June 2025

Update from



Responding to the Government's proposed reforms to disability benefits

The Government's "Pathways to Work" Green paper sets out proposed changes to disability benefits. 100 charities, including the National Kidney Federation and Kidney

Care UK, have come together to form the Disability Benefits Consortium (DBC) to respond to these proposals, which are creating anxiety amongst many people. Some of the measures aim to help by overhauling the PIP (personal independence payment) assessment and improving support to help people back into work. However, some analysis shows that reductions in benefits will push thousands of claimants into poverty.



Please note that nothing is going to change immediately and it is not guaranteed that the proposed reforms will actually happen.

To help in compiling a response to the Government, Kidney Care UK is conducting a survey about your experiences and views of health related welfare benefits and support to access work. Click this link for more details and to complete the survey (Deadline is Sunday 22 June):

Green paper 'Pathways to Work' consultation Survey

You can also reply directly to the Government consultation (Deadline Monday 30 June):

Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working



SAKA is often approached by researchers looking for participants in studies aimed at improving kidney care. Details of such opportunities are posted on the News page of the SAKA website and on our Facebook Group. At the moment a PhD student is conducting a study on how renal patients seek, access and use information related to their health and what barriers they encounter. To take part in this, and any future studies, visit

Sheffield Area Kidney Association - News



Obituary: Paul Johnson

We are sad to announce that Paul Johnson, a transplant patient and an active member of the renal community, passed away peacefully on Monday 26 May. Paul's kidney failure began at the age of 15 and he underwent three kidney transplants as well as other operations. He dedicated many hours to charity work, raising funds and raising awareness of CKD. This included serving as a SAKA Trustee, promoting the British Transplant Games and speaking about kidney disease at every opportunity. He was also passionate about the environment (trees will be planted in his name), art and design and Barnsley FC.

We extend our condolences to Paul's family and friends.

All are welcome to remember Paul as follows:

Celebration of Life for Paul Johnson, Tuesday 17th June 10:50am Ardsley Crematorium, Doncaster Road, Barnsley, S71 5EH. There will be a collection for SAKA.

Reception for Paul Johnson, 12-3pm, The Strafford Arms, Stainborough, 10 Park Drive, S75 3E

(Please do not feel the need to wear black)

Emotional Wellbeing

SAKA is currently exploring the opportunity to improve the mental health and wellbeing of kidney patients. The lack of availability of mental health and wellbeing support has been highlighted as a significant issue by people with renal disease and their carers, and we are in the process of assessing how best to set up a support service.

This follows on the success of our Benefits Advice Service, which has helped kidney patients to receive all the benefits they are entitled too. In a similar way, we hope to work with mental health and wellbeing service providers to offer a free service to renal patients at key times in their kidney disease progression.

If you feel this is something which would be of help to you, please contact us to indicate your initial interest. Email: <u>contact@saka.org.uk</u>

Keep an eye on the SAKA website for any further details.

The National Kidney Federation invites you to their Annual Event, an event dedicated to meeting friends old and new, raising awareness, sharing the latest renal information and supporting kidney health. Whether you're a patient, caregiver, healthcare professional, or supporter, there's something for everyone.



Join us in celebrating kidney health and empowerment, this October, the National Kidney Federation is set to host an event that promises to be both insightful and inspiring.



Hilton Hotel. East Midlands Airport, DE742YZ









SATURDAY 11TH Social evening with a hot buffet*, and quiz. The perfect way to kick start your weekend.

CSL Vifor SUNDAY 12TH

Our Main event begins, packed with speaker sessions and an exhibition showcasing the latest in kidney care.



To book your place or to learn more, please scan the QR code, visit www.kidney.org.uk or call 01909 544999

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*Book a stay at the hotel for the Saturday evening, and enjoy a complimentary buffet, this is limited to the first 100 that make a reservation.

National Kidney Federation Helpline number: 0800 169 09 35 National Kidney Federation. The Point, Coach Road, Shireoaks, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S818BW Registered Charity Nos. 1106735 5C04931 Company No. 5272349 Regin England & Wales Gives as you Earn Contributors No CAF. GY511



Patient Support and Education Programme

Sorby Renal Outpatients Dept, 4 pm—6 pm For more details contact your Kidney Nurse Specialist: 0114 2269390 or 0114 2266934

25th July 2025

Kidney Transplant

Insights from the transplant team and patients.

24th October 2025

Medication

Learn how to manage your medicines and stay well.

British Transplant Games

The Sheffield Adult Transplant Games Team are looking forward to competing at Oxford on 31 July to 3 August.

The British Transplant Games will be held in **Sheffield in 2026**, with many events being staged in and around the Olympic Legacy Park. The dates are 5 - 9 August.

Contact the Team Manager: Charlottemorton1977@gmail.com

SAKA exists to help and support renal patients under the care of Sheffield Kidney Institute. It is run by kidney patients and carers and we always welcome new ideas.



Please contact us if we can help you in any way, or if you would like to become more involved in **SAKA**.

Email: contact@saka.org.uk

Website: www.saka.org.uk

Phone: 07719 787885 (Peter) or 0751 6026762 (Glynis)