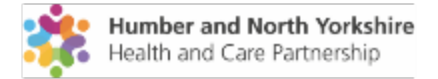


# Humber and North Yorkshire Green Plan – 2025 - 2028

Final Draft

DRAFT

# The Humber and North Yorkshire Green Plan 2025-2028.



The Humber and North Yorkshire Green Plan 2025-2028 refreshes our plan that aims to:

- Achieve a net zero health care system
- Adapt to the effects of climate change, and
- Enhance biodiversity and enable people to healthier lives and experience better wellbeing through access to the natural environment and sustainable infrastructure.

Building on the direction set by our Humber and North Yorkshire Green Plan – 2023-2025, together with the exceptional achievements of commissioners and providers during this period, our plan for 2025-2028 provides the strategic framework for us to achieve the aims described above. Critically, it defines the Common Purpose for the action needed to take health infrastructure into a sustainable future – a future in which every person and family in every neighbourhood can be assured that health infrastructure will support their wellbeing without causing harm to the environment.

This Green Plan is not prescriptive. It provides the space for our approach to commissioning and delivering health and care to continue to evolve. Our focus on the three shifts – from hospital to community, from analogue to digital and from treatment to prevention provide a unique opportunity to reform how we achieve better health outcomes for people. Through the collective effort of every organisation within it, an environmentally sustainable health and care system can and should be at the heart of this reform.

By connecting with each other, our work can create real change for a better, more sustainable future. We can help create this change by aligning all that we commission and deliver across health care with this plan.



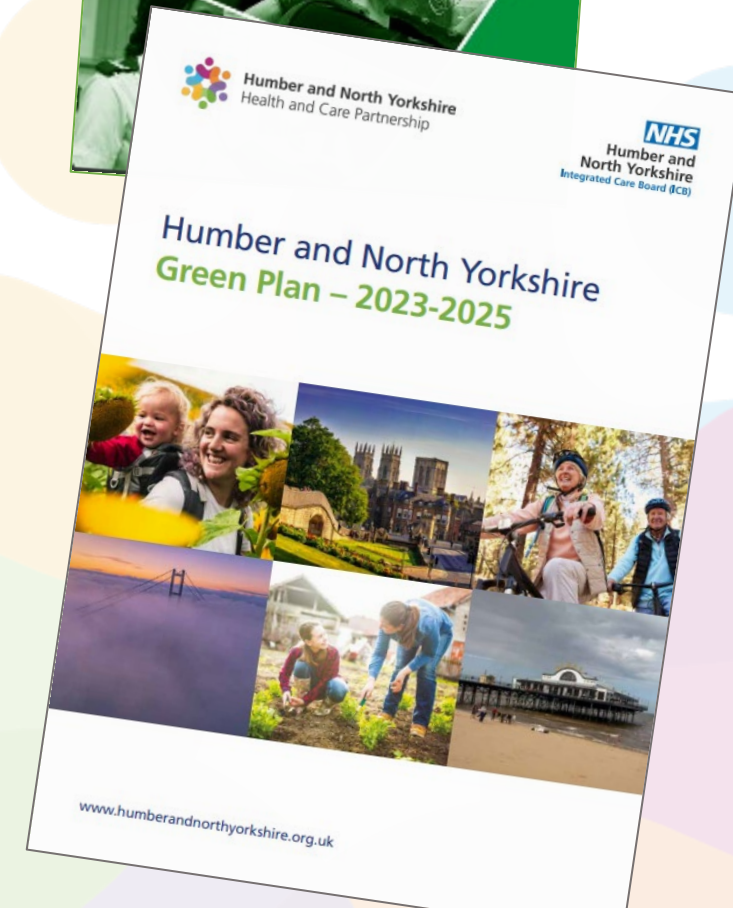
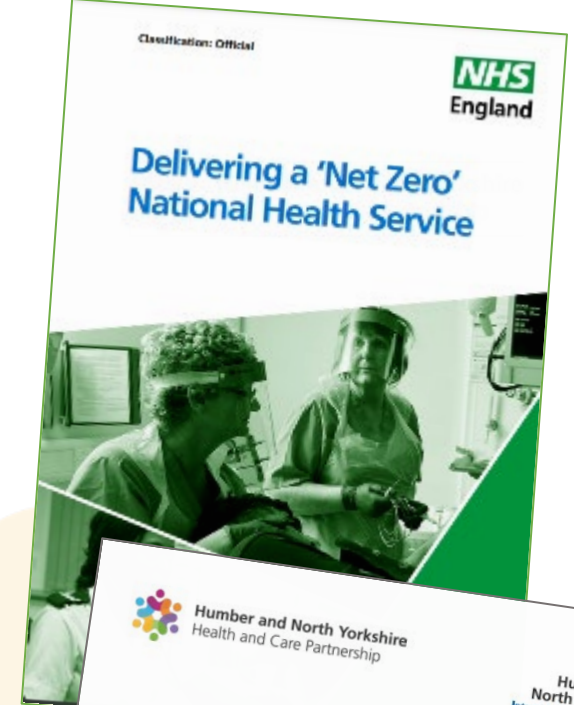
# The Climate Crisis is a Health Crisis

- “Climate change presents a fundamental threat to human health. It affects the physical environment as well as all aspects of both natural and human systems – including social and economic conditions and the functioning of health systems.” ([World Health Organisation, 2023](#))
- “Climate change is the greatest global health threat facing the world in the 21st century, but it is also the greatest opportunity to redefine the social and environmental determinants of health.” ([The Lancet](#))
- “Delivery of adaptation to address and prevent human health impacts from climate change remains insufficient. Overall, there is a long-term increasing trend in heat-associated deaths and a long-term trend of overheating in hospital settings.” ([Climate Change Commission 2025](#))
- Climate change is already impacting health in a myriad of ways, from increasingly frequent extreme weather events (such as floods, storms and heatwaves), worsening air pollution, the disruption of food systems, increases in vector-borne infectious diseases, increased risk of pandemics and mental health issues.
- Furthermore, climate-sensitive health risks are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, worsening health inequalities.
- Environmentally sustainable healthcare reduces the carbon footprint of healthcare whilst improving healthcare, through prevention, patient self-care, effective patient pathways and low carbon alternatives - *this is completely aligned with the core purpose of Humber and North Yorkshire ICS to improve population health and reduce health inequalities.*



# Background

- In Jan 2020, the NHS became the world's first health service to commit to reaching net zero carbon, and in October 2020 the "Delivering a 'Net Zero' NHS" report was launched, requiring every Trust, Foundation Trust and ICB to have a Green Plan
- Requirements within NHS Standard Contract, Integrated Care Partnership Strategy and Joint Forward Plan
- The UK 2050 net zero target was made legally binding by the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019
- On 1 July 2022, the NHS became the first health system to embed net zero into legislation, through the Health and Care Act 2022
- During 2023 Humber and North Yorkshire developed a Green Plan to set out the carbon reduction and adaptation initiatives that are already underway and plans for the subsequent two years





