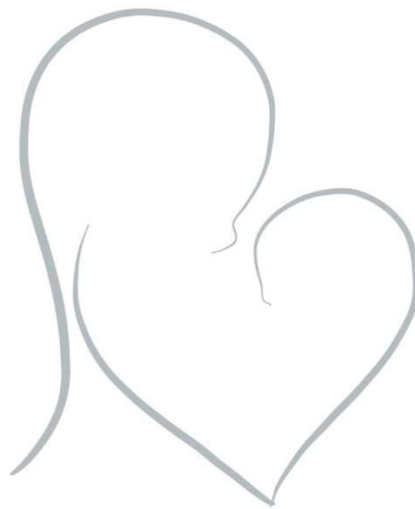


Scottish Obstetric Cardiology National Managed Clinical Network



ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



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Data Analyst: Louise Smith

Background

SOCN was established on 1 September 2018 in response to the MBRRACE-UK report, "Saving Lives, Improving Mothers' Care", published in December 2016, which highlighted that cardiac disease remains the leading indirect cause of death in pregnancy.

The network facilitates clinical and other improvements in the area of obstetric cardiology through delivery of objectives set by the National Specialist Services Committee (NSSC) for NHS Boards and SGHSCD within the national commissioning process. The network encompasses care for women who either have a pre-existing cardiac condition before pregnancy or go on to develop cardiac conditions during pregnancy.

The development of pathways, guidelines and documentation to support the delivery of services that are evidence based has been prioritised by the network. This will improve outcomes for women with cardiac disease and support implementation of optimal care to any women with a cardiac condition who is contemplating a pregnancy or has a pregnancy in Scotland.

Facilitating collaboration within and across the multi-disciplinary teams involved in a woman's care at local, regional and national levels is a key goal of the network. This work is being supported through the development of a data set and data collection programme to identify areas for improvement.

Current position

Understandably NHS Scotland priority during 2020/21 has been to respond to and deal with COVID-19 impact and this has seen clinical and other resource diverted from network activity which resulted in fewer Steering Group and Sub-Group meetings.

The network progressed the majority of workplan objectives. However due to clinician capacity a number are taking longer to complete than expected due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A full work plan update is available on page 6.

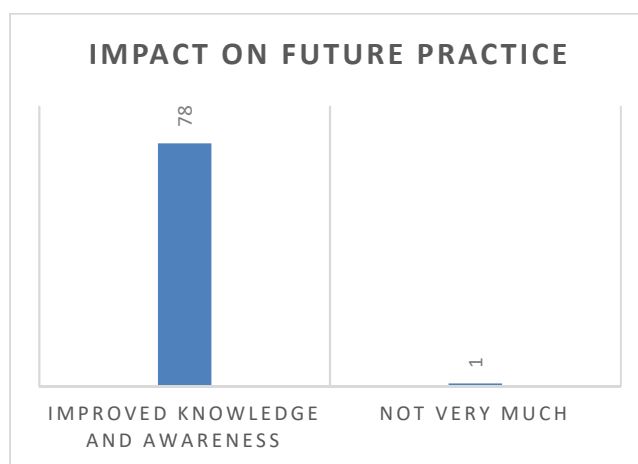
The network will continue to host meetings and events virtually in line with NSS guidance and, as soon as restrictions allow, will aim to hold one face to face steering group meeting per year and move the annual symposium back to an in person event. This will facilitate the informal networking that is critical to the development of a cohesive and supportive clinical community.

Highlights

Mapping & Data Gathering Meetings: To advise the network's understanding of local obstetric cardiology service provision, mapping and data gathering visits/meetings were undertaken with the wider local multidisciplinary teams. Delays were experienced in finalising visits due to the pandemic and clinician availability however these are now complete. Service mapping will provide the basis for improvements in how healthcare professionals co-ordinate care and communicate with each other, and will support development of agreed standards, competencies and guidance for health care staff. The network was participating in a review of the cardiac services and planned to use this as an initial opportunity to influence and inform service models and planning, however the

review is currently paused. The network will engage with local and regional planning as required.

