



# Faculty of Public Health

of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Working to improve the public's health

## FPH Special Interest Group: Sustainable Development SIG

Notes from meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

12 noon - 1300, by Teams

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### Attendees:

Anya Gopfert – Chair of the SIG  
Kristin Bash - Public Health Consultant  
Anna Brook - Public Health Registrar  
Claire Mulrenan - Public Health Registrar  
Izzy Braithwaite - Public Health Registrar (OOP, doing a PhD)  
James Adamson - Public Health Registrar, returning to programme from Field Epi Training Programme  
Marcus Grant  
Ruth Speare - South Yorkshire Combined Authority  
Sue Atkinson - Climate and Health Committee Chair, retired regional director of public health  
Sari Kovats - Assoc Prof LSHTM  
Angelique Mavrodaris, Consultant, - UKHSA, GLA, University of Cambridge  
Stephen Morton - Retired CPH, previously at CPH, Visiting prof at Uni of Central Lancashire  
Emer O'Connell - CPH – previously extreme events team. Moving to GLA to work on the spatial plan.

### Apologies:

Maria van Hove, Emily Loud, Abi Deivanyagam, Emily Stevenson, Paul Roderick, Helen Ross, Oliver Williams, Phil Mackie

Agenda Items	
1	Notes of the meeting held August 2022 were adopted  <b>Outstanding actions were not reviewed from action log due to time – this will be done by email</b>
3	<b>Matters arising not on the agenda</b>
4	<b>COL briefing team feedback (CM)</b>  Background - need for SIG work given the interdependencies with climate change (CC), working group formed.  First step - 2 page document. Key messages: CC is driving COL crisis (e.g. food prices); COL response has capacity to exacerbate CC. Vicious feedback loop -

need to break this, put a just transition at the centre; illuminate interdependencies, plus break feedback loops. Claire showed the evolution of conceptual diagrams through the course of the work - sought feedback on these. Situating within a circle to show the importance of the wider context of power dynamics, systemic injustice and exploitation.

Question arising during the work - do we want an FPH placement to explore some of this further?

*Feedback from the group:*

Emer O'C: point about high cost of policy and it not driving the shift we need

Kristin B: Do we have the support we need on the food side? Could be scope to capitalise more on the opportunities (example of energy-saving measures now implemented in Tesco).

Steven - What we eat could have a positive impact on climate and biodiversity at the same time.

Claire - make reference to Kate Raworth's doughnut model; important not to lose sight of these broader issues

Steven - Can only use energy price cap short term as I understand it

Marcus - Who's the target? Equity/inequalities; different terms.

Claire - aim was really: 'please bear sust and PH in mind when considering how to address the COL'

James - policy side - no sign of any focus on the environment at all at the moment. May be some help as people won't be able to travel as much for example. Policies targeted at electoral outcomes not at peoples's health. Need to advocate for policies focused on the green box.

Anya - would anyone be up for coordinating some sort of educational session based on this work? Lots of people would be interested to understand what good solutions would look like? Could just be one speaker.

Angelique - a working group or a session could be really useful as part of this work.

**Actions:**

- CM to submit article and send final version to AG to distribute to AG
- MG to comment on Claire's diagrams
- CM and working group to coordinate a discussion / education session on the topic

**5 Update on the FOOD SIG (KB)**

Brief introduction to the Food SIG. Started off as part of the SD SIG - works on many issues - biodiversity, antimicrobial resistance, soil health.

KB provided an outline of the Food SIG's working plan for this year - 1. sustainable diets; 2. Food insecurity and the cost-of-living crisis, 3. Healthy food environments - focus on the commercial determinants and ultra-processed foods. Aims also include: Skilling up and updating resources.

Key members include Tim Lang. Initially trying to get a Sust Diets working party through the Faculty. Group of experts - putting together a position paper; not making the case but identifying the barriers to action but putting it out for consultation responses - taking it to ADPH, Westminster Forum. Talk about public health perspective and the action that's needed. Off the back of it, looking at some sub-topic position papers to follow. Some CPD/information sessions in conjunction with resource documents (climate will be one of these).

