all UKKA members, the wider NHS, industry and partners, such as the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH) and the Sustainable Healthcare Coalition.

*The collaboration is focussing on:*

- Action learning and education
- Procurement, infrastructure and innovation
- Sustainable care pathways

This drive will only work for kidney patients and the kidney care workforce with units like yours joining us. To enable this, we have created a Sustainability Champions Scheme to connect Units with the committee, each other and the wider CSH Kidney Care Sustainability Network. We want to make it easier for units to pick up on best practice and share learning. **We aim to have a named staff Sustainability Champion in 90% of hub units by the end of October 2023.**

### Is this for you (the small print)?

Are you a member of staff (from any discipline) in your unit?	Yes/No
Would your Clinical Director/Line Manager agree to you taking on this role?	Yes/No
Do you have an up-to-date email address which is checked regularly?	Yes/No

If yes, please go to <https://rb.gy/atont> or Scan the QR Code:



If you answered no to any of these questions, but are still interested in finding out more, please join the Kidney Care Sustainability Network <https://rb.gy/hknen> or scan the QR code.



## What does being a Sustainability Champion mean to you?

- Being the first person in your unit to hear how other units in the UKKA Sustainability Champions' network are taking action
- Keeping the Kidney Care Sustainability Network informed of your local ideas, progress and projects
- Responding to occasional requests for updates or data from your unit to enable collation of a national comparative dataset on sustainability topics. These data, which will be fed back to your unit, will be used to identify carbon hotspots and inform procurement decisions/liaison with industry
- Being able to signpost local staff to resources and support networks, e.g. <https://rb.gy/hknen>



- Helping to raise the profile of the Sustainable Kidney Care Committee's work through local promotion of national campaigns (e.g. Sustainability Day, Clean Air Day) and educational events

The UKKA appreciates work undertaken by the champions and to show their thanks will arrange complimentary virtual attendance to the environment sessions at major congresses (when available) via live webinar/streaming. SKC will also send a letter which can be used as portfolio evidence.

## FURTHER SUPPORT

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This document, and all the materials listed below, can be found at the Kidney Sustainability Champion Scheme: <https://rb.gy/atont>



- 12 Steps to Green a Kidney Unit, PDF 8 pages - Full version: <https://rb.gy/wfqwz>
- 12 Steps to Green a Kidney Unit, PDF A4 poster - Shortened Version: <https://rb.gy/cclsb>
- Template Role Description for a Kidney Community Green Ambassador: <https://rb.gy/yxf0e>
- Things we can do as individuals to become greener: <https://rb.gy/1ib9i>
- Slides used at UKKW Climate Clinic 6 June 2023: <https://rb.gy/vru3h>

### Planned resources

- Slide set on Sustainable Kidney Care for use at educational events/team meetings

### Education opportunities (listed in the 12 Steps to Green a Kidney Unit, as above)

- e-Learning for Healthcare free modules: <https://rb.gy/f4ptf> (open to all home nations)
- Kidney Care Sustainability Network and case studies: <https://rb.gy/fwu67>
- Sustainability in QI toolkit: <https://rb.gy/3l1w4>
- Sustainable Kidney Care course December 2023: <https://rb.gy/sbu8d>

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