

Bronze Standards

1.1a Show emerging organisational commitment by setting up a sustainability working group ('Green Group') with organisationally approved terms of reference that include the aim to create an organisational sustainability strategy, policy or plan

Useful Resources and Case Studies

[Mary Ann Evans Hospice Green Action Plan](#)

[East Cheshire hospice Green group](#)

[Greener NHS- how to produce a Green Plan](#)

[Using quality improvement to deliver a net zero NHS: East London NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Strategies for implementing Sustainability in Quality Improvement \(SusQI\) education: educator perspectives](#)

[Example of a Green Action Plan: Mary Ann Evans Hospice](#)

1.2a Show emerging leadership commitment by ensuring Green Group includes a senior leadership team sponsor/champion

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/environmentally-sustainable-healthcare/>

<https://cpdmatch.co.uk/>

[Katharine House Hospice staff attend training Getting started with environmental sustainability | Hospice UK](#)

[SHINE include sustainability pack at induction](#)

[Embedding education in to clinical laboratory professional training to foster sustainable development and greener practice](#)

1.3a Demonstrate organisational commitment and buy-in through sustainability being referenced during staff induction and organisational commitment referenced in job adverts

[Lord Darzi NHS report Greener NHS section](#)

[Skills for Care video:](#)

[CQC sustainability standard](#)

[Concordat for the environmental sustainability of research and innovative practice](#)

[UKHACC: Building a climate resilient health system in the UK](#)

<https://ukhealthalliance.org/news-item/new-report-building-a-climate-resilient-health-system-in-the-uk/>

1.4a Improve awareness of drivers for change by making all appropriate staff aware of current national requirements, as well as regulatory and professional body guidance

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2.1a Identify key organisational staff involved in supply chains, equipment and procurement, and find out if environmental impact is part of their decision making

Useful Resources and Case Studies

[Greener NHS supply chain information](#)

[Case study: Hywel Dda frontline procurement-local supply chain initiative](#) <https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-05/SusQI%20Project%20Report%20-%20Hywel%20Dda%20Procurement%20Supply%20Chain.pdf>

[Case study: Embedding planetary health in BC's health care procurement](#)
<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/resources/embedding-planetary-health-bcs-health-care-procurement>

[Case study: A greener hospital storeroom, Emergency Department](#)
<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-05/Emergency%20department.%20SusQI%20Project%20Report.pdf>

2.2a Begin discussions around environmental impact of decisions at relevant meeting

See Centre for Sustainable Health care 'case studies'
[eg morphine life cycle, eg PPE/gloves off eg medical instruments RCN Gloves. Stop. Think. Make One Change. <https://youtu.be/1mlcJJr0Izg>](#)

[GOSH gloves off campaign via Greener NHS](#)

[PPE lifecycle analysis including gloves](#)

[Life cycle analysis single use vs reusable tourniquets](#)

[Life cycle analysis database](#)

[Switching from disposable to reusable PPE](#)

<https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/384/bmj-2023-075778.full.pdf>

[Case study: Reduce, re-use, recycle: a trilateral sustainability quality improvement project by the UHCW critical care team](#)

<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/2025-03/UHCW%20critical%20care%20SusQI%20Report%20Template.pdf>

[Case study: Blood pressure cuffs](#)

<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/2025-05/UHS%20-%20BP%20cuffs%20final%20.pdf>

2.3a Understand the environmental impact of equipment, by demonstrating understanding of the basic principles of Life Cycle Assessment for one clinical product

2.4a Present Life Cycle Assessment information to appropriate team for discussion

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3.1a Improve organisational awareness of the environmental impacts of prescribing, through regular discussions with the appropriate departmental/group

Useful Resources and Case Studies

[Sheffield Macmillan Unit SusQI project on reducing paracetamol co-prescribing](#)

[Oral vs IV metronidazole](#)

[How to undertake SusQI projects](#)

[Embodied carbon of different paracetamol routes](#)

[Anticipatory prescribing in community end of life care](#)

[Toward Greener Prescribing in General Practice](#)

<https://www.rcgp.org.uk/getmedia/f50d3afc-5fe0-4ac7-aa3f-9b3821e00312/RCGP-towards-greener-prescribing-in-general-practice.pdf>

[MCF Classifier: Estimating, standardizing, and stratifying medicine carbon footprints, at scale](#)

<https://bpspubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bcp.16229>

[Case study: Reducing paracetamol co-prescribing with strong opioids on the Sheffield MacMillan Palliative Care Unit \(MPCU\)](#)

<https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-04/Palliative%20Care.%20SusQI%20Project%20Report2.pdf>