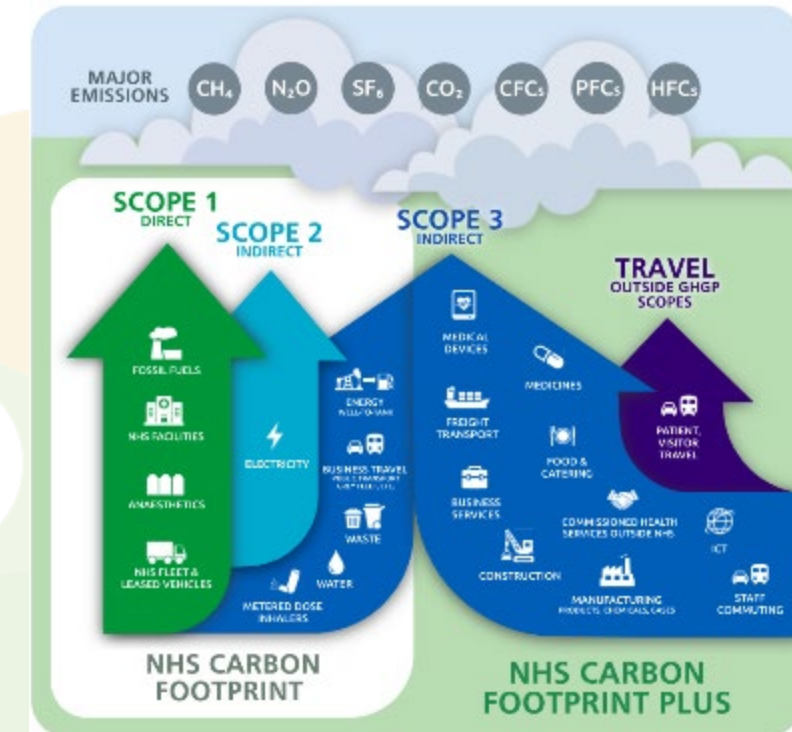
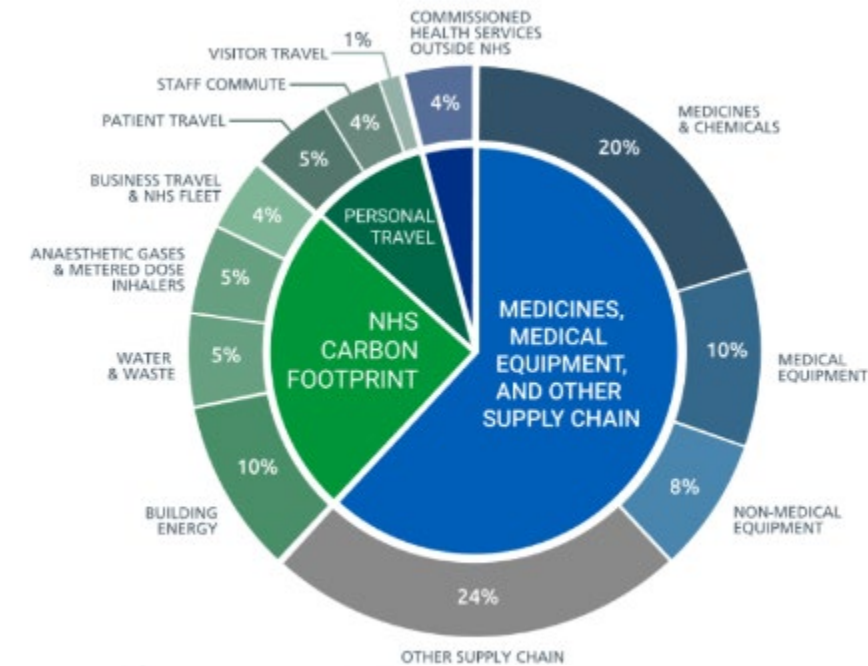
# NHS Carbon Footprint

## Our Vision:

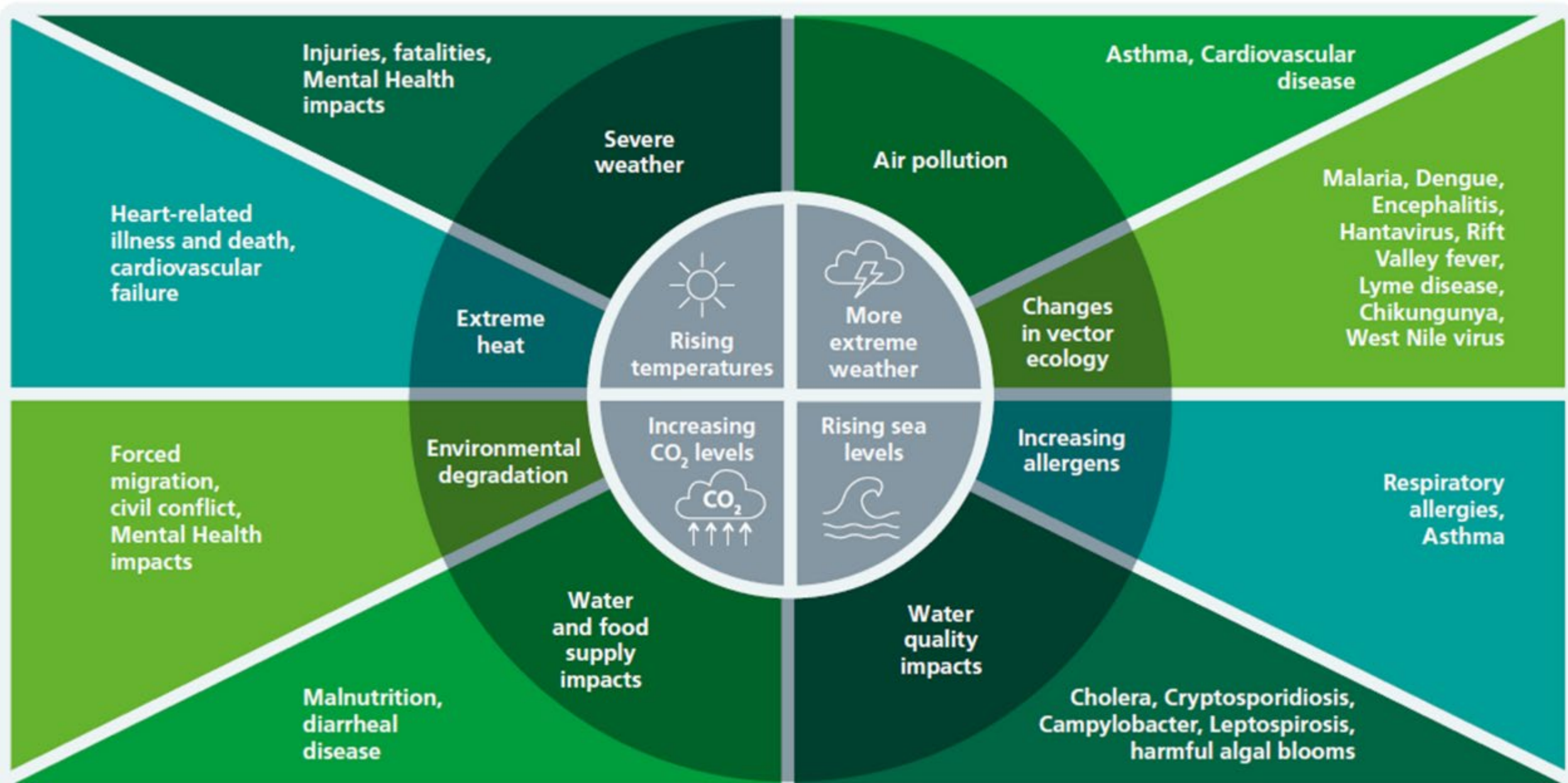
To deliver the world's first net zero health service and respond to climate change, improving health now and for future generations. ([NHS England – Greener NHS](#))

Set against a 1990 baseline, the NHS has set two clear and feasible targets for their net zero commitment:

- The NHS Carbon Footprint (emissions they control directly), will be net zero by 2040, with ambition to reach an 80% reduction from 2028-2032
- The NHS Carbon Footprint Plus (emissions they can influence), will be net zero by 2045, with ambition to reach an 80% reduction from 2036-2039



# The Impacts of Climate Change on Health

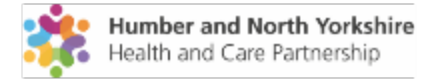


# Four guiding principles for Humber & North Yorkshire

## Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission

- **Rapid emissions reduction** - to support rapid progress towards net zero carbon emissions
- **Climate adaptation and resilience** - to foster climate resilience and adaptation to climate risks and impacts
- **Nature restoration** - to promote action that protects and restores nature and biodiversity
- **A just transition** - to encourage a just and inclusive transition that helps reduce inequalities

# What have we achieved - Green Plans



All the following organisations in Humber and North Yorkshire have published “Green Plans”  
(links to each of the published documents – *updated as published*)

## NHS Trusts

[Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust](#)

[Humber NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)

## Social Enterprise Providers

[City Health Care Partnership CIC](#)

[Care Plus Group](#)

[NAVIGO](#)

## Ambulance Trusts

[East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#)

[Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#)



# What have we achieved?

## Better and Greener Asthma Care

- Emissions from inhalers contribute to 13% of the emissions that the NHS directly control. Humber and North Yorkshire ICB recognise that reducing inhaler carbon footprint is intrinsically connected to improving asthma care.
- Approximately half of our asthma patients have poorly controlled asthma, and well controlled asthma has 1/3 of the carbon footprint of poorly controlled asthma. Over the last 3 years we have implemented new asthma guidance, ICB-wide and bespoke place-based clinical education, a prescribing quality scheme and created a Local Enhanced Service to improve respiratory diagnosis.
- HNY ICB has reduced its carbon footprint by 32%, compared to 2019-20 levels and we are on course to meet the NHSE target of 50% reduction by 2028.
- Using an online carbon calculator (<https://www.carbonfootprint.com/>) the reduction in inhaler CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions is equivalent to over 10,000 flights (10,476) from Manchester to New York.

