

CARBON REDUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Version:	4
Ratified by:	Senior Managers Operational Group
Date ratified:	March 2016
Title of originator/author:	Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Lead
Title of responsible committee/group:	Carbon Reduction Group (CRG)
Date issued:	March 2016
Review date:	February 2019
Relevant Staff Groups:	All Trust staff

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Reference AH/Mar/13/CR&SP	Version 4	Status Final	Author Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Lead
Amendments	Policy revised in line with updated sustainability and carbon reduction requirements, legislation and central NHS policy. Amendments have been made to align this policy to latest guidance and NHS carbon targets.		
Document objectives: Provide all staff with an understanding of the Trust's carbon reduction and sustainability aims and objectives.			
Intended recipients: All Trust staff			
Committee/Group Consulted: Carbon Reduction Group and Estates and Facilities Governance Group			
Monitoring arrangements and indicators: The Carbon Reduction Group will monitor all carbon reduction and sustainability matters within the Trust.			
Training/resource implications: please refer to section 6 of this document			
Approving body and date	Regulation Governance Group		Date: February 2016
Formal Impact Assessment	Impact Part 1		Date: February 2016
Clinical Audit Standards	No		Date: Not Applicable
Ratification Body and date	Senior Managers Operational Group		Date: March 2016
Date of issue	March 2016		
Review date	February 2019		
Contact for review	Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Lead		
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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This policy sets out the principles to embed sustainable development within Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust for the benefit of staff, patients and the local and global community.
- 1.2 The Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health, Public Health and Social Care System 2014-2020 was launched in January 2014. It describes the vision for a sustainable health and care system by reducing carbon emissions, protecting natural resources, preparing communities for extreme weather events and promoting healthy lifestyles and environments. This provides a more holistic sustainability remit and expectation upon the NHS than previously seen. Carbon emissions are still an important aspect, however this strategy looks holistically at sustainability ensuring resilience, adaptation, maximise the local and community benefit of the Trusts spend (i.e. creating social value) and enhancing health and wellbeing.
- 1.3 A sustainable health and care system protects and improves health within environmental, financial and social resources now and for the future.
- 1.4 Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health, Public Health and Social Care System 2014-2020 identifies 3 goals to be achieved;
- *A Healthier Environment*

It has been proven a healthier environment contributes to better health outcomes for all. This involves better use of resources and decarbonising the health and care sector to improve air quality and reduce the effects of climate change.
 - *Communities and services are ready and resilient for changing times and climates*

Ensuring even through periods of heat, cold, flooding and other extreme weather events vulnerable people and communities are protected and can access the support they need. Multi-agency planning and organisational collaboration, underpinned by local plans and assurance mechanisms, provide a better solution to these events than working independently, individually and ineffectively.
 - *Every opportunity contributes to healthy lives, healthy communities and healthy environments*

Every contact and all decisions taken across the health and care system can help build and promote immediate as well as long term health benefits for people, reducing their need for healthcare. A sustainable healthcare system is one that works to fully promote health; minimising preventable illness, health inequalities and unnecessary treatment.
- 1.5 The SDU guidance provides a modular approach with 8 supporting modules to encourage the delivery of these goals across the NHS;
- Leadership, engagement and development;
 - Sustainable clinical and care models;

- Healthy, sustainable and resilient communities;
- Carbon hotspots;
- Commissioning and procurement;
- Metrics;
- Innovation, technology and R&D;
- Creating social value;

The CRG are aware of the strategy and it's supporting modules and these documents are referred to throughout the group's works.

- 1.6 The Climate Change Act (2008) sets legally binding targets on Government for reducing carbon emissions by 34% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 from the baseline. *Saving Carbon, Improving Health* sets a pledge for the NHS to become a leading sustainable and low carbon organisation.

2 PURPOSE & SCOPE

- 2.1 The Trust recognises sustainable business practices will benefit the NHS and the people of Somerset by helping to ensure the best use of resources and minimising any adverse impact on the environment. The Trust is working to ensure sustainable development becomes an integral part of the Trust's core business.
- 2.2 The purpose of this policy is to ensure the Trust achieves the objectives of 'Sustainable Development Strategy for the NHS, Public Health and Social Care System' and the 'NHS Carbon Reduction Strategy *Saving Carbon; Improving Health*' and delivers a standard of sustainable development which will have positive impacts on health, expenditure, efficiency and equity.