SOCN Symposium: SOCN held its 2nd Symposium on 2 October 2020 via MS Teams. The event was attended by 160 delegates from a range of specialties including Obstetrics, Cardiology, Anaesthetics and Midwifery. 79 delegates took the opportunity to complete and return their evaluation.



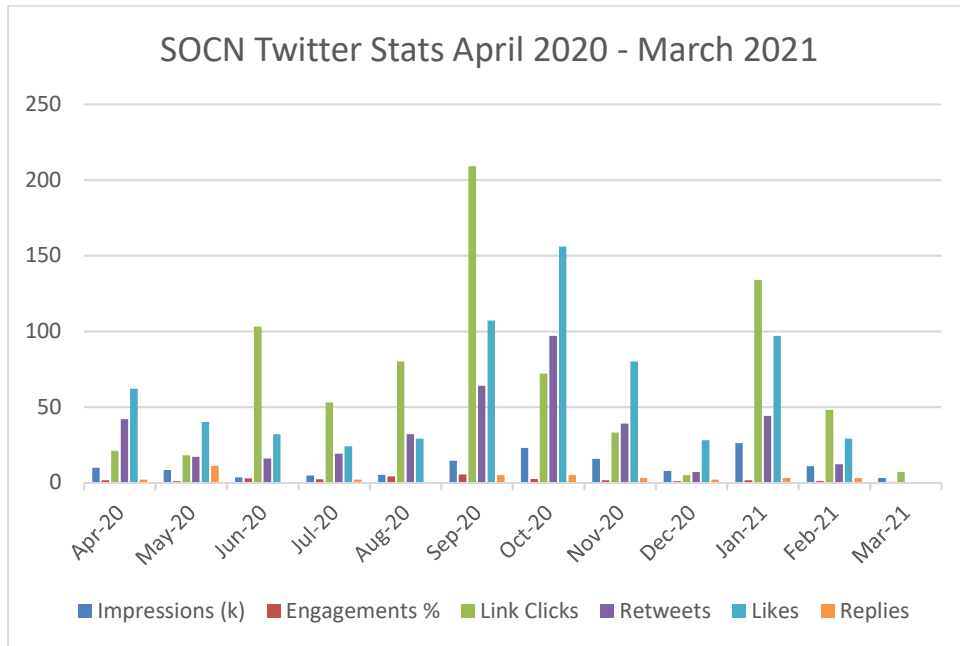
Other educational opportunities included a Case Discussion meeting hosted by NHS Tayside and NHS Grampian on 4 December attended by 51 delegates.

Communication and Engagement

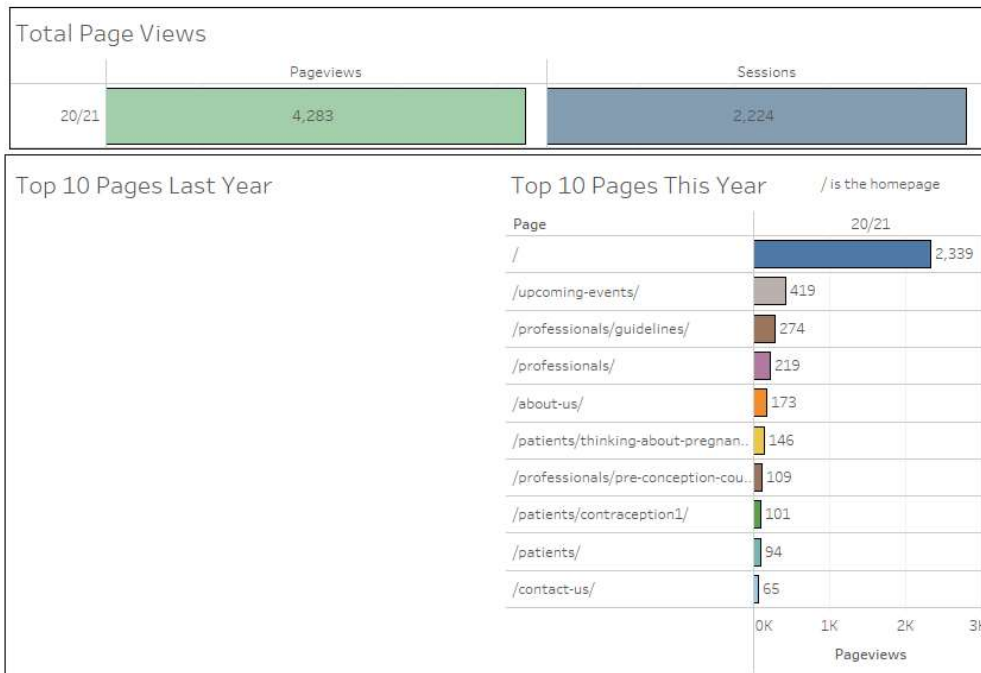
Awareness Raising & Stakeholder Engagement: The patient forum has developed a 'what matters to me' document which was presented by them via a recording at the annual symposium. Forum members have provided feedback on the website and development of patient information. Feedback from the patient forum has also been used to inform discussion at sub-group meetings and the workplan objectives for SOCN are capturing the issues highlighted by forum members including communication, education, recognition and inequity of access.

