

# Reducing the negative environmental impacts of our buildings

## What did we achieve in 2019/2020?

### In 2019-2020, we relaunched our energy and environment strategy. Highlights included:

- After the success of the new trading strategy, we ran an open market tender for a three-year contract, to increase cost transparency, budget certainty and our ability to gain the best price in the market. As a result, from 1 April 2020, we provide 100% renewable electricity, offsetting approximately 37,00 tonnes of CO2 and delivering a year one saving of £5m.
- Got board approval for a three-year plan to reduce the environmental impact of the portfolio. Focusing on energy, water, liquid fuel, transport, waste and plastic usage. As seen in our **pledges**.
- Established an 'Invest to Save' programme whereby capital funding is allocated to efficiency upgrades. Notably, the upgrade of 30 sites to LED lighting, saving £549k annually and is the equivalent to removing about 830 tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere.
- Relaunched the 'Engagement Programme' utilising eight leads across the country to drive low cost / no cost savings. This resulted in annual savings of £1.78m and is the equivalent to removing about 4,650 tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere.
- Undertook the NHS's campaign to 'Remove of Single Use Plastics' by changing supply chain away from plastic and sourcing reusable water bottles for frontline staff.
- Our waste to landfill quantities dropped to an all-time low of 0.5%, with processes established to increase recycling rates.
- Streamlined data reporting to improve response time and accuracy of sustainability reporting to our tenants.
- After a market review, energy procurement changed to a flexible trading strategy, resulting in a saving of £3.4m.

In 2019, we pledged to reduce waste, single use plastic, carbon emissions, fuel consumption and water usage.

Find out more: [property.nhs.uk/environment](https://property.nhs.uk/environment)

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## What's coming up in 2020/2021?

We have a number of projects planned to further improve the energy efficiency and environmental performance on the estate, and deliver against the three-year strategy and our pledges. These include:

Project	Summary	Impact
Environmental management system	Centralising and implementing best practice procedures to manage our environmental management.	Increased efficiency in dealing with environmental incidences and compliance, and driving continuous improvement.
LED upgrades	Upgrading the lighting across a number of properties to energy efficient LED fittings.	Electricity reduction and cost savings.
Utility data	Improving the process for capturing and analysing electricity, gas, water and other utilities across the estate.	Improving the type and amount of data we capture will enable us to provide reporting and targeted analysis across our estate and to our customers.
Electric vehicle strategy	Analysis of the draft strategy to develop implementation of the recommendations.	Initiate the development of a charge-point infrastructure on the estate and enable the transition of our fleet to electric vehicles.
Smart thermostats	Trialling smart thermostats in our smaller properties to provide improved control and data provision.	Improved heating control for our smaller properties and improved data analysis and fault finding.
Building Management System (BMS) analytics	Trialling the use of BMS analytic technologies to identify opportunities to correct settings and strategies to achieve energy savings and improved comfort.	Achieve optimised control of buildings, drive energy efficiency savings, and identify faulty systems.
Solar trial	Trialling new technology to provide both electricity generation and solar thermal heat generation.	Understand the potential of off-grid electricity and hot water generation.
Energy audits	Undertaking energy and water audits at 'key sites' to identify recommendations for consumption reduction.	Implement energy and water reduction recommendations to reduce costs, energy use and carbon emissions.
Net-zero carbon strategy	Establishing baseline and target year for utilities consumption to define the savings glidepath and carbon reduction strategy.	Reduce carbon emissions associated to use of gas, electricity and transportation of NHSPS portfolio. Improve sustainability of the estate in line with NHS strategy.

In 2020, we updated our pledges to reduce waste, carbon emissions, fuel consumption, water usage and implement best practice for environmental management.

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