# What have we achieved?

Across the system, our trusts are collectively making good progress with outstanding examples of good practice and projects including transport projects, switches to electric vehicles, waste reduction, renewable energy projects, embedding social value and sustainable procurement and investment to the NHS Forest to increase our green spaces. Here are some examples of the work within our Trusts:

## **York and Scarborough NHS Foundation Trust**

In the 2024/25 financial year, York and Scarborough NHS Foundation Trust reinforced its commitment to sustainability by appointing a dedicated Head of Sustainability. This role, along with an effective team, led the implementation of key strategic documents, including a revised Green Plan introduced in June and a new staff travel plan in January 2025. These initiatives were supported by extensive staff engagement and behavioural change programmes, such as the relaunch of a Green Champions network.

The Trust also advanced its infrastructure and energy projects by securing multiple grants. They increased LED lighting coverage to over 80% of sites and installed a heat pump at Bridlington Hospital, complementing its solar farm. A notable achievement was receiving the BREEAM Excellence award for the new Scarborough Hospital Urgent and Emergency Care Centre, which incorporates substantial photovoltaic (PV) and other energy-reducing measures.

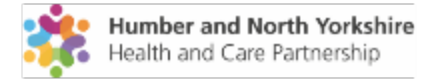
# What have we achieved?

## Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust

Aligned with their Green Plan and commitment to achieving Net Zero by 2035, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust made significant progress in its decarbonisation journey over the past 12-18 months. Key initiatives included:

- **Tree Planting:** Over 300 trees were planted across three sites with the help of staff, patients, and the local community, enhancing carbon absorption, air quality, local wildlife, and community spirit.
- **Resource Optimisation:** At East Riding Community Hospital, an old biomass boiler was upgraded to sustainably provide heating using responsibly sourced wood pellets.
- **Energy Efficiency:** At four sites (Alfred Bean Hospital, Hornsea Cottage Hospital, St Andrews Place, and Westend), a "fabric-first" approach was adopted, involving upgrades like better insulation and new windows to reduce energy needs before installing new heating systems like air source heat pumps. Solar panels are also planned.
- **Fleet Transition:** The vehicle fleet is rapidly transitioning to electric, with three electric SUVs and fourteen electric vans currently in use and plans to replace remaining diesel vehicles with electric options as leases expire.

# What have we achieved?



## Humber Health Partnership (NLaG & HUTH)

The Humber Health Partnership has secured over **£68 Million** of external funding for net zero since 2020

- Major Upgrades: £20.6 million from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme is funding major upgrades at Scunthorpe Hospital, including electric boilers, solar PV, and insulation, expected to save over 3,600 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually.
- 100% of lights across the group will be eco-friendly LEDs by the end of 2025
- Greener Transport: Hull University Teaching Hospitals (HUTH) portering team portering team went electric, trialing an e-cargo bike for deliveries, aiming for a greener transport option.
- North Lincolnshire and Goole Trust's fleet continues to become more carbon efficient, with 10 electric Vans, electric cars, and 84 self-charging (SC) hybrids equating to 39% of the fleet.
- Solar Power: An additional 0.5MW of solar power was installed at Hull Royal Infirmary (HRI) using the NHS Energy Efficiency Fund. Heat network efficiency was improved with partial funding from the Heat Network Efficiency Scheme (HNES). As a group this now represents almost 6MW of solar PV with more on the way.
- Nitrous Oxide Reduction: The Partnership completely decommissioned piped nitrous oxide in 2024/25, switching to mobile cylinders and achieving over a 60% reduction, saving over 1,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.



# What have we achieved?

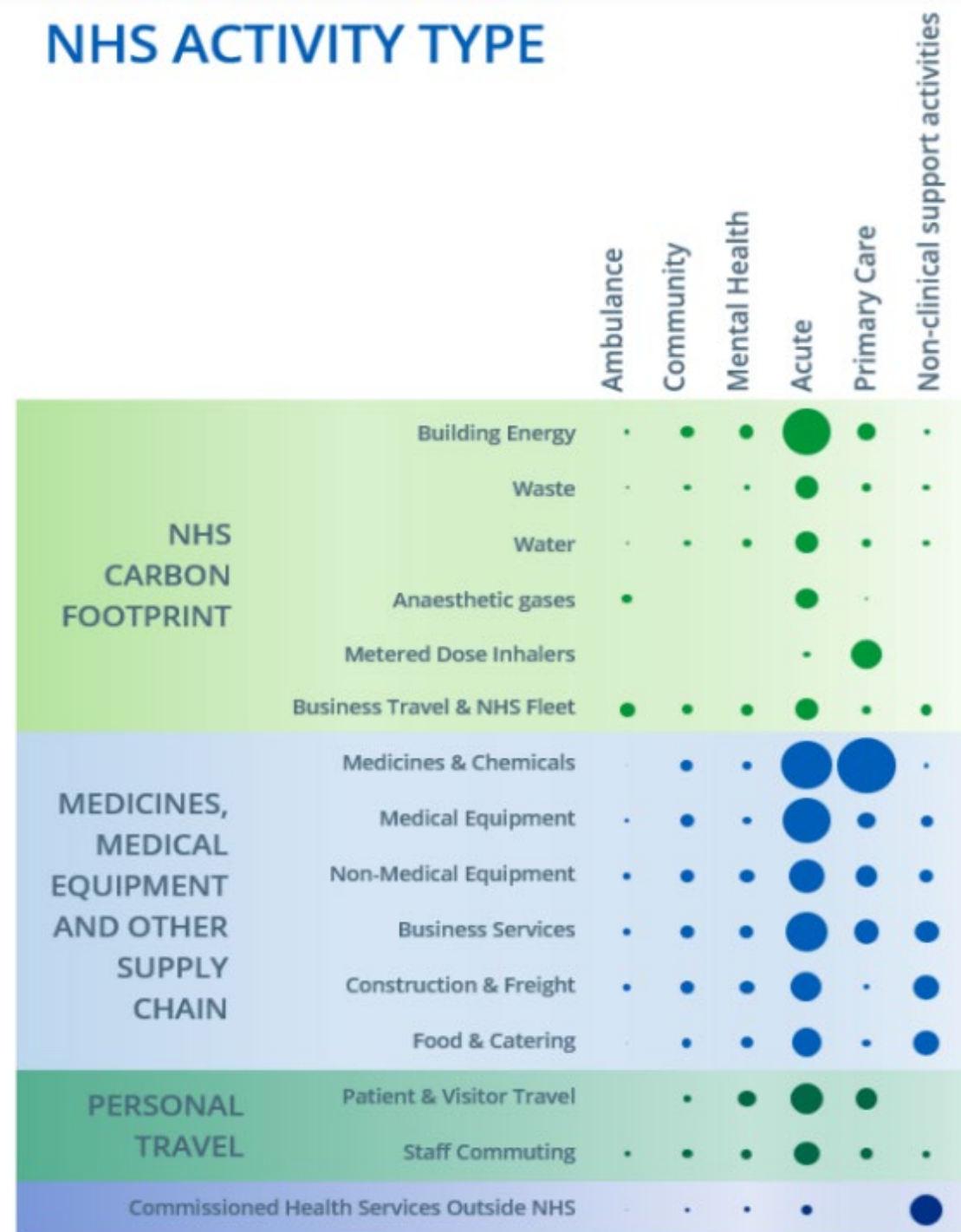
## Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust

Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) has made significant progress toward its sustainability goals since the launch of our first Green Plan in 2022. Our efforts have included investment in infrastructure, clinical transformation, workforce engagement, and improved carbon reporting. These achievements demonstrate the Trust's system-wide commitment to delivering Net Zero healthcare in line with NHS and legal requirements.

