

# Care of Burns in Scotland (COBIS)



## Mid-Year Report 2021/22

**Lead Clinician:** Mr David McGill  
**Programme Manager:** Mr Jamie Nimmo  
**Programme Support Officer:** Vacant  
**Data Analyst:** Mr Gavin Hallford

## Current Position

The network is on track with most of its objectives at this point. However, some work has inevitably taken longer to progress, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on staff and services.

The updated business plan (appendix 1), outlines the progress made by the network to date.

During the reporting period, the network has refreshed and updated 15 out of 20 existing clinical guidelines and these are available on the [COBIS website](#).

The Education Subgroup is on track to replace all third party information leaflets on the COBIS website, with COBIS-branded versions. This is to ensure the information held within these leaflets is current and relevant for patients in Scotland.

The Data Subgroup has reviewed the results of the Clinical Audit System (CAS) User Survey that was carried out in March 2021 and work is progressing to implement changes to the system to make it less time-consuming to input data and more clinically valuable.

COBIS continues to work closely with partner organisations. This includes three third sector organisations (Scottish Burned Children's Club, Changing Faces and Dan's Fund), whom are all taking part in the delivery of a burns aftercare session at the 2021 Annual Education Event. COBIS has also been actively engaged in the "be safe, be kind and be smart" fireworks safety campaign again this year, through a series of meetings and the sharing of resources.

The network will continue to engage with other networks and services, such as the Scottish Trauma Network (STN), to ensure synergies are recognised and acted on in a timely manner, which will prevent duplication of resources. In particular, COBIS will engage with the STN on the triage of pre-hospital transfers.

## Exceptions

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to affect clinical capacity, which has impacted on the network's ongoing project work, delaying progress on some of the objectives.

The development of new clinical guidelines has been put on hold due to the current impact on clinician availability. It is anticipated that guidelines can still be developed later in the year.

Due to staffing resource, the first newsletter of the reporting year is yet to be produced. Resources have been deployed to continue to maintain the COBIS website and Twitter account, which has ensured network members and stakeholders are kept up-to-date with news and developments as they occur.

The network had anticipated that colleagues in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde would have delivered the first of three regionally-led training sessions on burns management

during the reporting period. Again, due to the impact of COVID-19, this did not progress and it is anticipated that these three training sessions will be delivered within the next reporting period.

The network's strategies have not been updated, as the Service Level Agreement for the National Scottish Burns Hub has still to be signed off.

## **Looking Forward**

There is a risk that due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland, there will be limited capacity amongst clinicians to contribute to network activity, which may result in key objectives not being progressed as planned. To mitigate this, COBIS regularly reviews and updates the network and overall team business plan, reporting any potential issues to its commissioners.

## **Finance**

COBIS has not spent any of its annual budget in 2021/22 thus far, and is likely to remain underspent for the rest of the reporting period. This is mainly due to face-to-face meetings being replaced by virtual meetings.

## Appendix 1 – Annual Business Plan 2021-22

Core Principles	Description of Work	Current status	Start Date	End date	
Service Development and Delivery	COBIS will work closely with the National Scottish Burns Hub to make implementation as smooth as possible. COBIS will draft the Service Level Agreement for the national service and will assist with communications. The network will also consider long-term contingency planning, should the network be de-commissioned.	Implementation is underway; however, the Service Level Agreement has not been signed off yet, as NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have requested several changes. The Senior Programme Manager for the service is currently working with NHS GG&C to finalise. There were initial concerns raised by the service around the finance profile, which have since been resolved. The service is prepared for the recruitment of additional consultants. COBIS will assist with the dissemination of communications. COBIS members have unanimously backed the need for COBIS to continue to be commissioned alongside the national service. This will be highlighted at the COBIS Annual Performance Review 2021.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	A
Service Development and Delivery	Create new clinical guidelines on formulary and frailty/ elderly, based on feedback from the national burns review and the annual education event in 2020.	Clinicians have been identified with relevant experience and knowledge to take these forward. Frailty and Elderly will be a combined guideline. No progress has been made on this	01/10/2021	31/03/2022	G
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Create and maintain a Twitter calendar of key events for burns services and COBIS for 2020/21.	A calendar of events for Twitter has been created, with a particular focus on safety campaigns. In between key dates, Tweets will continue to be sent on a regular basis.	01/04/2021	30/06/2021	C

