

Healthcare Waste and Resources Research Group Report 2014

1.BACKGROUND

This document sets out the main activities and key achievements for the Healthcare Waste and Resources Research (HCWRR) Group during 2014. It also outlines some of the key plans for the Group in 2015 and beyond.

2.THE YEAR PAST

Meetings

A total of three Steering Committee meetings were held during the year (Table 1). Due to other work commitments, Alan Davis left the Committee at the end of April 2014, and was replaced by Helen Murphy in May 2014. Unfortunately, due to personal issues, Helen was unable to attend the latter two meetings, but maintained engagement through email.

Table 1: Steering Committee meeting dates for 2014

		Date		
INDIVIDUAL	ORGANISATION	30/1/2014	1/5/2014	4/9/2014
Terry Tudor	University of Northampton	√	√	√
Anne Woolridge	Independent Safety Services Ltd.	√	√	√
Alan Davis	Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust	√	N/A	N/A
Helen Murphy	Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	N/A		
Andy Stratton	MITIE	√	√	√

Activities

The key activity for 2014 was the successful hosting of a seminar and site tour On September 25, at the Bywaters recycling facility, in East London. Anna Sliwinska, a University of Northampton MSc student, began her Group-funded dissertation project. Anna also presented at the September seminar.

In addition to Anna, Terry was also involved in the supervision of an undergraduate student at a hospital in Italy, as well as a PhD student examining healthcare waste management in the Gaza Strip. Both students were from the University of Brescia (see also list of publications).

Terry also spoke at two events: a panel discussion at RWM/CIWM in Birmingham, on September 18. The other panelists were James Dixon (Head of Environmental Management at the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) and Alexandra Hammond (Head of Sustainability, Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust). The second was at a joint All-Party Parliamentary Health Group (APHG)/ All-Party Parliamentary Sustainable Resource Group (APRG) seminar at Parliament, on November 4. The other panelists were Alexandra Hammond and Frances Mortimer (the Medical Director, Centre for Sustainable Healthcare).

Communication

The email bulletin 'Waste Stories' continues to be sent out to all members on a (generally) weekly basis, informing of relevant news stories, events, policy updates, etc. **If you would like to be included on the list, please send an email to terry.tudor@northampton.ac.uk**

Updates on the Group's activities, as well as relevant reports and publications can be found on the Group's blog <http://mypad.northampton.ac.uk/hcwrr/>. **If there is any information that you would like to have added, please email terry.tudor@northampton.ac.uk**

Publications

Three articles were published during the year:

Akipieyi A., Tudor T., Dutra C. (2015). An evaluation of the utilisation of risk-based frameworks for managing healthcare waste, using the Vuuren Taxonomy: a case study of the National Health Service in London. *Safety Science*. 72: 127 – 132.

Woolridge A (2014). Setting European standards. *CIWM journal*. September. pp 62 - 63

Caniato M., Tudor T., Vaccari M. (2014). Understanding the perceptions, roles and interactions of stakeholder networks managing health-care waste: A case study of the Gaza Strip. *Waste Management*. 255 – 264.

3.PLANS FOR 2015 AND BEYOND

The usual annual seminar will be held during 2015.

We are in discussions with the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), as regard to the joint hosting of a two day international symposium, with a site visit, in Spring 2016. The agreement has been signed and more details of the event will follow in due course.

TTudor

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