- Between 2013/14 and 2024/25, HDFT reduced its Scope 1 and 2 emissions by approximately 2,574 tCO<sub>2</sub>e representing a 30% reduction overall.
- **Energy Upgrades & Decarbonisation** - £14.1million in PSDS-funded energy upgrades, including heat pumps, solar PV, windows and roof insulation. £7m investment in LED lighting and Energy Centre Optimisation.
- **Clinical Improvements** - Complete removal of desflurane, saving an estimated 800 tCO<sub>2</sub>e annually.
- **Travel and transport** - Business travel emissions have risen slightly since 2013/14 (from 499 to 695 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), highlighting a clear opportunity for further reduction. With growing uptake of electric vehicles and increased support for active travel, there is strong potential to shift commuting and business travel behaviours in a more sustainable direction.
- **Governance** has strengthened with the launch of a Green Plan Delivery Group, appointment of an Executive Director Lead, and the introduction of Directorate-level Green Champions.

## Areas of focus

1. Assurance and Governance
2. Workforce, networks and system leadership
3. Net Zero Clinical Transformation
4. Digital transformation
5. Travel, transport and air quality
6. Estates and facilities
7. Medicines
8. Supply chain and procurement
9. Food and nutrition
10. Climate change adaptation
11. Green space and biodiversity
12. Innovation



# 1. Assurance and Governance

From 1 July 2022, the NHS became the first health system in the world to embed net zero into law, through the Health and Care Act 2022. This legislation places a legal duty on NHS England, Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), and all NHS trusts to contribute to national emissions reductions and environmental targets.

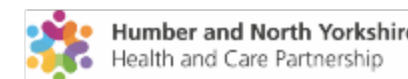
The Act requires commissioners and providers to act on both mitigation, by supporting the UK's net zero commitments, and adaptation, by addressing the climate risks identified in the Climate Change Act 2008. These duties are further reinforced by the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, which places a statutory obligation on Category 1 responders, including NHS organisations, to plan for and respond to emergencies, many of which are increasingly driven by climate-related events.

Humber and North Yorkshire ICB meets these duties through the Green Plan set out in this document. This plan establishes the strategic direction and governance framework for sustainability across the system, guiding subsequent implementation activity and enabling clear, accountable, and measurable progress.

	Actions
1.1	<b>Appoint a board-level Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for Environmental Sustainability</b> - It is an expectation that all Integrated Care System (ICS) organisations and NHS Trusts will appoint a board-level Senior Responsible Officer (SRO). This SRO will be formally accountable for delivering net-zero commitments and providing strategic oversight of Green Plan implementation and progress.
1.2	<b>Integration</b> - Embedding climate responsibility across all Integrated Care Board (ICB) functions is paramount for effective Green Plan delivery, necessitating robust support and oversight. This comprehensive approach involves integrating environmental objectives into the full breadth of the ICB's operational and strategic domains. Furthermore, Green Plan priorities will be incorporated into key system strategies, ensuring alignment with the Integrated Care System's (ICS) four core purposes.
1.3	<b>Sustainability Impact Assessment</b> -To ensure comprehensive environmental consideration, proposed projects and policies will be evaluated for their potential impact on climate and the environment. This evaluation will consider both their contribution to climate change (e.g., through greenhouse gas emissions) and their vulnerability to climate changes (e.g., rising temperatures, sea levels, or altered rainfall patterns)
1.4	<b>Annual Reporting</b> - To ensure ongoing effectiveness, the <b>Humber and North Yorkshire ICB Green Plan</b> , and the Green Plans across <b>ICS organisations</b> , will be reviewed and updated annually. In line with our system leadership approach, organisations will share an annual summary of their Green Plan progress with their boards, which can then be included in their annual report, detailing actions and providing relevant quantitative data. Furthermore, <b>the Humber and North Yorkshire ICB, in partnership with key organisations, will convene an annual strategic oversight workshop</b> to facilitate information exchange and sustain collective momentum, recognising our collaborative efforts.

## 2. Workforce, networks and system leadership

Provide guidance, leadership and assurance across the Humber and North Yorkshire ICB Region and upskill our workforce at all levels to understand how they can save carbon and help tackle the climate and health crisis.



The staff who work in the NHS support further action on climate change, with a recent survey demonstrating that 98% of all staff believe the health and care system should be acting more sustainably.

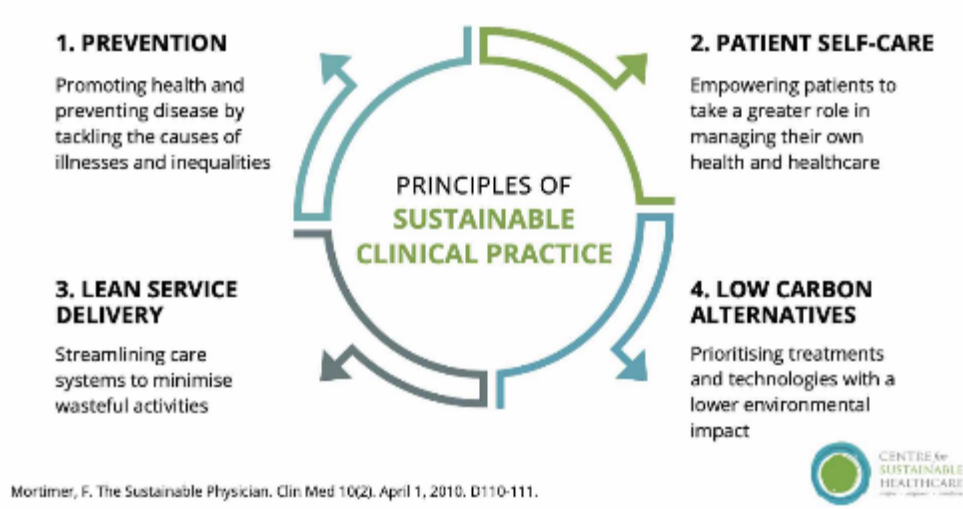
	Actions
2.1	<b>Collaborating</b> – to support action to that will deliver Green Plans. This will include sharing learning and considering nationally mandated requirements in the NHS standard contract and operational planning guidance. Sharing best practice across partner organisations, supporting collaboration and facilitating engagement with relevant research and innovation activities, such as through health innovation networks.
2.2	<b>Communicating</b> - regular sharing of best practice including the use of established channels of communications (e.g., weekly newsletters, websites, staff meetings etc). These communications should include information on opportunities, actions and initiatives that staff and provider organisations can take advantage of. Communications should highlight how greener healthcare is better, cost-effective and more equitable.
2.3	<b>Training/awareness raising</b> - Assess workforce capacity and skill requirements for delivering the green plan, considering good practice examples such as hybrid roles, apprenticeships, fellowships and NHS estates sustainability career pathways. Promote the adoption and broad utilisation of the core training offers on the Greener NHS training hub to all staff to encourage the integration of environmentally conscious practices across the healthcare sector. Assess workforce capacity and skill requirements for delivering the green plan, considering good practice examples such as hybrid roles, apprenticeships, fellowships and NHS estates sustainability career pathways.



# 3. Net Zero Clinical Transformation

The NHS is committed to moving to out-of-hospital and digitally-enabled care where clinically appropriate, improving prevention of ill health and reducing health inequalities. These changes also underpin our commitment to net zero. Net zero clinical transformation should ensure high-quality, preventative, low-carbon care is provided to patients at every stage.

This could include promoting preventative care to reduce the demand for healthcare and tackling health inequalities to reducing travel-related emissions and using more sustainable materials in healthcare facilities.



	Actions
3.1	<b>Embedding 'Net Zero' principles</b> - Establish process for ensuring that “net zero” principles are considered in all service change, reconfiguration programmes and pathway redesign. This will include supporting work to reduce emissions across patient pathways, spanning primary, secondary and community care and the third sector.
3.2	<b>Training</b> - Ensure the provision of “ <b>Sustainable Quality Improvement</b> ” training to workforce training programmes within the region and hence to the ICB workforce, integrating environmental, social and financial considerations into the realm of quality improvement utilising e-learning course "Environmental Sustainability in Quality Improvement <sup>1</sup> "
3.3	<b>Prevention</b> - Advocate for and enhance the adoption of social prescribing, green social prescribing, and physical activity initiatives in every local area within HNY by developing opportunities and ensuring social prescribers are trained in the benefits of nature on health.