Education	By March 2021 deliver a training plan of 3 training sessions, to ensure those in more remote locations in Scotland have access to burns management training. NHS GG&C to lead one, NHS Lothian to lead one and NHS Grampian to lead one.	NHS Glasgow are taking a lead on the first training session, however the team have not had the capacity to progress this as of yet due to clinical pressures caused by the pandemic. It should be noted that these training sessions do not need to be distributed evenly throughout the year and sessions can be arranged close together (although not on the same date). Therefore, there is still a chance that the network will deliver all 3 as planned.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	<b>A</b>
Education	Carry out a review of third party leaflets of COBIS website and develop a plan to replace these with up-to-date COBIS versions. Include guidance on review process. (who/ when etc.)	The latest versions of the third party leaflets have been sourced and linked into the monitoring spreadsheet. These will be distributed fairly between each of the 4 main burns units for progressing. In the meantime, the 4 units have been asked to provide details of any board-level versions they may have already. To date no responses have been received by the NMCN.	01/06/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Develop the COBIS Clinical Audit System to remove any information that is surplus to requirement and introduce new fields that align more closely with the British Burns Association's National Standards. This should be based on the user survey carried out in March 2021.	A spreadsheet has been developed that breaks down the various data requirements into logical sections. The proposed changes have been highlighted. This has been circulated to the Data Subgroup members for comment. There was appetite at the latest Steering Group meeting in September for the CAS data to be moved to PowerApps, however this comes with a cost of £30k+ and there is already a backlog of requests. It is unlikely that COBIS will be considered a priority for such a development. Therefore, the focus in the meantime is to work on the improvements that can be made to the data that is captured within CAS.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>

Specialist Healthcare Commissioning Care of Burns in Scotland NMCN 2021-22

Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Review and update all Scottish Burned Children's Club (SBCC) Quality Improvement Project documentation to improve the uptake of referrals in terms of numbers and geographical spread. Target of 12 referrals from at least 3 different health boards by the end of March 2022.	The SBCC project team met on 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 to discuss progress. Leaflets have been translated and uploaded to the COBIS website. A link to the new electronic referral form has also been added and will capture referral details for quality improvement purposes going forward. The next step is for boards to start referring patients.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>
Value	Key stakeholders from the COBIS network will engage with the Scottish Trauma Network (STN) to work on joint projects including transfer pathways.	This will be part of the national burns hub development, particularly around transfer of patients. COBIS have representatives on the STN paediatric subgroup and the pre-hospital subgroup. More work is required to refine what is required as the national burns hub is implemented. Jamie Nimmo met with Alison Gilhooly (STN SPM) on 17/09/21 to plan further actions, including meeting the new Scottish Ambulance Service representative and looking at long-term implications for Scottish Trauma data platform.	01/07/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>
Value	Create a pathway for referring to third sector organisations for ongoing support. This should include key information, benefits, referral criteria and how to refer.	A draft was taken to the Communications and Engagement Subgroup as a paper. The next draft being worked on.	01/04/2021	31/12/2021	<b>G</b>
Value	Fireworks education/ prevention plan – working with other organisations.	The campaign for 2021 is now underway, with educational resources accessible for children at primary and secondary school ages.	01/07/2021	30/11/2021	<b>G</b>

<p>Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement</p>	<p>COBIS will work with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, to carry out a Firework Injuries National Survey over a 4-week period between 15<sup>th</sup> October and 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021. COBIS will be responsible for circulating a Microsoft Forms survey to all 90 EDs/MIUs in Scotland and will collate all responses, to later be analysed, and reported on by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.</p>	<p>The Microsoft Forms survey has been sent to all 90 EDs/MIUs in Scotland and responses will continue to be collated over the active period, up to and including 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.</p>	<p>08/10/2021</p>	<p>31/12/2021</p>	<p><b>G</b></p>
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