



SCTS

Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery
in Great Britain and Ireland

Executive Committee Report: June 2026

Standing Report from Chair of Cardiothoracic Surgery Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC)

Officer/Chair Name: Mark Jones

Meetings Attended

MEETING	DATE	MINUTES
SAC Meeting	6 March 2026	Yes
National Trainees' Meeting	15 March 2026	No
SCTS Annual Meeting	15-17 March 2026	No
ISCP Management Committee	8 April 2026	As detailed by JSCT
JCST Quality Assurance Meeting	21 April 2026	As detailed by JSCT
SSG updates	8 May 2026	As detailed by JSCT
SAC Chairs' Meeting	19 May 2026	As detailed by JSCT
Joint Committee on Surgical Training	20 May 2026	As detailed by JSCT
SSG updates	17 June 2026 (provisional)	
SAC Meeting including TPDs	19 June 2026 (scheduled)	
SCTS Executive	26 June 2026 (scheduled)	

Matters of Information for the Executive Committee

- GMC approval of update to Cardiothoracic Surgery curricula: 14 January 2026
- Adoption of curriculum update in August 2026
- Changes to Congenital Cardiac Surgery curriculum: considered administrative only
- SCTS Annual Meeting: curriculum updates
 - Trainee Meeting
 - Keynote regarding update to curriculum
- Information currently available on ISCP:
<https://www.iscp.ac.uk/iscp/curriculum/cardiothoracic-surgery-curriculum/1-introduction/>
- Waiting list for examinations may impact duration of training
- Recruitment and Selection: plan to offer 12 ST1 posts and 2 ST4 posts but number of offers expanded by deaneries contrary to SAC advice and published details
- Combined SCTS - SAC Workforce Report 2025: used to inform R&S and Curriculum update
- Implications of Medical Training (Prioritisation) Act 2026
- Portfolio Pathway applications increasing
- Review of Phase 1 training

Matters for Consideration by the Executive Committee

- Updated Cardiothoracic Surgery Curriculum: August 2026
- Waiting list for examinations may impact duration of training
- Phase I training
- Recruitment and selection process for 2027
- Portfolio pathway applications increasing
- Workforce implications