

# At a glance: Our Green Plan for 2022/23 – 2024/25

## What is a Green Plan?

A Green Plan is a central document that states the plans, actions, and timescales to reduce carbon emissions and deliver care in a more sustainable way. Every NHS organisation in England is required to produce a Green Plan.

## Why are we launching this Green Plan?

In 2020, the NHS pledged to become the world's first net zero carbon national health system by 2040. This Green Plan outlines how we will support NHS England and the UK government in fulfilling that ambition.

As owners of 10% of the NHS estate, we play a key role in reducing emissions and building healthier communities. Without a Green Plan, we will not be able to provide the fit-for-purpose and sustainable spaces needed to deliver excellent patient care.

## What have we achieved so far?

This Green Plan builds on our previous three-year strategy. During those years, we have:



Reduced our carbon footprint by over **30%** against a baseline of 2017/18



Reduced associated costs to the NHS by over **£23m**



Established an **Environmental Management System**



Created a volunteering programme, with around **8%** of colleagues involved in supporting charities and community groups in 2021/22



*We are committed to creating a culture of accountability around our environmental impact. Whether you are a customer, colleague or patient, we encourage everyone to look at what you can do to be 'greener'.*

**Martin Steele**, Chief Executive Officer NHS Property Services Ltd





# What is this Green Plan about?

This Green Plan is divided into eight focus areas, each with clear goals and actions:



## 1. Workforce and leadership

### Our goal

Ensure everyone from the Board through to our frontline facilities management colleagues and customers understand their role in targeting net zero carbon and can access appropriate information.

### How we get there

We will expand training reporting and knowledge sharing across NHS Property Services, including to the Board and Executive Committee, to increase understanding and empower colleagues to take proactive actions. Surveys will be introduced to benchmark awareness of environmental issues and perceptions of our Greener NHS programme. A designated Non-executive Director and the Chief Operating Officer will sponsor the Green Plan at Board and Executive Level.



## 2. Sustainable models of care

### Our goal

Support the NHS in providing low impact patient care.

### How we get there

We will continue to deliver our Social Prescribing programme, where we have, to date, transformed 50 underutilised or vacant indoor and outdoor spaces across our estate to improve community wellbeing, and we will look to combine this with our biodiversity strategy.



## 3. Digital transformation

### Our goal

Use technology to collate data and process information to reduce travel and paper, while also improving decision making processes.

### How we get there

We aim to target inefficient use of resources by reducing the need to travel and print. Our Smarter Working policy, web-based application development and Smarter Buildings programme will make it easier for colleagues to collect and share information. We will also adopt a data-led approach to managing our infrastructure, ensuring maintenance workers only travel when required.



## 4. Travel and transport

### Our goal

Transition our 800 service vehicles and 130 company fleet to ultra-low emission vehicles, while supporting the wider NHS electric vehicle targets.

### How we get there

We will develop an electric vehicle strategy, including establishing where vehicle charging points will go and how we will transition away from fossil fuel-powered vehicles. We also plan to review our travel strategy to encourage colleagues to choose transport modes with a lower environmental impact.





## 5. Estates and facilities

### Our goal

Establish the foundations to enable net zero carbon, climate change adaptation and biodiversity to be key elements of our Estates and Facilities Management, while continuing to minimise waste and creating a funding stream for further investment.

### How we get there

We will focus on Scope 1 and 2 emissions through our business operations, working with teams including Facilities Management, Construction, Minor Works and Property Management to embed sustainable practices into their plans. We will also build on our successful optimisation programme of low/no-cost measures and decarbonisation initiatives. On top of that, we will recruit several Regional Energy and Environment Managers who will help us identify and deliver projects in each region and access regional capital investment.

With 99% of waste diverted from landfill, we are proud of our current waste numbers but will continue to optimise on our waste management system, reporting and training our colleagues.

Lastly, we will work on a long-term plan for climate change adaptation and biodiversity as part of our wider Estates strategy.



### What are Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions?

The three scopes are a way of categorising the different types of emissions a business or organisation produces.

**Scope 1:** Emissions that we control directly. For example, emissions from the burning fuel in (non-electric) vehicles.

**Scope 2:** Indirect emissions caused by using energy. For example, emissions from the electricity used in our buildings.

**Scope 3:** Indirect emissions generated by our suppliers. For example, emissions from the manufacturing process of building materials.





## 6. Supply chain and procurement

### Our goal

Ensure our supply chain is in alignment with or will exceed our long-term social value goals and develop reporting to monitor the carbon footprint of third-party service providers.

### How we get there

We will set up a procurement strategy that recognises the benefits of selecting suppliers with strong environmental and social values. We will also establish a process to capture Scope 3 emissions from our suppliers.



## 7. Adaptation and biodiversity

### Our goal

Ensure our estate is fit for purpose in the long term to cope with the impacts of climate change while ensuring it conserves or enhances biodiversity.

### How we get there

We will develop an adaptation management plan that outlines the climate transition and physical risks to our portfolio. We will also educate our colleagues on climate change, the risks, how to act upon the risks and how to design solutions to minimise further risks.

We will develop a biodiversity management plan which will function as a tool for our colleagues to implement measures that will protect, conserve and/or enhance the habitats and biodiversity at properties they manage.



## 8. Responsible landlord

### Our goal

To have clear and proactive engagement between NHSPS and our customers to ensure both parties work towards our targets in a cost-effective and constructive manner, and to improve the impact we have as an employer.

### How we get there

We will develop green agreements, increase data provisioning and provide relevant certifications to ensure both parties benefit from shared best practices.

We will also continue to improve the health and wellbeing of the communities we operate in, through colleague fundraising, volunteering activities and our flagship social prescribing programme. In 2021/22, 8% of colleagues volunteered to address health inequalities across England and we raised £50,000 for our charity partner, Young Lives vs Cancer, by April 2022.

## More information

To view our Green Plan, visit our website:



[www.property.nhs.uk/greenplan](http://www.property.nhs.uk/greenplan)

For data requests or updates, please email:



[utilities@property.nhs.uk](mailto:utilities@property.nhs.uk)

For any general enquiries, please email:



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