	<p>Report co-production with Eating better on health professionals' readiness to advocate for sustainable food policies/diets. Preliminary findings (&gt;60%) don't have a position. Most of those who do it's about increasing fruit and vegetable intake, only a minority are about reducing meat.</p> <p>Clear overlap with sustainability - so wanted to bring this here for ideas and possible ways forward for collaboration and working together.</p> <p><u>Questions or suggestions from the floor:</u></p> <p>Sue - We had a very brief document around meetings/events that the Faculty should/shouldn't do some time ago; obviously times have changed but I wondered whether we should refine and revitalise that in general. Much broader than just food but it would be good to have appropriate wording on food in that. Useful to have a statement that the Faculty recognises some of these things and adopts it itself.</p> <p>Steve - I've always thought that food and transport are out in front in terms of linking sustainability and public health. Now that we've left the EU it could be a sea-change, and we need to be out in front on that; avoid importing vast amounts of cheaply-produced meat from deforested land.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for Kristin to share CPD sessions with SD SIG</li> <li>• Anna Brook and KB to catch up re advocacy overlapping agendas</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Advocacy working group (AB)</b></p> <p>Advocacy working group formed as part of the climate and health strategy - this is part of the implementation of the strategy, involving a number of working groups. Feeding back on the advocacy working group. 5 strands: one about developing a theory of change which is a work in progress; one about scoping and learning (from research, evidence, from membership and experience and using this to develop capacity and skills for advocacy); proactive and reactive strands; skills - making sure that members have the skills that they need to advocate effectively.</p> <p><i>Scoping proposal</i> has 2 short-term pieces - series of online webinars with people with experience of different kinds of advocacy (internal and external-facing). Invite a wide membership to attend; ask questions about the experience and invite people along so that they can also learn from those experiences/the discussion. Aiming to distill out the key ingredients for success as well as the lessons to learn and feed into the skills programme.</p> <p>Would like people's input into the kinds of questions to ask.</p> <p><i>Proactive group</i> - aiming for one or two areas of focus; shortlisting process. Will be circulated for feedback and comments soon.</p> <p><i>Theory of change</i> - have pulled this into a Miro board which people can comment on, but will also run a session online soon. Anna will invite people to get input to that piece of work at that (and circulate to the SIG too). Will send those requests out for comments following this session.</p>
7	<p><b>COP27</b></p>

	<p><b>Anya updated that no in person FPH representation at COP27, but need individuals to follow the build up and attend online sessions on behalf of FPH.</b> Anya and Sue are keen to involve anyone else in this space in filtering information/sharing it/ identifying opportunities to influence the COP conversation etc. Kevin Fenton also advised there is scope to use FPH's comms reach around this potentially. SIG/CHC capacity to filter and disseminate incoming info effectively (and for targeted advocacy around COP) is limited, so if anyone is interested in being a point person/getting more involved in this aspect, please let Anya or Sue know. Kristin happy to support on food related issues.</p> <p>Steven– reminder that COP15 on biodiversity also happening soon, and should be given attention.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone interested in acting as a COP liaison for the FPH please let Anya know as soon as possible</li> </ul>
8	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Anya asked for feedback on the monthly 1-hour format working for everyone so far? Anya feedback welcomed by email or at next meeting Several broadly positive comments in the Teams chat.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All to provide feedback to Anya and Maria on current format, any suggestions for improvements welcome.</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>Future meetings:</b></p> <p>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 12-1pm</p> <p>November date tbc</p>

## ACTION LOG

Action	Owner	Deadline	
SA to share TOR for Climate and Health Committee with AG, and AG to send out to SIG members	SA/AG	To send out prior to November meeting	
Review TOR by December 2022 – add to agenda when ready for review	AG	December 2022	
SK to share dates for meetings re research into local climate action with AG/MvH for circulation	SK	October 2022	
SjW to let the SD SIG now (AG/MvH) how we can support the campaign on limiting roadbuilding	SjW	Before next meeting (22/8)	

JM to keep SIG up to date on the train the trainer course	John Middleton	Before next meeting (22/8)	
AG to scope the feasibility of an inperson SIG event in Autumn and any potential rooms / financial support.	AG	Update at next meeting	
Resources working group to discuss the overpopulation resource	Resources working group	Next resources working group meeting in August	
ALL SIG members to look at the resources and provide comments and feedback to resources working group <a href="mailto:a.jones@bsms.ac.uk">a.jones@bsms.ac.uk</a>	ALL	Before next meeting (22/8)	
AG to consider when to invite Kevin Fenton to a SIG meeting	AG	Before September meeting (13/9)	
All to provide feedback to Anya and Maria on current format of meetings, any suggestions for improvements welcome.	ALL	Before October meeting	
Anyone interested in acting as a COP liaison for the FPH please let Anya know as soon as possible	ALL	By September 20th	
KB to share CPD events with SD SIG	KB	ongoing	
CM and working group to coordinate a discussion / education session on the topic	CM	ongoing	