<sup>1</sup> Sustainability in Quality Improvement (SusQI) – Centre for Sustainable Healthcare <https://sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/susqi>

## 4. Digital transformation

The close alignment between the digital transformation agenda and the objective of achieving a net-zero NHS is evident. Humber and North Yorkshire (HNY) will leverage digital leadership to identify opportunities for utilising current digital technology to transform clinical pathways to improve patient care, reduce health inequalities and reduce the carbon footprint of care.



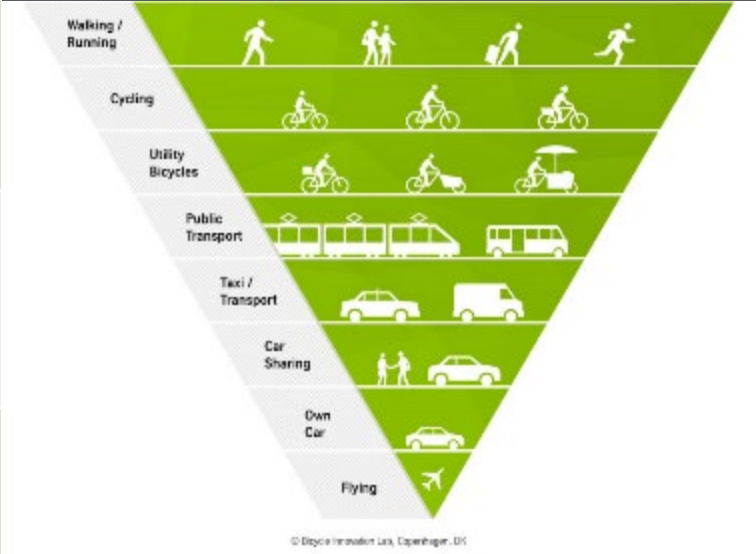
	Actions
4.1	Maximise the benefits of digital transformation to reduce emissions and improve patient care, including embedding sustainability in digital services and reporting of achievements against a baseline for the ICT carbon footprint according to the guidelines set out in the published materials by the UK Government's Sustainable Technology Advice (STAR).
4.2	Embed the principles and guidance of the “Technology Code of Practice <sup>1</sup> ” across the digital commissioning cycle/relevant policies, including procurement of low power equipment.
4.3	Implement a trial and eventually deploy "powerdown" software designed to automatically turn off unnecessary computer hardware when idle, leading to energy and cost savings.
4.4	Prioritise the hosting of data in energy-efficient low carbon local or cloud-based data centres
4.5	Implement circular economy principles into the acquisition and reuse of digital hardware, with the objective of supporting communities and reducing waste.

<sup>1</sup> TCoP 12 - increase sustainability throughout the lifecycle of your technology - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-technology-code-of-practice>

# 5. Travel, transport and air quality

Transport accounted for just over a quarter of UK emissions in 2021, making it the largest emitting sector. Approximately 3.5% (9.5 billion miles) of all road travel in England relates to patients, visitors, staff and suppliers to the NHS, contributing to around 14% of the systems total emissions.

	Actions
5.1	Formulate a system wide sustainable “vision” to clearly articulate the long-term goals and aspirations of promoting active modes of transportation and public transit for the benefit of staff, patients, and visitors. In line with the net zero travel and transport strategy and roadmap, develop a sustainable travel strategy and integrate into Green plans.
5.2	Form partnerships with local authorities and local transport authorities to maximise funding and infrastructure opportunities on behalf of the ICS members. Through this, develop partnership-based solutions that target congestion reduction, promote the health advantages of active travel, and address air quality issues, thereby mitigating the environmental impact of transportation.
5.3	Ensure that systems and trusts exclusively procure and lease ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEVs) or zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) for new purchases and lease agreements. All vehicles offered through salary sacrifice will be zero emission in line with national requirements.
5.4	Actively promote and facilitate staff adoption of low carbon travel options, emphasising modal shift principles to transition from private cars to sustainable modes like public transport, cycling, walking, carpooling etc.
5.5	Maximise the environmental sustainability of commissioned goods and services transportation across the system, including patient transport, courier services, and deliveries, to ensure minimal ecological impact.





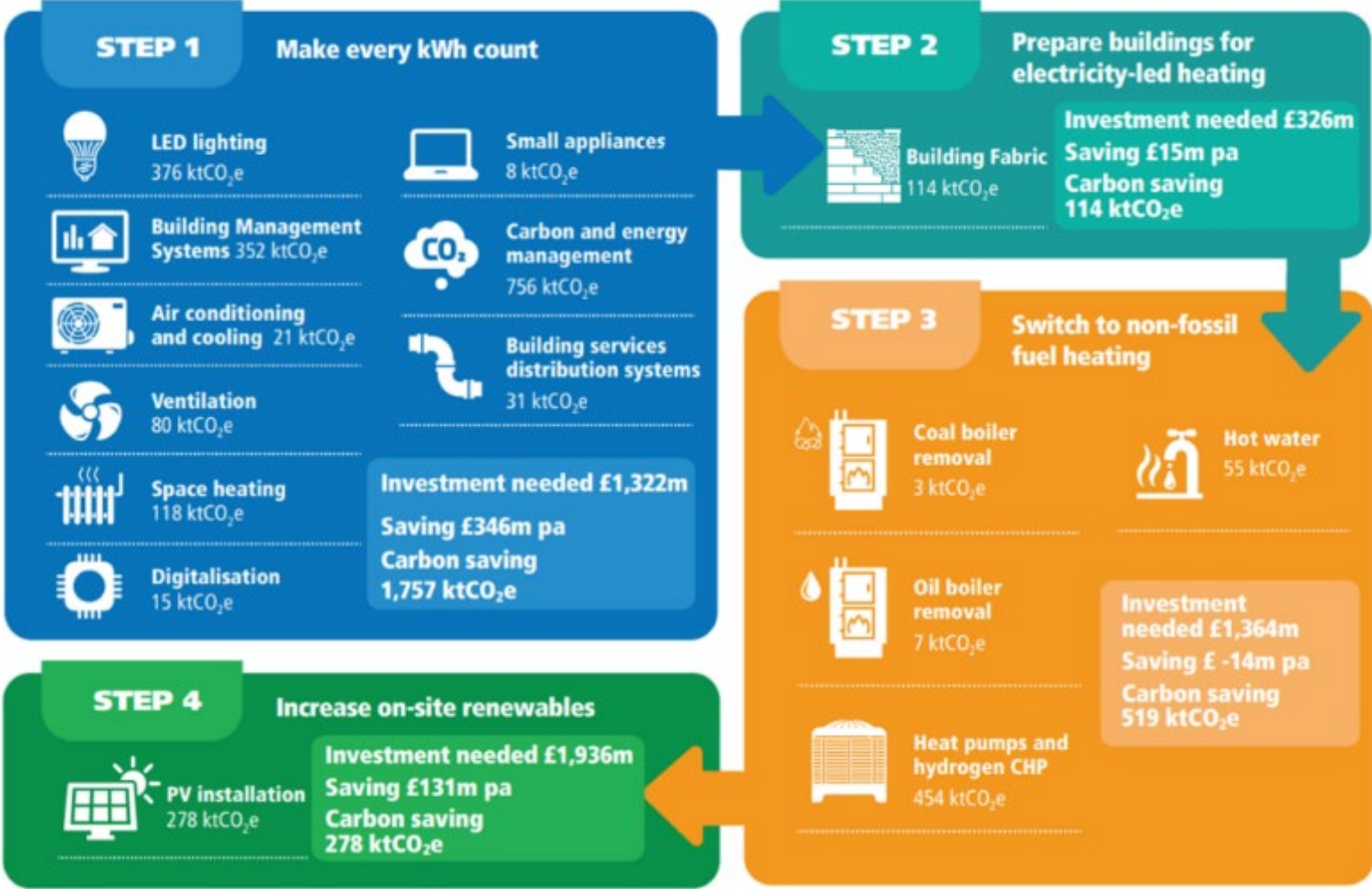
# 6. Estates and facilities

NHS Estate and facilities has a critical role to play in achieving the ambition for delivering a net zero health service. The NHS estate and its supporting facilities services – including primary care, trust estates and private finance initiatives – comprises 15% of the total carbon emissions profile.

