

Environmental Sustainability @ SWB NHS



Global climate change is one of the largest **health threats** this century. In October 2020, the NHS became the first in the world to commit to delivering a net zero national health system, improving health now and for future generations. This means improving healthcare while reducing harmful carbon emissions, and investing in efforts that remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

Our Green Vision

We recognise that sustainable development is a critical factor in our organisation being able to deliver world-class healthcare, both now and in the future. We are therefore dedicated to enabling the creation and embedding of sustainable models of care throughout our operations and to making sure that our operations, and our estates, are as efficient, sustainable and resilient as they possibly can be.

We have developed a **Green Plan** to drive us towards becoming a leading sustainable healthcare provider.

We aim:

1. To **deliver high quality care without exhausting resources** or causing environmental damage to **preserve resources for future generations**.
2. To **embed sustainability into the heart of our organisation** and lead on driving working practice towards using resources, like energy and water, more efficiently to reduce wastage. We believe that investing in infrastructure to improve energy and water efficiency will bring about positive environmental impacts and cost savings.
3. To **engage and inspire our people, patients and our population** to take actions that will collectively make a big impact. Reducing energy and water wastage, generating less waste, and travelling actively and sustainably will benefit the environment and improve physical and mental wellbeing.
4. To be an **anchor institute, leading and influencing key partners in sustainable development**. This includes partnering to create master plans for regeneration of the local area and optimisation of sustainability plans through the scale achieved in partnership working.

How can you help?

We all play a vital role in reducing our carbon footprint, limiting our impact on the environment and making a significant difference to the public's health. Start by:

- Enquiring about **'Green Impact'** - our fun, staff environmental engagement programme that colleagues can join to make a positive impact. Contact Fran on francesca.silcocks@nhs.net
- Turning off lights, appliances and equipment when not required
- Closing doors and windows when the air conditioning or heating is on
- Wasting less, print less and use more re-usable products
- Considering walking, cycling, car sharing or using public transport

Turning off lights or equipment when not required



Putting waste in the correct bin



Cycling, walking or using public transport



Going paper light instead of printing

