

Healthcare Waste and Resources Research Group Report 2016

1.BACKGROUND

This document sets out the main activities and key achievements for the Healthcare Waste and Resources Research (HCWRR) Group during 2016. It also outlines some of the key plans for the Group in 2017 and beyond. **This year represents the 10th anniversary of the Group. This has been acknowledged via Waste stories and at the conference.**

2.THE YEAR PAST

Meetings

A total of five Steering Committee meetings were held during the year (Table 1). Andy Stratton and Helen Murphy left the Committee in April, and were replaced by Maria Mahon, Mark Lepine-Williams and Ed Van Reenen, in May.

Table 1: Steering Committee meeting dates for 2016

		Date				
INDIVIDUAL	ORGANISATION	5/2/2016	1/4/2015	13/5/2016	14/7/2016	14/10/2016
Terry Tudor	University of Northampton	√	√	√	√	√
Anne Woolridge	Independent Safety Services Ltd.	√	√	√	√	√
Mark Lepine-Williams	Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	√
Maria Mahon	Verdis	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	√
Ed Van Reenen	Bywaters	N/A	N/A	N/A	√	√
Helen Murphy	Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation trust	√	X	X	N/A	N/A
Andy Stratton	Augean	√	X	X	N/A	N/A

N/A – not applicable

Activities

In conjunction with the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), a two day international conference was held on 14 and 15 April, 2016, at St Thomas's Hospital, in London. The event heard presentations from UK and international speakers, and was generally well attended by a range of stakeholders across the sector. **Presentations were also made to Grundon and SharpSMART at the event in recognition of their support during the 10 years of the Group's existence.**

A scheme to provide work shadowing opportunities for students was launched. The scheme entails students spending two days work shadowing various operations within the organisation. In 2016, one work shadow took place at Bywaters, with a final year Waste Management student, Stephen Angue.

There have been various research activities:

- An undergraduate student project examining a comparative analysis of selected options for the sustainable management of food waste arisings
- Collaborative projects are ongoing with Professor Mentore Vaccari from the University of Brescia and Dr Terry Tudor in Italy

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 academic manuscripts, as well as an article in the Guardian newspaper were published during the year:

Caniato M., Vaccari M., **Tudor TL.** (2016). Assessment of health-care waste management in a humanitarian crisis: a case study of the Gaza Strip. Waste Management.

Lee S., Vaccari M., **Tudor T.** (2016). A comparison of healthcare waste disposal technology options: a case study from an East Midlands NHS Trust, in England. Journal of Cleaner Production. 135: 139 - 147

Viani C., Vaccari M., **Tudor T.** (2016). Recovering value from used medical instruments: a case study of laryngoscopes in England and Italy. Resources, Conservation and Recycling. 111: 1 – 9.

Woolridge A, Adewebi J (2016) Beating Ebola. CIWM 40-41.

3.PLANS FOR 2017 AND BEYOND

The main event for next year will be a one day conference to be held in the Autumn of 2017, in Northampton. The event will focus on the sustainable management of food from the healthcare and hospitality sectors.

There will be at least two further work shadowing opportunities facilitated with SRCL and Grundon. Discussions are also being held with other interested organisations.

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