Women's Health Plan: The 2019-20 Programme for Government in Scotland committed to the development of a Women's Health Plan (WHP) to tackle health inequalities including those related to heart disease. SOCN's Lead Clinician is a member of the WHP Steering Group and chairs the 'Heart Health' subgroup. Engagement also continues with third sector organisations such as the British Heart Foundation, Little Hearts Matter and Cardiomyopathy UK. Several members of the SOCN Steering Group and subgroups continue to present at local, regional and national events to improve awareness and education of heart disease in pregnancy.

Social Media: SOCN has an active twitter account @S_O_C_N and facilitates one of the largest engagements available in this specialist area.



Website: Website analytics are now available for the SOCN website and will provide a baseline for future reporting.



Exceptions

SpR Education Event: Due to the COVID crisis the training event planned for May 2020 was cancelled. Registrars of various specialties attended the annual symposium as well as the Case Discussion meetings held during the course of the year.

Network Review: The joint review of SOCN network with Paediatric & Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services has been paused.

Audit & Data Collection: The SOCN Clinical Audit System (CAS) instance was finalised in August 2020. Further roll out was paused due to the pandemic and discussions around the use of Power Apps. After pulling together a requirements paper around the rationale for a Power App, the Information Management Services agreed there was a clear basis for designing a database specific to the network's needs. This means that specific information can be collected through the app which may have been difficult for the CAS to accommodate. NSS's Digital and Security Team (DaS) have scheduled time in 2021/22 to develop a power app for the network with development commencing in August 2021.

Looking forward

Lead Clinician: Maggie Simpson's tenure as Lead Clinician has been extended until March 2022. The network will commence a recruitment process during 2021/22.

The 2021/22 SOCN programme of work will focus on finalising the guideline and pathway workstreams. This will include documenting current pathways for women across Scotland and the development of a service model.

Education will also continue to be a focus for the network with objectives to:

- Host 2021 SOCN Symposium
- Ongoing case discussion meetings
- Scope development of an online 'heart disease in pregnancy' module for healthcare professionals
- Animation to support heart disease in pregnancy leaflets

Development of SOCN Power App: The network plans to work with the Information Management Service to create a SOCN Power App to progress the collection and use of data to identify areas for improvement.

Finance

The network has not incurred any costs during the reporting period due to the planned symposium taking place on a virtual platform.

SOCN WORKPLAN – 2020-21

When defining network objectives please consider the Institute of Medicine’s six dimensions of quality, which are central to NHS Scotland’s approach to systems-based healthcare quality improvement:

1. **Person-centred:** providing care that is responsive to individual personal preferences, needs and values and assuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions;
2. **Safe:** avoiding injuries to patients from healthcare that is intended to help them;
3. **Effective:** providing services based on scientific knowledge;
4. **Efficient:** avoiding waste, including waste of equipment, supplies, ideas, and energy;
5. **Equitable:** providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location or socio-economic status; and
6. **Timely:** reducing waits and sometimes harmful delays for both those who receive care and those who give care.

