

Terms of reference for the SCTS Datagroup

1. To report to the SCTS Executive Committee on issues related to the SCTS database.
2. To ensure the SCTS dataset is up to date and 'fit for purpose'
3. To liaise on behalf of the SCTS executive with organisations providing analysis of the SCTS dataset including the Central cardiac audit database, Dendrite and the National institute for clinical outcomes research at UCL.
4. To approve requests for data and analysis and ensure that subsequent outputs are in line with the aspirations of the SCTS, reporting to and utilising the SCTS Executive Committee as required.
5. To liaise on behalf of the executive of the SCTS on matters of data and data analysis with other bodies including, amongst others, the Healthcare Commission, the Department of Health, the Tripartite group, Dendrite (or other commercial organisations under the approval of the SCTS) the Royal College of Surgeons and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons
6. To act with others to produce regular outputs from the SCTS dataset including on line reports and annual database reports.
7. To act with the Central cardiac audit database to provide regular analyses for internal monitoring of units and surgeons as instructed by the SCTS executive committee.
8. To provide expertise to support members and units with concerns about data and data analysis.

Ben Bridgewater has been appointed to chair the group with a 5 year appointment

The membership of the group will be:

Chairman

SCTS Hon. Secretary

Previous SCTS member with responsibility for the database

SCTS Executive Committee member

2 non Executive members of the SCTS

Thoracic surgery representative

Database manager representative

CCAD representative

Dendrite representative (or representative of other commercial organisation providing analysis input as appropriate)

The committee will have the ability to co-opt members with specific expertise as appropriate

The Executive Committee member will be appointed for their time on the executive
The non Executive members will be appointed following an advert for expressions of interest and would then be appointed by the President, the Hon. Secretary, the Chairman and the Executive member of the group on the basis of relevant experience and expertise. These positions would be for a 3 year term, which could be renewed.

The other members of the group would be reviewed and ratified by the committee on an annual basis.

The data group would meet twice yearly (once at the SCTS annual meeting) and would look to become self funding in the short term.

Ben Bridgewater 23.6.2008.

