

British Cardiovascular Society

National Role: Sustainability Fellow

Role Profile

We seek to appoint a Cardiology Health Professional for a new innovative national role entitled 'BCS Sustainability Fellow'. The fellowship programme will provide the successful post holder with funding and support to manage and drive forward the sustainability agenda. The BCS recognises that the effects of climate change represent a healthcare emergency and the provision of healthcare itself is a contributor to this threat. The BCS have the platform to raise awareness of these issues and support with education of the workforce, who are imperative to make a contribution to creating more sustainable healthcare. Environmental sustainability is a key enabler in the BCS Strategy 2025 – 2027 and the role will give the post holder an excellent opportunity to influence cardiological practice to improve sustainability.

The post holder must be highly motivated, engaged, and digitally literate and will be responsible for education in this area and the development of quality improvement resources for the cardiology workforce, including development of a toolkit. It is the ambition of the BCS to lead the way in sustainable healthcare within cardiology and provide invaluable membership resource essential to all cardiology practitioners. This will be an exciting opportunity for all NHS clinical staff with a background and firm grasp of cardiology, including doctors, senior nurses, and allied health professionals, to shape and accelerate a sustainability strategy. For cardiologists in training, this would suit a Cardiology SpR between ST3-ST6.

Funding

The Fellowship will fund up to £1000 pcm for 1.5 working days per week by the fellow. The programme is flexible as to how this time is taken monthly to achieve pre-specified outcome measures.

Term of office

In the first instance, the post is being offered as a two-year consultancy contract with a six-month review point. A quarterly review, led by the VP for Professional and Society Values and the BCS CEO, will be conducted to assess progress towards outcomes.

Application process

1. Please complete and submit your CV and cover letter, which should detail:
Your experiences, enthusiasms, aspirations, and career plans that you feel make you suited to take on this role.



2. If your application is shortlisted, you will be invited to an interview, which could be conducted either online or face-to-face. You will then be notified of the outcome of your interview shortly afterwards.

Context

The BCS strategy (2025 – 2027) centres on its vision of being *the* leading voice for UK cardiology and to improve cardiovascular health through leadership, education and clinical excellence. We underpin these strategic aims with commitments to equality, diversity and inclusivity and financial and climate sustainability.

The BCS intends to take the lead amongst medical specialties in tackling climate change at an individual, institutional and health sector level. We engage with leadership in the NHS, industry, and charity sectors to deliver on this ambition.

The VP for Professional and Society Values (PS&V) is responsible for the BCS' overall approach and currently chairs the Climate and Sustainability committee and co-ordinates the activities of the committee. The Sustainability Fellow will sit on this committee, and be responsible for supporting its actions, working closely with the committee to Chair and committee members.

Responsibilities

General

The BCS Sustainability Fellow will report to the Committee Chair. They will work collaboratively with other key stakeholders, including the VP for Education, Head of Digital, Communications manager, trainees and BCS members.

The BCS Sustainability Fellow will ensure key measures and deliverables are met, including:

- Development of new educational offerings and material to communicate the importance, and practical steps to achieve climate goals.
- Work on raising awareness and engagement through BCS membership.
- Together with BCS staff, work on engagement with industry partners to work towards broader collaborations.

Specific duties

1. Contribute to the development of a Climate and Sustainability strategy for the BCS.
2. Create content demonstrating best practice and tools for delivery for the BCS website.
3. Engage with other societies and organisations to identify opportunities for practical collaboration.



4. Engage with industry and BCS Principal Partners to collaborate on the sustainability agenda.
5. Attend progress meetings with the Sustainability Committee Chair.
6. Ensure outputs and progress are appropriately tracked using agreed tools for governance and reporting purposes to the Committee Chair.
7. Provide reports and/or presentations to the Climate and Sustainability Committee and to the Executive and BCS Board of Trustees in collaboration with the Committee Chair as required.
8. Establish clear lines of engagement with other divisions within the BCS to ensure a joined-up approach and alignment with other key strategic goals of the organisation.
9. Work closely with BJCA and promote and develop bilateral content-sharing arrangements with other affiliate societies.
10. Act as spokesperson for the BCS on Climate issues when required.

Person Specification

Attribute or Skill	Essential	Desirable
Specialist Expertise in Climate and Sustainability	Thorough understanding of climate change, sustainability principles, and environmental science.	Demonstrated experience in climate action projects, or environmental policy, especially within the healthcare or public sector.
Experience in Sustainable Practices	Experience in implementing sustainability initiatives or environmental projects.	Knowledge of NHS sustainability policies or experience within an organisation focused on health and environment.
Appropriate Skills	Strong problem-solving abilities and leadership skills in a project or team environment.	Experience in influencing organisational policies or practices to promote sustainability.
Communication Skills	Effective verbal and written communication skills, able to convey complex information clearly.	Experience communicating with stakeholders about climate and sustainability issues; public speaking experience is an advantage.
Team Collaboration and Adaptability	Ability to work well in a diverse team and collaborate across disciplines.	Demonstrated experience in collaborative initiatives within the NHS or similar organisations.
Commitment to Sustainable Healthcare	Demonstrable commitment to sustainability in healthcare, with evidence of relevant initiatives or projects.	Awareness of NHS sustainability goals, such as the Greener NHS campaign, and their application within healthcare settings.
Knowledge of Equality and Diversity	Good understanding of the Equality and Diversity principles contained in the Equality Act 2010 and their relevance to sustainability.	Completion of a formal course in Equality and Diversity.
Relevant Experience	Proven track record of successful sustainability-related projects, preferably within large organisations.	Prior roles within NHS or similar organisations focused on climate or sustainability initiatives.
Clinical Expertise	To be in good standing with employer and GMC.	Achievement and additional contributions to specialty
Specialist Representation	To be a Member of the BCS.	

Roles and responsibilities set out in this document will be reviewed every 2 years.

Sept 2025