

## SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

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<b>Development &amp; Approval Group or Team</b>	<b>Sustainability &amp; Environment Group</b>
<b>Endorsing Body:</b>	<b>Corporate Management Team, NHSL Board</b>
<b>Governance or Assurance Committee</b>	<b>Sustainability &amp; Environment Group / PPRC</b>
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<b>Responsible Person</b>	<b>General Manager, PSSD</b>

## **Sustainability & Climate Change Policy**

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<b>CONSULTATION AND DISTRIBUTION RECORD</b>	
<b>Contributing Author / Authors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Sustainability &amp; Environment Manager</li> <li>• Energy &amp; Environment Officer</li> </ul>
<b>Consultation Process / Stakeholders:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director, Property, Planning &amp; Performance</li> <li>• General Manager, PSSD</li> <li>• Interim General Manager, Procurement</li> <li>• Deputy Director, Communications</li> <li>• Head of Finance</li> <li>• Health Improvement Lead, (SL HSCP)</li> <li>• Resilience Support Officer</li> <li>• Health Facilities Scotland Energy &amp; Sustainability team</li> <li>• Head of Technical Services</li> </ul>
<b>Distribution:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Staff</li> <li>• Public</li> </ul>

<b>CHANGE RECORD</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Version No.</b>
Oct 2021	Head of Sustainability & Environment Manager	Issued to Sustainability & Environment Group for comments.	1.0
Dec 2021	Acting Head of Sustainability & Environment Manager	Redrafted following consultation with Sustainability & Environment Group and recently released Scottish Government policy and draft strategy	2.0
Jan 2022	Acting Head of Sustainability & Environment Manager	Updated with EQIA and latest national policy (DL 2021 38 and draft consultation strategy)	3.0

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The planet is in the midst of a climate emergency as a result of human activity and urgent action is required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As Scotland is already experiencing the effects of climate change the purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for NHS Lanarkshire to maximise its contribution to mitigating and limiting the effects of the global climate emergency.

The policy shall be known as the NHS Lanarkshire Sustainability & Climate Change Policy and is applicable throughout all premises in which NHS Lanarkshire has a controlling interest.

### 2. AIM, PURPOSE AND OUTCOMES

In May 2019 Scottish Government announced that there is a global climate emergency and that urgent action is required now to limit warming to 1.5 degrees. In response to this, the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, set targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net-zero **by 2040** at the latest, with interim targets for reductions of;

- at least 56% by 2020
- 75% reduction by 2030
- 90% by 2040
- 100% by 2045 on a 1990 baseline.

It should be noted, however, not all Scope 3 targets are attributable to NHS Scotland. Notwithstanding, every effort should be made by NHS Lanarkshire to reduce emissions from supply chain wherever possible.

The Policy is NHS Lanarkshire's response to the Climate Emergency and details how the Board will implement a Sustainability & Climate Change Strategy with a supporting Decarbonisation Plan. The Strategy and Plan supported by the Policy sets out the Board's aims to be net-zero emissions by 2040 at the latest.

The aims of this policy will be integrated into all planning, management decisions and operational practices across the Board in order to respond fully to the global climate emergency and achieve an environmentally and socially sustainable health service.

### 3. SCOPE

#### 3.1 Who is the Policy Intended to Benefit or Affect

The Policy is intended to benefit NHS Lanarkshire staff, patients, service users, Health & Social Care Partnerships, and members of the wider community.

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The policy is also intended to benefit the environment, ensure NHS Lanarkshire meets relevant national targets, and contributes positively to the communities in which we operate.

### 3.2 Who are the Stakeholders

NHS Lanarkshire staff, patients, visitors, National Agencies, Health & Social Care Partnerships, Community Planning Partnership, and contractors (where appropriate).

## 4. PRINCIPAL CONTENT

NHS Lanarkshire considers environmental and social sustainability as a priority for the organisation to ensure the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve. In line with national and government policy requirements, the Board will contain the environmental impact of its activities to a practical minimum consistent with its responsibilities in providing high quality patient care. The Board will strive to perform better than all legislative and other Scottish Government Policy requirements and will in particular seek to;

- Become a net-zero organisation by 2040
- Identify, assess, and take action to reduce and eliminate any pollution (including micro-plastics and pharmaceutical residues), arising directly from our activities.
- Monitor water usage and take action to reduce unnecessary water consumption.
- Assess the extent and quality of our greenspace, the contribution our estate makes to biodiversity and undertake actions to improve the contribution our estate makes to biodiversity.
- Manage our greenspace to increase its provision and improve access, quality and regular use by staff, patients and the local community.
- Collaborate with our local partners to improve the natural links between NHS greenspace and other local areas of greenspace.
- Decarbonise our owned and leased fleet of small and medium vehicles by 2025.
- All NHS Lanarkshire new buildings and major refurbishments will be designed to have net-zero greenhouse emissions from April 2020. Where a net-zero design is not currently practicable, a route map showing how net-zero emissions will be achieved before 2045 will be produced.