Key

RAGB status	Description
RED (R)	The network is unlikely to achieve the objective by the agreed end date.
AMBER (A)	There is a risk that the network will not achieve the objective by the agreed end date but progress has been made.
GREEN (G)	The network is on track to achieve the objective by the agreed end date.
BLUE (B)	The network has been successful in achieving the network objective to plan.

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
1. Effective Network Structure and Governance <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 3,4,5,6]</small>						
Ensure SOCN has robust and effective governance arrangements and is structured appropriately to delivery its objectives:						
2020-01	Detailed workplan for 2021/22.	Mar 2021	Y	Complete	There are effective governance arrangements in place.	B
2020-02	The network will organise three Steering Group meetings during 2020/21 to oversee strategic development of SOCN.	Aug 2020 Dec 2020 March 2021	Y	Number of Steering Group meetings reduced in light of Covid-19 .		B
2. Service Development and Delivery <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]</small>						
SOCN will develop guidance on access to services, including what women can expect on their journey through healthcare. Service mapping will provide the basis for improvements in how healthcare professionals co-ordinate care and communicate with each other, and will support development of agreed standards, competencies and guidance for health care staff.						
2020-03	Finalise mapping/data gathering by meeting with the wider multidisciplinary team involved in delivering care to understand the current local service provision and challenges.	Apr 2021	Y	Some delays experienced in organising meetings due to clinician availability. Data gathering complete.	All services provide co-ordinated and integrated care, in accordance with a recognised care pathway.	B
2020-04	Document current pathways for women across Scotland and develop service model.	Apr 2021	Y	Some delays experienced however data gathering now complete. Service model will remain objective for 2021/22.	There is equity of access to appropriately trained clinicians and inpatient facilities within NHS Scotland.	A
2020-05	The network will produce a Pre-Conception Counselling Patient information leaflet.	June 2020	Y	PPC leaflet designed with input from Patient Forum. Endorsed at Steering Group Meeting on 25 August.	There is a holistic approach to pre-pregnancy counselling, early detection and management that	B

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
2020-06	Development of Pre-Conception Counselling Standards for use by multi-professional groups.	June 2020	Y	Delayed slightly due to clinician availability. Work progressing to finalise standard and objective has been carried forward to next year's workplan	incorporates standardised decision-making tools and effective communication between services	G
2020-07	Development of care pathway for newly diagnosed patients.	Aug 2020	Y	Delayed slightly due to clinician availability. Work progressing to finalise standard and objective has been carried forward to next year's workplan.		G
2020-08	Development of care pathway for patients with an existing diagnosis.	Aug 2020	Y	Delayed slightly due to clinician availability. Work progressing to finalise standard and objective has been carried forward to next year's workplan.		G
3. Stakeholder Communication and Engagement <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,3,4,5,6]</small>						
SOCN will communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure its stakeholders are aware of the work that the network is undertaking and are involved and able to influence its work.						
2020-09	The website will evolve to become an effective communication/ training and information resource for patients, families and professionals.	June 2020	Y	Development of website well underway with additional design/branding finalised and website content progressing.	There will be effective, clear lines of communication between specialist services and women, their families, referrers and other professionals.	B
2020-10	Newsletter will be issued on a bi-annual basis.	Oct 2020 Mar 2021	Y	Newsletter was issued in Spring 2021.		B
2020-11	Network will continue to meet with Patient Forum members to ensure	Aug 2020 Jan 2021	Y	"What Matters to Me" document and PCC		B