The aim is to reduce carbon emissions from existing building estates, and ensure all new healthcare buildings are energy efficient and net zero carbon.

The NHS Net Zero Carbon Estates Delivery Plan has four steps to achieve this.

1. Making every kWh count: Investing in no-regrets energy saving measures
2. Preparing buildings for electricity-led heating: Upgrading building fabric
3. Switching to non-fossil fuel heating: Investing in innovative new energy sources
4. Increasing on-site renewables: Investing in on-site generation





# 6. Estates and facilities

Success in reducing the emissions of the NHS estate will lay the foundation for carbon reductions across the NHS. We can lead the way on net zero through decarbonising the estate – helping to give other functions the confidence and direction needed to define their own actions to support our joint progress.



	Actions
6.1	Estates Strategy and Green Plans will be aligned and set out plans for delivering a net zero carbon estate by 2040, in line with guidance incorporating actions and targets from the NHS Estates NZC Delivery Plan Technical Annex. These will also be aligned with local system priorities, regional spatial development strategies, One Public Estate opportunities and funding opportunities.
6.2	Achievement of the “Net Zero Building Standard <sup>1</sup> ” for all eligible developments.
6.3	Identify and implement decarbonisation interventions across the primary care estate to deliver benefits to the sector via optimising building usage, onsite generation of renewable energy and heat, building fabric and heating/boiler upgrades.
6.4	As far as reasonably feasible, all electricity purchased is primarily from Renewable Sources <sup>2</sup> .
6.5	Continued increase in uptake of capital funding for sustainability and submission of applications (this could include exploring joint bids between trusts or other partners)
6.6	Encourage collaborative partnerships among organisations to maximise the potential of renewable technology opportunities.
6.7	Enhance the skills of the workforce in energy and waste management across all sectors of the healthcare system and collaborate across the system to maximise opportunities to improve overall sustainability.

1. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-net-zero-building-standard/> The Standard applies to all investments in new buildings and upgrades to existing facilities that are subject to HM Treasury business case approval process and are at pre-strategic outline business case approval stage

2. NHS Standard Contract 2025/26 – Service Conditions – section 18 - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/03-nhssc-2526-full-length-service-conditions-final.pdf>

## 7. Medicines

Medications contribute 25% of emissions to the NHS carbon footprint. A few specific medicines account for a significant portion of these emissions, with particular attention being given to two groups in Humber and North Yorkshire and nationally - anaesthetic gases (2% of emissions) and inhalers (3% of emissions), where emissions occur during usage. Inhalers contribute to 13% of the NHS Direct Footprint (emissions the NHS directly controls) for which the target for Net Zero is 2040.

The remaining 20% of emissions primarily stem from manufacturing, transportation and waste within the supply chain.

**Find a  
greener inhaler  
to suit you**



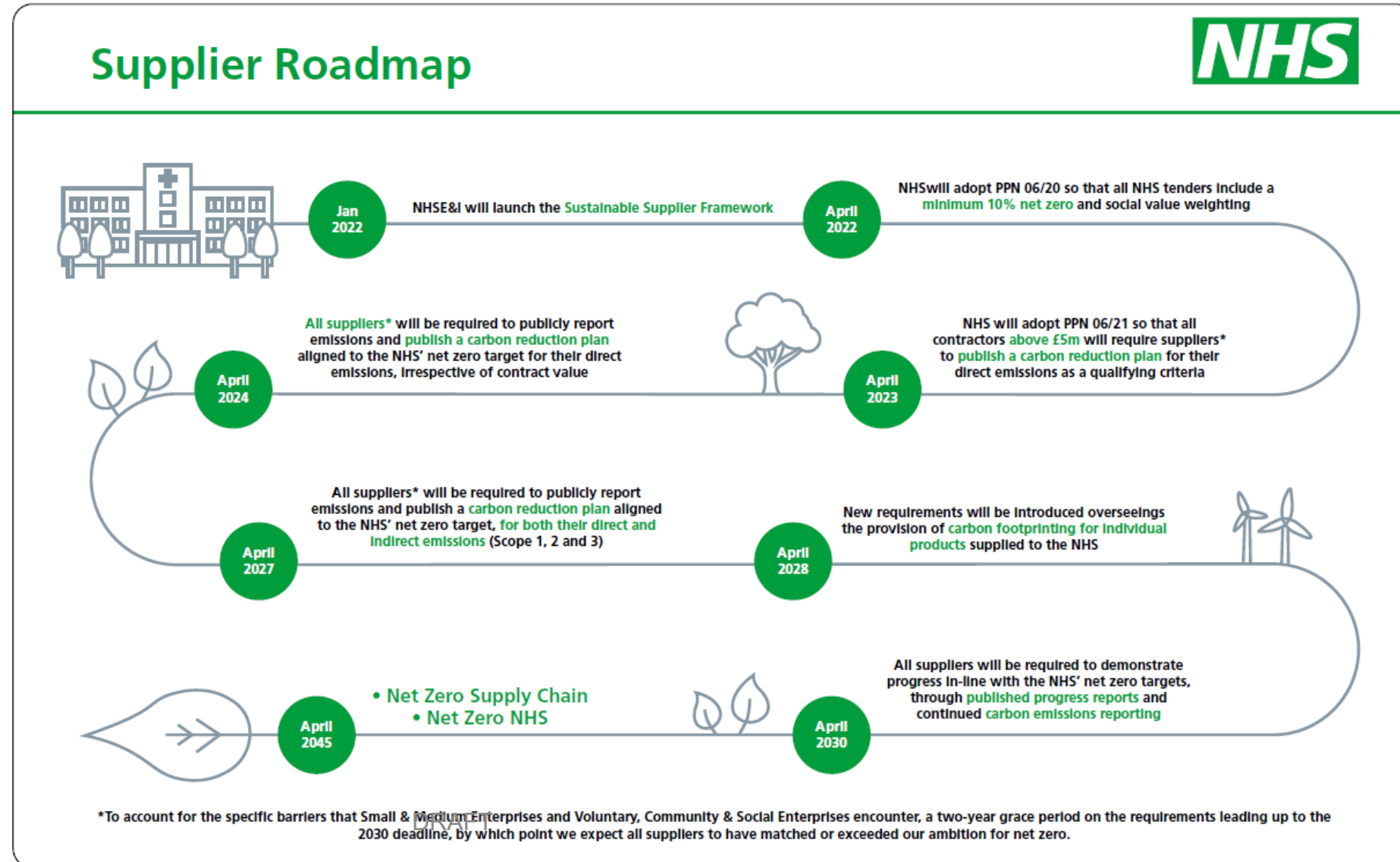
	Actions
7.1	<b>Inhaler Carbon Footprint</b> - Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board will have a plan to support high-quality and lower-carbon respiratory care in line with latest clinical guidelines. This will reduce the carbon footprint of inhaler prescribing through reducing overuse of short-acting-beta agonist inhaler prescribing in asthma, prescribing lower carbon inhalers where clinically suitable and encouraging patients to return their used inhalers to pharmacies for appropriate disposal.
7.2	<b>Overprescribing</b> - Medicine optimisation teams have a programme of work in line with <b>National Medicines optimisation opportunities</b> addressing overprescribing and oversupply.
7.3	<b>Medicines Waste</b> - Medicine optimisation teams have a programme of work to reduce medicines waste, including reducing unused medicine, such as with an 'only order what you need' campaign.

## 8. Supply chain and procurement

Our aim is to integrate sustainable procurement practices within the process of commissioning to achieve sustainable and net zero carbon supply chains. The NHS supplier roadmap is clear: the NHS will only procure from suppliers that match our net zero commitments and deliver our targets.

Procurement is typically evaluated based on financial savings, quality, and availability of inventory. Environmental sustainability and net zero carbon criteria will now be included in all procurements

To track our progress and make meaningful comparisons across sustainable procurements, we will create reliable and consistent sustainability-focused metrics.



# 8. Supply chain and procurement

The supply chain of the NHS is responsible for around 62% of all carbon emissions, marking it as a critical area for concerted effort. Our goal is to integrate sustainable procurement practices within the commissioning process. Traditional procurement metrics have been centred on financial savings and availability of stock.