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- Appoint an Environmental Management Representative (EMR) with organisation-wide responsibility for the implementation of an effective Environmental Management System to measure, and through which it can continually aim to improve, environmental performance.
- We will have a communications plan to ensure that staff, patients and the local community are aware of our sustainability plans, policies and processes in addressing the climate emergency, and to support them to make sustainable choices.

Specific targets relating to waste will be detailed in the Management of Waste Policy, currently in development at the time of writing.

Implementation of this Policy will only be achieved by securing the support of staff at all levels working for or on behalf of NHS Lanarkshire and through the development, implementation and regular review of policies and procedures. NHS Lanarkshire will support relevant initiatives in the community aimed at improving the organisation's overall sustainability performance.

### 5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

NHS Lanarkshire Chief Executive is accountable to the NHS Scotland Climate Emergency Response Board in ensuring the delivery of the policy aims.

NHS Lanarkshire Board has a responsibility to meet climate change targets and to respond to the climate emergency, fulfilling its legislative obligations. To support this we have appointed an executive lead for Climate Emergency Response and who is also the NHS Lanarkshire Sustainability champion.

### 6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with DL (2021) 38, NHS Lanarkshire is required to have/take note of the following:

- NHS Lanarkshire must have a responsible officer/sustainability champion with appropriate responsibility, resources, and authority.
- In order to meet net-zero and SG targets, appropriate resource must be provided in respect of environmental management, energy, waste, transport, and active travel and greenspace.
- There will be an impact on both staff and financial resources for the Board in identifying sufficient energy efficiency and carbon reduction projects to meet Scottish Government energy and emissions reduction targets.
- An appropriate Environmental Management Representative is to be appointed. The NHS Lanarkshire Environmental Management Representative (EMR) will have organisation-wide responsibility for the implementation of an effective

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Environmental Management System to measure, and through which it can continually aim to improve, environmental performance.

- NHS Lanarkshire Waste Management Officer will act as a single point of contact, with responsibility for all aspects of waste management within the organisation consistent with the Scottish Government's commitments towards zero-waste and a circular economy.

### **7. COMMUNICATION PLAN**

This policy will be ratified by the Sustainability & Environment Group prior to final sign off. This will then be sent to corporate policies to upload onto Firstport. Staff will be notified of the availability of the new policy through the NHSL Staff Briefing and other internal communications.

The Sustainability & Environment Group has an approved Communications Plan to promote ongoing sustainability initiatives to staff, patients and the wider community. This Plan will ensure future strategies, policies, and plans will be communicated to the staff, patients and the local community to ensure awareness and to support them in making sustainable choices.

A number of tools are used to effectively disseminate information, including various media, such as messages on the staff intranet, Weekly Staff Briefing, The Pulse online newsletter, press releases and social networking sites, including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

### **8. QUALITY IMPROVEMENT – MONITORING AND REVIEW**

The Policy and documentation will be reviewed by the NHS Lanarkshire Sustainability and Environment Group every three years or more often if there are changes to circumstances or National Legislation.

NHS Lanarkshire will assess and monitor performance through a suite of reporting frameworks, namely; the Public Bodies' Climate Change Duties Report (PBCCDR), Biodiversity Report, Climate Change Risk and Adaptation (CCRA), and National Sustainability Assessment Toolkit. The NHS Lanarkshire Board will approve all work prior to submission and publication.

### **9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**



EQIA - NHS  
Lanarkshire Sustainat

### **10. SUMMARY OF POLICY / FAQs**

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If you require further information please follow the links below to the PSSD landing page on Firstport.

<http://firstport2/staff-support/pssd/default.aspx>

Link to Firstport Page

### **11. REFERENCES**

The principal pieces of Legislation or Scottish Government Policy that apply to the environmental aspects are as follows.

- DL(2017) 03 NHS Scotland Waste Management Action Plan 2016 - 2020  
[https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/dl/DL\(2017\)03.pdf](https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/dl/DL(2017)03.pdf)
- CEL 2 (2012) A Policy on Sustainable Development for NHS Scotland (replaced by DL (2021) 38.
- DL (2021) 38 A Policy for NHS Scotland on the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development
- Consultation Draft NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy 2022 - 2026
- The Climate Change Plan: 2018 2032 RPP3
- Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU - Provision of Energy Performance Certificates.
- Building Scotland Act – Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.
- Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.
- Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2000.
- Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011.
- Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) (Scotland) Regulation 2012.
- Scottish Health Technical Note 3: NHS Scotland Waste Management Guidance.
- SHTM 07-01 Safe Management of Healthcare Waste

### **12. CHECKLIST**

To be sent to Corporate policies:-

Copy of completed policy

Copy of EQIA

Copy of Assurance process document for all policies