<p>3.2a Facilitate education session/event to raise clinical awareness of the environmental impact of prescribing (e.g. polypharmacy, deprescribing, green prescribing)</p>	<p>Royal Pharm Society guidance 'getting our medicines right' Deprescribing in palliative care. Clin Med 2019; 19: 311-314 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470211824011205 Deprescribing.org resources https://deprescribing.org/resources/ Deprescribing medicines in older people living with multimorbidity and polypharmacy: the TAILOR evidence synthesis https://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/AAFO2475</p>
<p>3.3a Begin to reduce waste from prescribed medication by identifying current policy on using patients' own drugs or repurposing drugs back into stock, and start organisational discussion on practical changes</p>	<p>The Pharma Pollution Hub works to reduce the environmental impact of medicines Pharmacy Declares has library, resources and images Case study: Scheme to reuse medicines in hospital cuts carbon emissions and saves money https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/news/scheme-to-reuse-medicines-in-hospital-cuts-carbon-emissions-and-saves-money</p>
<p>3.4a Explore feasibility and map any current use of virtual clinics/virtual appointments across your services, considering whether this can reduce carbon emissions</p>	<p>NHS England » Video consultations in secondary care Telehealth vs inperson early palliative care Telehealth outpatient pall care during COVID-19 Pall care patient feedback on video consultations</p>
<p>3.5a Improve understanding of harm to both patient and planet of inappropriate clinical interventions, by holding an education session/event</p>	<p>Reducing routine inpatient blood testing</p>

Bronze Standards	Useful Resources and Case Studies
4.1a Increase staff and volunteer awareness of link between reducing emissions from travel, and benefits to climate and health, by conducting a travel survey	<p>UK Government Cycle to Work scheme info https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/845725/cycle-to-work-guidance.pdf</p> <p>Nottingham NHS Trust Car share info https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/nuh-car-share-scheme</p> <p>NHS Liftshare scheme Cycle User Groups at work https://liftshare.com/uk/community/nhs</p> <p>Cycle to work day</p> <p>Great Ormond Street clean air day playstreet</p> <p>Clean Air Day</p>
4.2a Increase staff and volunteer awareness of link between reducing travel emissions and the benefits to climate and health, by holding an education session/event	<p>Manchester NHS Trust travel and transport improvements</p> <p>A guide and calculator developed by CSH in collaboration with PD Transformation for calculating greenhouse gas emissions for (avoided) patient travel: https://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/resources/remote-consultations-do-they-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions-your-guide-calculating-1</p>
4.3a Start work to reduce impact of organisational vehicles by identifying current vehicle use, including which vehicles are appropriate for replacement with EV/hybrid vehicles, or other methods of transport	
4.4a Create initial proposal for transition to EV/hybrid vehicles and ensure this is discussed at appropriate organisational level	

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Useful Resources and Case Studies

5.1a Engage Facilities and Estates department either through representation in your Green Group, or by connecting with an existing organisation-wide Facilities and Estates Green/Sustainability working group

[Shutdown protocols for IT](#)

[NHS : 'Estates 'Net Zero' Carbon Delivery Plan - Summary Report \(2021\)](#)

- [NHS : 'Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service' \(2020\)](#)
- [NHS : How to Produce a green Plan - A Three year Strategy towards Net Zero' \(2021\)](#)
- [BSI : 'Net Zero Transition Plans - Code of Practice' \(BSI Flex 3030 v1 March 24\)](#)
- [HM Government : ESOS](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/energy-savings-opportunity-scheme-esos>

<https://surrey4x4response.org/> - used by Phyllis Tuckwell for emergency response in flood/cold

5.2a Ensure your Green Group has reviewed, is following, and contributes to reviews of your organisation's Green Plan. If no Green Plan exists, raise this with appropriate senior management

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Useful Resources and Case Studies

6.1a Begin to engage staff in the need for change, by conducting survey on staff views/ideas about changes that can make the workplace more environmentally sustainable

[Greener NHS Healthier people, healthier planet staff engagement programme](#)

[Giving plants to staff](#)

[Reducing wastage of specific products eg unused continence products](#)

6.2a Generate support for reduction in environmental impact by publicising the work of the Green Group and ongoing efforts towards environmental sustainability in existing communication channels, both internally (e.g. staff newsletter/bulletin) and externally (e.g. website/donor communications)

[List of environmental dates <https://moralfibres.co.uk/environmental-days-and-dates-to-know/>](#)

[Our health our planet website- including resources for patients](#)

Bronze Standards

7.1a Raise awareness of the environmental impact of food by holding one education session/event, highlighting the link between food, food waste, and climate change

7.2a Hold one education session/event related to food (e.g. 'meat-free Monday', or promoting locally sourced food)

Useful Resources and Case Studies

[Ward based food reduction audit](#)

[UK Government Emissions factors can be used to estimate greenhouse gas emissions reductions](#)

[Green ward competition reducing oral nutritional supplements](#)