The establishment of metrics for sustainable procurement and our supply chains is crucial for tracking progress and facilitating comparisons.



	Actions
8.1	Nominate a lead for sustainable supply chain and procurement to embed sustainability into the foundations of delivery, ensure procurement governance aligns with the Net Zero supplier roadmap, and establish a dedicated community of practice to share best practice and drive shared priorities with key suppliers.
8.2	Ensure NHS Net Zero supplier roadmap requirements are embedded in all relevant procurements, with KPIs in place to monitor implementation and evaluate both effectiveness and impact.
8.3	Identify and actively collaborate with key suppliers to exceed minimum sustainability requirements by engaging with the Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment, supporting a unified and strategic dialogue between the NHS and its supply chain on shared sustainability priorities.
8.4	Ensure sustainability impact assessment fully includes consideration of social, economic, and environmental factors in the evaluation process for all new financial decisions or investments (see also Assurance and Governance section).
8.5	Training for all finance and procurement teams in the application, development and monitoring of meaningful social value criteria, as per PPN06/20 and PPN002, together with full adoption/implementation of these PPN's with a specific focus on sustainability.
8.6	Frequent delivery traffic to hospital sites contributes to global carbon emissions, degrades local air quality and contributes to congestion. Explore the potential of offsite consolidation to mitigate environmental impact, advance climate objectives and enhance the hospital experience for patients, staff and the local community.



# 9. Food and nutrition

It is estimated that food and catering services within the NHS generate approximately 6% of total emissions.

By opting for healthier, locally sourced food, we can improve health, well-being, local economies while reducing emissions associated with agriculture, transportation, storage, and waste throughout the supply chain and on NHS premises.



	Actions
9.1	Encourage food services to actively seek opportunities to enhance menu options by making them healthier and lower in carbon emissions by increasing the proportion of fruits, vegetables, beans, pulses, and other low-carbon ingredients and proteins in the menu offerings.
9.2	Promote adoption of food waste reduction initiatives across all healthcare providers, in line with the <a href="#">National Standards for Healthcare Food and Drink</a> , using WRAP’s ‘target, measure, act’ methodology, and foster collaboration to exchange learning and scalable solutions.
9.3	Promote the adoption of a digital meal ordering system for patient meals, as suggested by the Independent Review of NHS Hospital Food. This system will enable more precise meal planning, leading to reduced food waste and improved efficiency in meal management.
9.4	Organisations should regularly review and adapt staff, visitor and patient menus to prioritise seasonal produce and reduce emissions, promoting the use of the <a href="#">NHS England Recipe Bank</a> which offers nutritious, low-carbon recipes featuring seasonal, locally sourced ingredients that support local farmers and economies.

# 10. Climate change adaptation

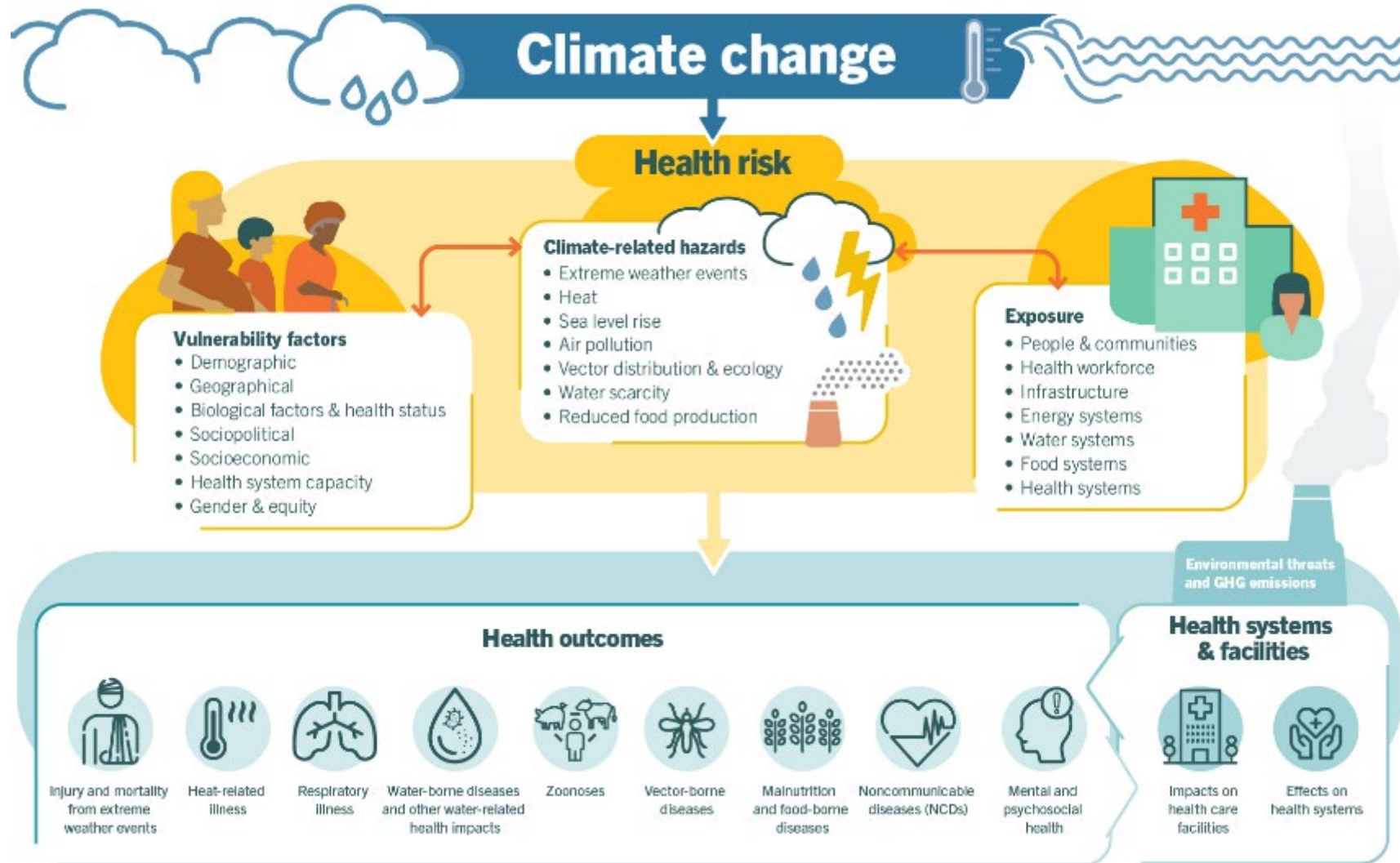


Figure 1: An overview of climate-sensitive health risks, their exposure pathways and vulnerability factors. Climate change impacts health both directly and indirectly and is strongly mediated by environmental, social and public health determinants.

World Health Organization. Climate change. 2023. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

# 10. Climate change adaptation

Climate adaptation means strategically changing how our health and care system operates to remain effective and resilient in the face of a changing climate. For healthcare, this translates into proactively preparing for the impacts of **extreme weather events like heatwaves and floods**, ensuring resilience against increased demand, service disruption, and evolving disease patterns driven by environmental shifts.

Adapting requires strengthening services, ensuring the continued operation and resilience of our buildings, operations, and vulnerable infrastructure to cope with acute and chronic climate impacts. This necessity is emphasised by the chronic climate risks identified in the National Risk Register, the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee, as well as meeting our responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act and other pertinent national guidance and directives.

To achieve this, we commit to playing an active role in all relevant emergency planning exercises. Working closely with our system partners, we must collectively build resilience and implement robust protective measures for the most vulnerable in our communities when health systems inevitably come under environmental pressure.



	Actions
10.1	To <b>embed climate adaptation into strategic frameworks</b> , we will promote and support adherence to the adaptation provisions within the NHS Core Standards for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) and the NHS Standard Contract for all NHS-funded services.
10.2	To <b>encourage resilience planning</b> , we will encourage and support health and care organisations to develop actions for severe weather and improve resilience across their local and digital services. This includes championing the NHS Climate Adaptation Framework to cultivate system-wide resilience and utilising the NHS Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) Tool (as recommended by the Climate Change Commission 2025) <sup>1</sup>
10.3	To <b>foster collaborative resilience</b> , we will work with system partners, including our Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) colleagues, Local Resilience Forums, and Directors of Public Health. Our efforts will focus on identifying service interdependencies and mutual aid needs to prevent disruptions, sharing findings for integrated planning, and actively participating in all relevant emergency planning exercises.
10.4	To <b>enhance workforce capacity for climate adaptation</b> , we will actively promote and support training that equips our workforce to effectively manage extreme weather events, including heatwaves and flooding.

