

ICS Sustainability Forum

April/May 2022 Update

“Spring is the time of plans and projects”, the writer Leo Tolstoy once said, which is certainly true for the NHSPS Energy and Environment team. April saw the introduction of our Greener NHS programme, the development of training materials and the introduction of new processes.

With the Integrated Care Systems becoming fully operational in July, many ICSs are also in the planning stages. Once priorities and actions have been finalised, this provides a great opportunity to work together to reduce the NHS carbon footprint and health inequalities.

Read about the priorities and actions of the Energy and Environment team for this month.





CARBON

PAST MONTH

- Completed the snagging work from the **LED installations** completed in February/March and start the installations for the **60 properties** where the fittings were vested.
- Carried out **site assessments** for the **EV charge point** project.
- Analysed the results of the **decarbonisation pilot survey assessments**.
- Developed an **overview of energy and carbon training packs** for colleagues for the next Green Plan phase.
- Finished establishing our **Greener NHS Programme** by setting up the programme board, focus areas and deliverables for the next three years.
- Established a **trial of the GP Toolkit** to further support primary care in going green.
- Completed the **Building Management System (BMS)** phase 1 upgrade works and started developing a wider BMS Optimisation plan.
- Started the recruitment for additional team members.

NEXT MONTH

- Finalise our **Green Plan** based on the feedback from the Executive Committee and the Board.
- Continue with completing **LED installations** carried over from last fiscal year.
- Continue with the **EV charge points** assessments and review guidance documentation.
- Develop the **decarbonisation survey process**.
- Develop the **minimum standards and carbon calculator tool**.
- Develop **training material** to reinforce the ambitions of the Green Plan.
- Start to plan in the new **Greener NHS programme processes and procedures** and work on delivering the Green Plan objectives.
- Continue the delivery of the **carbon optimisation work** at a regional level to target no/low-cost improvements and savings.
- Assess the **tender submissions** for the new EPC/DEC supplier.
- Initiate the **sub-metering installation** project.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PAST MONTH

- Commenced work on the implementation of the **Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD)**, a regulation used to control emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen and dust into the air.
- Completing our **Energy and Environmental Awareness training** is now a requirement for new colleagues joining the organisation.
- Rolled out the **emergency spill response awareness campaign** for colleagues.

NEXT MONTH

- Roll out **incident reporting training** for colleagues on our internal eLearning platform.



BIODIVERSITY

PAST MONTH

- Reviewed the feasibility of undertaking a **biodiversity project trial** at one of our sites.
- Members of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team have joined the **biodiversity working group** to enable a more collaborative approach to social prescribing and biodiversity.

NEXT MONTH

- Determine **available funding channels** for the biodiversity trial and future projects.



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

PAST MONTH

- Published our **climate adaptation risk assessment tender** on Pro-Actis. Reviews are due in May with appointment expected in June.
- Developed **Terms of Reference (TOR)** to ensure that adaptation work is part of the Greener NHS Programme Steering Group.

NEXT MONTH

- Reviewed tenders and appointed consultants for the **climate-related risk assessment**.



UTILITIES

PAST MONTH

- Hired a **Data and Utilities Manager** to lead the Utilities team.
- Advanced the **meter reading project** to ensure accurate meter readings are maintained.
- Continued developing the **change of tenancy** process.
- Finalised several **legacy Change of Tenancies (COTs)** and start the reclamation process.
- Continued with our **energy procurement strategy** to ensure we purchase energy at the best price and minimise the risk of large price increases.

NEXT MONTH

- Onboard our first **Data and Utilities Manager**.
- Continue with the **provision of utility data** to our occupiers for ERIC returns and other reporting.
- Continue with the **Change of Occupier (COO)** process and the reclamation of COO costs.



WASTE

PAST MONTH

- Introduced internal **dry mixed recycling bins** into our properties.
- Developed new **waste segregation posters**.

NEXT MONTH

- Continue with our **cost savings opportunities**.
- Continue introducing internal **dry mixed recycling bins** at our properties.
- Updating our internal reporting system to create better **reports on waste** to identify trends and priorities.





Frequently Asked Questions



Does NHSPS provide renewable energy?

Since April 2020, we have been purchasing 100% renewable electricity for the properties where we provide energy supply. We are also working with superior landlords and district heating providers to establish their renewable credentials.

Renewable gas is something we are investigating, but this is currently very expensive. For that reason, we are targeting energy efficiency and decarbonisation first.

The goal of energy efficiency is to use less energy to get the same job done, helping us cut energy bills and reduce pollution. Decarbonisation is a core part of the government's plan to become a net zero nation. It refers to the process of reducing carbon dioxide emissions through low carbon power sources.



Has NHSPS signed up to being Net Zero Carbon?

Yes, we are aiming to hit the NHS England target of 2040 for the emissions we control directly, with an 80% reduction by 2030 against a 1990 baseline. For our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus target (meaning the emissions we can influence rather than control), we are also aligned with the NHS England - aiming to be net-zero by 2045 and an 80% reduction by 2035.



Does NHSPS have an Environmental Management System (EMS)?

Yes, we do. Well, the start of one. A good EMS requires continuous improvement, so we are not expecting it to ever be completed. The goal is to improve the current EMS, based on the structure of ISO:14001, and cover more topics over time.



How can I get regular updates from the Energy and Environment team?

The number of initiatives and the size of our team are growing rapidly. Joining our newsletter is a great way to stay updated about our work. We promise we won't bombard you, but you'll get an email about every two weeks. Register here: <https://psevents.property.nhs.uk/sustainability-opt-in/>



How can I get data for my ERIC return?

Please register your interest for your Estates Returns Information Collection at utilities@property.nhs.uk. Once we have the data, we will send it over to you.