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
	they are involved and able to influence its work and will develop “What Matters to me”.			Patient leaflet agreed at meeting on 23 July 2020. Video clip of patients presenting “What Matters to Me” shared at SOCN Symposium.		
4. Education <small>Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]</small> SOCN will identify unmet professional education needs and deliver relevant education opportunities to meet these needs. <small>[linked to</small>						
2020-12	Establish a timetable of case review meetings for those providing cardiac obstetric care across Scotland.	1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021	Y	Number of case review meetings undertaken during 2020/21 was reduced. NHS Tayside/Grampian jointly hosted meeting on 4 December 2020 (51 attendees).	All staff working with women have competencies appropriate to their specific roles, evidence-based training, and access to further training where required. Women and their families can be directed to appropriate support in their area. Services in each NHS board area will be able to demonstrate increased competency across all disciplines who work with women and their families across primary and secondary care	B
2020-13	Develop programme of Cardiology/ Obstetric/Anaesthetic SpR education events across Scotland.	May 2020	Y	Meeting scheduled for May 2020 was postponed due to pandemic. 2020/21 SpR education was provided via Annual Symposium and Case Discussion meetings.		B
2020-14	Organise and host a SOCN Symposium.	October 2020	Y	Symposium took place on 2 October using Microsoft Teams.		B
2020-15	Utilise opportunities for education through existing mechanisms (established conferences, local CME).	Ongoing	Y	Number of events cancelled due to Covid-19. Rescheduled dates		B

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
				signposted when available.		
2020-16	Develop a PCC education webinar for health care professionals and host on the SOCN website.	Sept 2020	Y	PCC recording from Annual Symposium will be made available on professional's area of the website.		A
5. Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]</small>						
SOCN will progress the use of data to identify areas for improvement and demonstrate improvements in service delivery and/or patient outcomes.						
2020-17	The network will work with IMS to develop a data plan for 2020/21.	April 2020	Y	Data requirements discussed at Sub-Group meeting on 21 August.	Improvements to service delivery are progressed from audit. Clinicians will work together to drive improvements for patient care Improvements to service delivery are progressed from audit. Patients will benefit from organisations working together to provide optimum care and manage risk better.	B
2020-18	Work with the National Resuscitation Council as they renew their guidelines to highlight the need for a maternal cardiac arrest algorithm.	31 March 2021	Y	Draft algorithm shared with Resus Council.		B
2020-19	Roll out Clinical Audit System instance for SOCN which captures core dataset. Identify small number of key mandatory fields for data collection.	31 March 2021	Y	CAS Instance finalised at meeting on 21 August. This has been paused due to covid-19 and discussions around use of Power Apps. This will be carried forward to the 2021/22 work plan.		A
2020-20	Collate audit of pre-pregnancy counselling undertaken across Scotland.	31 March 2021	Y	Audits carried out in GGC, Grampian and Ayrshire & Arran. Data collated and available. Manuscript to be		B

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
				finalised in next year's workplan.		
2020-21	The network will promote and demonstrate improvement from the use of the Care of the pregnant or recently pregnant women in a non-obstetric area.	Sept 2020	Y	A generic version of a traffic light document developed within NHS Lothian. Paused due to pandemic and clinician capacity. This will be carried forward to the 2021/22 work plan		A
6. Value [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
2020-22	The network will engage with organisations and charities to raise awareness of obstetric cardiology issues.	Ongoing	Y	Engagement with organisations and charities included: Scottish Government Womens Health Plan National Advisory Committee for Heart Disease British Heart Foundation Little Hearts Matter Cardiomyopathy UK UK Maternal Cardiology Society Nationally designated cardiac services in Scotland NHS Inform		B

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 13/04/2021	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
				Cardiowebinar NICCS		
2020-23	The network will participate in the review of the network.	Dec 2021	Y	Overview of review process provided at Steering Group meeting on 25 August. Review of Network paused.		A