3 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 The **Chief Executive** has ultimate responsibility for the adoption and implementation of this policy.
- 3.2 The **Director of Finance and Business Development** is responsible at Board level for implementation and monitoring improvements in carbon reduction and sustainability impacts of Trust services.
- 3.3 The **Carbon Reduction (and Sustainability) Group (CRG)** provides the forum for the implementation of this policy and any associated strategies or management plans. The Head of Estates & Facilities will facilitate the Carbon Reduction (& Sustainability) Group who will provide the forum for the implementation of this policy and associated strategies or management plans. The Chairperson of the CRG, who may be an external consultant, will be the Trust's Sustainability and Carbon Reduction lead.
- 3.4 **Staff** will have a responsibility to act in accordance with this policy, to help develop and understand how sustainable best practice can be integrated into their role and how others within the Trust may be able to learn from their experiences. Trust staff and patients have a day-to-day role in energy, waste and resource management, as well as taking up sustainable and healthy travel

options to advance the Trust's sustainability agenda. The CRG uses the Trust communications channels, staff Intranet page and the annual report to disseminate information to staff, patients and the community about its sustainable development achievements and provide an email address to encourage dialogue; sustainability@sompar.nhs.net. One aim of the Trust is to secure the co-operation of its staff to implement sustainable development throughout individual roles and responsibilities.

3.5 The Government recognises, as does the Trust, that success will only come via 'joined up' thinking across departments and agencies and it is therefore the responsibility of **all staff and contractors** working for the Trust to play their part in achieving carbon reduction and sustainable development targets.

3.6 **Partnership working** is key to tackling climate change and the Trust will engage and maximise these relationship where possible.

4. EXPLANATIONS OF TERMS USED

4.1 **CRG** - Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Group

SDU - Sustainable Development Unit

ERIC - Estates Return Information Collection

BREEAM – Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method

SDMP – Sustainable Development Management Plan

PAMs – Premises Assurance Model

PLACE – Patient Lead Assessment of the Care Environment

Social Value – means measuring and maximising the local / community benefit of the Trust's procurement activity, i.e. preferring local suppliers, actively mentoring and employing those with a disability or mental health issues and using procurement exercises to ensure suppliers have some form of community engagement such as helping improve local community facilities/parks or undertake events at local schools etc.

5 STATEMENT OF POLICY

5.1 The Trust operates in partnership with other organisations and aims to adopt policies and implement improvements jointly with its partner organisations.

5.2 The Trust acknowledges the potential impact its activities may have on sustainability and is committed to ensuring appropriate management is an integral part of service provision. The Trust demonstrates its commitment to carbon reduction and sustainable development and management by having a dedicated Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Lead.

5.3 The objectives of this policy are to:

- Take a holistic approach to sustainability and work to embed sustainable best practice across the Trust;
- Comply with all relevant legislation;
- Monitor and reduce the Trust's energy use and carbon footprint;
- Monitor and reduce waste production and increase recycling and reuse;
- Minimise the environmental impact of travel in everyday business and commissioned services;

- Better understand and minimise the environmental impact of care delivery and procurement;
- Embed best practice with regard to environmental management and models of care;
- Raise awareness and actively engage and enthuse staff in sustainable behaviours and idea generation;
- Work in partnership to promote, maximise and achieve the co-benefits of sustainable development throughout Somerset and the South West;
- Ensure appropriate governance of sustainable development;
- Seek opportunities to invest to save in sustainable technologies and practices;
- Ensure that, where appropriate, the Trust's capital projects meet the appropriate Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM standards).

5.4 The Carbon Reduction Strategy and Sustainable Development Management Plan (SDMP) will underpin the requirements of the policy.

5.5 Monitoring and reporting arrangements will be as follows:

- As a member of the Carbon Reduction Group (CRG) the Head of Estates and Facilities will provide an annual report to the Board;
- Annual public reporting of Trust carbon emissions and resource usage is through the annual report and Trust Intranet;
- The SDU 'Good Corporate Citizenship' self assessment tool allows a pan-organisational assessment of sustainable development which will be reported annually to the NHS SDU and publicly;
- The Trust utilises the Patient Led Assessment of the Care Environment (PLACE), which uses local people and patients to assess the care environment across five main areas; 'cleanliness', 'food', 'privacy, dignity and wellbeing', 'condition, appearance and maintenance' and 'dementia friendliness'. Outcomes are reported internally with scores and responses scrutinised to develop local action plans to drive improvement;
- The use of the NHS Premises Assurance Model (PAMs) is used by the Trust and reporting within Effectiveness subsection (E6) demonstrates the Trust's sustainable development achievements and processes;
- The Trust will report on sustainability through the Trust annual report each year.

6. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

6.1 The Trust will work towards all staff being appropriately trained in line with the organisation's Staff Mandatory Training Matrix (training needs analysis). All training documents referred to in this policy are accessible to staff within the Learning and Development Section of the Trust Intranet.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 All relevant persons are required to comply with this document and must demonstrate sensitivity and competence in relation to the nine protected

characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010. In addition, the Trust has identified Learning Disabilities as an additional tenth protected characteristic. If you, or any other groups, believe you are disadvantaged by anything contained in this document please contact the Equality and Diversity Lead who will then actively respond to the enquiry.

8 MONITORING COMPLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

8.1 Overall monitoring will be by the Estate and Facilities Governance Group. The Carbon Reduction Group will develop an annual progress report which will include:

- Estates Return Information Collection (ERIC);
- The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) Good Corporate Citizenship Self-Assessment tool;
- Annual carbon footprint measurement ;
- Sustainable Development Management Plan (SDMP).

8.2 The Carbon Reduction Group (CRG) will identify good practice, any shortfalls, action points and lessons learnt. The CRG will be responsible for monitoring improvements, and where necessary implement actions.

9. COUNTER FRAUD

9.1 The Trust is committed to the NHS Protect Counter Fraud Policy – to reduce fraud in the NHS to a minimum, keep it at that level and put funds stolen by fraud back into patient care. Therefore, consideration has been given to the inclusion of guidance with regard to the potential for fraud and corruption to occur and what action should be taken in such circumstances during the development of this procedural document.

10. RELEVANT CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) REGISTRATION STANDARDS

10.1 Under the **Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014 (Part 3)**, the fundamental standards which inform this procedural document, are set out in the following regulations:

Regulation 10:	Dignity and respect
Regulation 12:	Safe care and treatment
Regulation 15:	Premises and equipment
Regulation 16:	Receiving and acting on complaints
Regulation 17:	Good governance

10.2 Under the **CQC (Registration) Regulations 2009 (Part 4)** the requirements which inform this procedural document are set out in the following regulations:

Regulation 12:	Statement of purpose
Regulation 15:	Notice of changes
Regulation 18:	Notification of other incidents

10.3 Detailed guidance on meeting the requirements can be found at <http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/20150311%20Guidance%20for%20providers%20on%20meeting%20the%20regulations%20FINAL%20FOR%20PUBLISHING.pdf>

10.4 **Relevant National Requirements**

10.5 Under the **Climate Change Act (2008)** the Government has a responsibility to achieve absolute carbon reduction targets from the baseline;

- 34% reduction by 2020
- 80% reduction by 2050

10.6 The **Civil Contingencies Act (2004)** requires all NHS Providers to assess the risk of, plan for and develop exercises for emergencies as well as creating business continuity management processes.

10.7 The **Public Services (Social Value) Act (2012)** calls for all public sector commissioning to factor in social and environmental, as well as economic benefits. It is designed to allow non financial value to be incorporated into public procurement exercises and encourage a broader sense of value for money and integration of service design.

10.8 The CRG continually updates an **Environmental Compliance Register** which details the majority of relevant environmental legislation affecting the Trust and details procedures in place to manage compliance.

11. **REFERENCES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

11.1 **References**

Sustainable Development Unit (SDU), Saving Carbon, Improving Health: NHS Carbon Reduction Strategy for England, January 2009.

<http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/engagement-resources/nhs-carbon-reduction-strategy-2009.aspx>

Sustainable Development Unit (SDU), Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health and Social Care System 2014 - 2020, January 2014,
<http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/engagement-resources.aspx>

11.2 **Cross reference to other procedural documents**

Development & Management of Organisation-wide Procedural Documents
Policy and Guidance

Health and Safety Policy

Healthcare (Clinical) Waste Policy

Learning Development and Mandatory Training Policy

Non Clinical Waste Policy

Risk Management Policy and Procedure

Staff Mandatory Training Matrix (Training Needs Analysis)

Untoward Event Reporting Policy and procedure

Severe Weather Policy

Incident Response Plan

Equality and Diversity Policy

Business Continuity Management and Recovery Service Policy

Sustainable Procurement Policy

COSHH Policy

Ethical Standards Policy

Healthy Eating at Work Policy

- 11.3 All current policies and procedures are accessible in the policy section of the public website (on the home page, click on 'Policies and Procedures'). Trust Guidance is accessible to staff on the Trust Intranet.