1. Climate Change Committee - Progress in adapting to climate change: 2025 report to Parliament - <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/progress-in-adapting-to-climate-change-2025/>

# 11. Green space and biodiversity



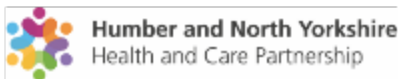
The Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) is committed to enhancing green spaces and biodiversity. While our direct property portfolio is limited, we will take a proactive approach on our own estates and work collaboratively with partner health and care organisations across the system to develop accessible, high-quality green spaces. This commitment aligns with national environmental goals and statutory obligations, including the Environment Act 2021's Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements. We aim to ensure a net increase in biodiversity and augment the natural capital value within our wider system, recognising nature's immense benefits for physical and mental well-being, patient recovery, and staff welfare.

These green initiatives critically improve air quality, strengthen climate resilience, and sequester carbon, directly aiding **NHS Net Zero targets**. We will champion **green social prescribing** region-wide, integrating nature-based prevention as a core element of our **preventative agenda**. Through supporting proactive estate management and community engagement, our collective green spaces will deliver tangible benefits for both people and planet.

	Actions
11.1	<b>Advocate for and contribute to universally accessible green space maintenance, enhancement and development within neighbourhoods</b> - enable people to healthier lives and experience better wellbeing through access to the natural environment. Advocate for and actively participate in the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare's NHS Forest project. Undertake a comprehensive baseline evaluation of the current provision and quality of green spaces in neighbourhoods, including the assessment of natural capital asset value, together with identifying and prioritising spaces for maintenance, enhancement and development.
11.2	<b>Embed Biodiversity Net Gain in developments</b> - achieve Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) on any new developments, promoting adherence to statutory requirements and showcasing innovative approaches to enhance natural capital.
11.3	<b>Support collaboration in regional nature recovery</b> – active participation in Local Authority biodiversity initiatives, providing valuable input to relevant nature recovery strategies and programmes, and distributing opportunities throughout our healthcare networks for collective environmental benefit.



# 12. Innovation



In line with national obligations and the NHS's commitment to delivering a Net Zero health service, the ambition for the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) to achieve a Net Zero NHS by 2045 demands more than incremental change; it requires transformative innovation across all aspects of healthcare delivery. We recognise that the journey towards a sustainable future isn't just about incremental improvements, but a fundamental shift in how we operate.

This journey involves not only drastically reducing our carbon emissions (Net Zero), but also fostering resilience through climate adaptation to ensure our services can withstand the growing impacts of a changing climate. By actively engaging with pioneering research and collaborating closely with our leading regional academic institutions, we can significantly accelerate the development and adoption of both sustainable practices and adaptive strategies.

Our commitment to fostering this collaborative culture of innovation also presents a significant opportunity to attract and secure vital external research and development funding into our region, directly benefiting local healthcare services and driving economic growth. Ultimately, our focus on innovation will not only drive down carbon emissions and build resilience but also enhance patient outcomes, improve staff well-being, and secure the long-term viability of our healthcare system.

	Actions
12.1	<b>Leveraging Academic Partnerships for Net Zero Solutions:</b> We will actively collaborate with our excellent <b>regional academic institutions</b> to identify, pilot, and adopt cutting-edge research and novel solutions. This partnership offers mutual benefits, providing healthcare with expertise and accelerating our net-zero transition, while offering academia real-world application for research and informing future health professional training.
12.2	<b>Empowering the Workforce through Green Innovation and Academic Links:</b> We will foster a culture of innovation within our workforce by supporting staff engagement with net-zero research, including direct links to our <b>regional academic partners</b> . This will empower staff with sustainable healthcare knowledge and skills, while providing academia with vital frontline insights to inform practice-led research and develop future-ready health professionals.



# Reporting measures

Area	Principal Aim	Reporting Measures
Assurance and Governance	Robust governance and assurance arrangements in place, to drive and assure delivery across targets, deliverables and work areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Named Board level SRO for environmental sustainability</li> <li>Evidence of integration of Green Plan actions within ICB strategic documents</li> <li>Evidence of use of Sustainability Impact Assessment</li> <li>Annual report of progress against HNY ICB Green Plan</li> </ul>
Workforce, networks and system leadership	Upskill the workforce to understand how they can save carbon and help tackle the climate crisis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of convening meetings with provider organisations to support delivery of green plans.</li> <li>Evidence of regular communication on greener healthcare through multiple ICB communication channels including training offers</li> </ul>
Net Zero Clinical Transformation	Redesign care pathways to be less carbon intensive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence that there is an embedded process that considers Net Zero principles in all service and pathway redesign</li> <li>Evidence of promotion of Greener NHS hub e-learning on sustainable quality improvement</li> </ul>
Digital transformation	Embed digital transformation in healthcare pathways to reduce carbon footprint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon footprint of digital infrastructure</li> <li>Reduction of power use (kWh)</li> </ul>
Travel, transport and air quality	Reduce the need for healthcare related travel and promote sustainable and active travel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of LEVs, ULEVs and ZEVs in fleet.</li> <li>Number of cycle parking spaces.</li> <li>Carbon emissions from non-emergency patient transport.</li> <li>Staff travel survey data and change over time.</li> <li>Collaboration with Local Authorities</li> <li>Schemes in place to support modal shift</li> </ul>
Estates and facilities	Reduce carbon emissions from existing building estates and ensure all new healthcare buildings are energy efficient and net zero carbon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon footprint of building estate.</li> <li>Estates decarbonisation funding secured/spent.</li> <li>kWh of on-site renewable electricity generated.</li> <li>Readiness for low carbon heating systems</li> <li>Delivery of Net Zero Building Standard and NHS Estates Net Zero Carbon Delivery Plan</li> </ul>

# Reporting measures

Area	Principal Aim	
Medicines	Focus on reducing prescribing of medicines that may harm or have no benefit, preventing rather than treating disease and reduce the use of medicines that have a high global warming potential (GWP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in the carbon footprint of inhalers (PresQipp)</li> <li>• Percentage of patients prescribed 5 or more short acting beta agonist inhalers in asthma (ePACT2)</li> <li>• % non-salbutamol inhalers that are MDIs.(GNHS dashboard)</li> <li>• The mean emissions of SABA inhalers prescribed. (GNHS dashboard)</li> <li>• Reduction in volume of repeat prescribing prescriptions (ePACT2)</li> <li>• Percentage of 5 days antibiotic courses for Amoxicillin, Penicillin V and Doxycycline, compared to 7 days.</li> </ul>
Supply chain and procurement	Influence procurement spend to drive down the carbon impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon footprint of supply chain.</li> <li>• Carbon savings from supplier-led carbon reduction schemes.</li> <li>• Adoption of PPN 06/20 so that 100% of new NHS procurements where relevant &amp; proportional include a minimum 10% net zero and social value weighting.</li> <li>• Implementation of the Net Zero Supplier Roadmap requirements.</li> </ul>
Climate change adaptation	Support the development of plans and infrastructure to mitigate against the impacts of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of organisations with climate change risks on their risk register.</li> <li>• Number of Climate Change Adaptation Plans.</li> </ul>
Green space and biodiversity	Take an active role in the development of new accessible green spaces and biodiversity on our Estate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of nature-based social prescribing interventions</li> <li>• Number of trees planted</li> <li>• Net gain in biodiversity</li> <li>• Access to green spaces</li> </ul>

# Asks

Celebrate	Celebrate progress that is being made in the region
Adopt	Review and accept summary actions for HNY Green Plan 2025 – 2028
Resource	Align ICB resources to fulfil duties of the Health and Care Act (2022) with respect to climate change and the environment, and delivery the HNY Green Plan.
Promote	Facilitate the publication and widespread distribution of the plan in a refreshed HNY branding