SOCN WORKPLAN – 2021-22

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at xxx	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
1. Effective Network Structure and Governance <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 3,4,5,6]</small>						
Ensure SOCN has robust and effective governance arrangements and is structured appropriately to delivery its objectives:						
2021-01	Organise 3 Steering Group meetings to ensure effective delivery of the 2021/22 workplan.	Aug 2021 Dec 2021 March 2022	Y		There are effective governance arrangements in place.	
2021-02	The network will meet reporting requirements: - Mid-year Report - Annual Report	31/10/21 31/05/22	Y			
2. Service Development and Delivery <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]</small>						
SOCN will develop guidance on access to services, including what women can expect on their journey through healthcare. Service mapping will provide the basis for improvements in how healthcare professionals co-ordinate care and communicate with each other, and will support development of agreed standards, competencies and guidance for health care staff.						
2021-03	Using data gathered from Service mapping visits, document current pathways for women across Scotland and develop service model.	July 2021 – March 2022	Y			
2021-04	Completion of documentation to support pre-conception counselling (PCC) including: a) PCC Standards b) Pre-conception checklist & toolkit. c) Infographics summarising mod-high risk cardiac conditions such as mechanical heart valves d) Animation to support heart disease in pregnancy leaflet.	May 2021- Oct 2021	Y		There is a holistic approach to pre-pregnancy counselling, early detection and management that incorporates standardised decision-making tools and effective communication between services	

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at xxx	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
2021-05	<p>Completion of tools for caring for women with a known cardiac diagnosis including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Guidance for the care of women with known heart disease in pregnancy b) Drugs for the third stage of labour c) Labour and delivery management plan d) Normal/abnormal symptoms in pregnancy leaflet. 	May 2021- Oct 2021	Y			
2021-06	<p>Development and completion of tools for identifying, diagnosing and treating previously unknown cardiac conditions during pregnancy including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CVD assessment algorithm for pregnant and post partum women (red flags) b) Guideline for care of the pregnant or recently pregnant woman in a non-obstetric area. c) New diagnosis guidance document. d) Key cardiac symptoms (red flags) poster e) Acute referral to jubilee pathway. 	May 2021- Oct 2021	Y			
<p>3. Stakeholder Communication and Engagement <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,3,4,5,6]</small> SOCN will communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure its stakeholders are aware of the work that the network is undertaking and are involved and able to influence its work.</p>						

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at xxx	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
2021-07	The website will continue to evolve to become an effective communication/ training and information resource for patients, families and professionals.	Quarterly	Y		There will be effective, clear lines of communication between specialist services and women, their families, referrers and other professionals.	
2021-08	Newsletter will be issued on a bi-annual basis.	Oct 2021 Mar 2022	Y			
2021-09	Network will continue to meet with Patient Forum members to ensure they are involved and able to influence its work.	Aug 2021 Jan 2022	Y			
2021-10	The network will engage with organisations and charities to raise awareness of obstetric cardiology issues.	April 2021 – March 2022	Y			
4. Education Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
SOCN will identify unmet professional education needs and deliver relevant education opportunities to meet these needs. [linked to						
2021-11	Establish a timetable of case review meetings for those providing cardiac obstetric care across Scotland.	June 2021 Dec 2021	Y		All staff working with women have competencies appropriate to their specific roles, evidence-based training, and access to further training where required. Women and their families can be directed to appropriate support in their area. Services in each NHS board area will be able to	
2021-12	Scope development of an online pregnancy and heart disease module.	May 21 – Dec 21	Y			
2021-13	Create cardiac-obstetric scenario for PROMPT course on cardiomyopathy.	Sept 21 – Dec 21				
2021-14	Organise and host a SOCN Symposium.	October 2021	Y			
2021-15	Create a health care professionals area for hosting education and documentation.	Aug 21 – Oct 21	Y			

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at xxx	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
					demonstrate increased competency across all disciplines who work with women and their families across primary and secondary care.	
5. Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
SOCN will progress the use of data to identify areas for improvement and demonstrate improvements in service delivery and/or patient outcomes.						
2021-16	The network will work with IMS to develop a data plan for 2021/22.	June 21	Y		Improvements to service delivery are progressed from audit. Clinicians will work together to drive improvements for patient care . Improvements to service delivery are progressed from audit. Patients will benefit from organisations working together to provide optimum care and manage risk better.	
2021-17	Creation of SOCN Power App solution to progress the use of data to identify areas for improvement.	Aug 2021	Y			
2021-18	Collate audit of pre-pregnancy counselling undertaken across Scotland.	Sept 21 – Dec 21	Y			
6. Value [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						