



**NHS Forth Valley**  
**Climate Emergency & Sustainability**  
**Strategy & Action Plan**  
**2023 -2026**

# NHS FORTH VALLEY CLIMATE EMERGENCY & SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

## CONTENTS

Section 1 - Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy.....	3
Introduction.....	3
Purpose of the NHS Forth Valley Strategy and Action Plan.....	3
Responding to the Climate Emergency in healthcare settings.....	4
Governance Structures.....	5
Operational Structures.....	6
Corporate Commitment.....	7
Section 2 - Shifting to Implementation.....	8
Priority Areas.....	8
Areas of Focus.....	8
Healthy and Resilient Communities.....	8
Adaptation.....	9
Section 3 - Delivering Outcomes.....	10
Driving Change.....	10
Scope and Boundary.....	10
Net-Zero Targets.....	11
Measuring and Monitoring.....	12
Scrutiny and Reporting.....	12
Section 4 - Climate Emergency & Sustainability Action Plan.....	14
Energy & Facilities Management.....	14
Waste Management & Recycling.....	14
Transport (Fleet).....	15
Transport (Active).....	16
Sustainable Care.....	16
Greenspace & Biodiversity.....	18
Sustainable Communities.....	19
Sustainable Procurement & Circular Economy.....	20
SECTION 5 - Climate Emergency & Sustainability Delivery Plan.....	22
Energy and Facilities Management Delivery Plan.....	24
Waste Management Delivery Plan.....	26
Fleet Operations Delivery Plan.....	28
Sustainable Transport (Active) Delivery Plan.....	29

Sustainable Care Delivery Plan .....	30
Greenspace & Biodiversity Delivery Plan.....	32
Sustainable Communities' Delivery Plan .....	37
Sustainable Procurement & Circular Economy Delivery Plan .....	39

## SECTION 1 - CLIMATE EMERGENCY & SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

### INTRODUCTION

A framework has been provided for NHS Scotland to maximise its contribution to mitigating and limiting the effects of the global climate emergency, and for the development of an environmentally and socially sustainable health service that is resilient to the locked-in impacts of climate change.

DL (2021) 38 – the Policy for NHS Scotland on the Global Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development came into force in November 2021. Within DL38 the Scottish Government (SG) has been very prescriptive in terms of what NHS Scotland Bodies are expected to do to respond to the climate emergency. The aims of DL38 must be fully integrated into all planning, management decisions and clinical and operational practices. Further details can be found in [DL \(2021\) 38](#).

To underpin DL38, the NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026 was published in August 2022. This sets out the approach and actions which will be taken by NHS Scotland, with support from the Scottish Government and working in partnership with others, to respond to the climate emergency. Its focus is on improving the environmental sustainability of the NHS; recognising the role that the NHS has in relation to helping achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals relating to social and economic development.

NHS Scotland's target date for achieving net-zero emissions has also been brought forward from 2045 to 2040. Further details regarding what is expected of NHS Scotland Boards in terms of responding to the climate emergency can be found in the [NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026](#).

### PURPOSE OF THE NHS FORTH VALLEY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

The NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan sets out the actions this Health Board will take to align with the national and global drive to reduce the environmental impacts that contribute towards a changing climate. This document covers the period 2023 to 2026. Some of the actions that NHS Forth Valley will deliver are already underway, others are about to begin or will be initiated within that period.

The aims of this Board are to:

- become a net-zero greenhouse gas emissions health board by 2040.
- ensure that the Board's assets and activities are more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate, particularly extreme weather events.
- establish a culture where resources are responsibly used and safeguarded to provide environmentally sustainable healthcare.
- adopt a circular economy approach where waste and pollution are designed out, and products and materials are kept in use longer (where appropriate).
- increase the Board's contribution to tackling the ecological emergency and restoring biodiversity.

Many people working for this Board are already taking action to help create a more sustainable health service, and others have great ideas to share. NHS Forth Valley (NHS FV) has made good progress in several areas:

- The overall carbon footprint from reportable emissions has reduced by 36% from the 2014/15 baseline.
- A significant sum of money has been made available to improve the energy performance of Forth Valley Royal Hospital and buildings in the Primary Care Estate, which underpins the transition to net-zero.
- The Green Theatres Project, led by theatre staff at Forth Valley Royal Hospital, has resulted in changes to how surgery is carried out and reduced environmental impacts. Excellent work has also been done by the team to reduce use of anaesthetic gases and inhaler propellants that contribute to the carbon footprint.
- Implementation of the Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy is well underway with over 35% of fleet vehicles now EVs, and a network of EV charging infrastructure installed across the Forth Valley area.
- Extensive support is available to help staff switch to more sustainable and active ways of travelling, including initiatives such as access to electric bikes and bike maintenance schemes.
- The Anchor Springboard process is in place to deliver a wide variety of initiatives that benefit staff, patients and people living in local communities, and tackle climate change.
- Greenspace opportunities are being developed in Stirling Health and Care Village, which builds on the initiatives already available at Larbert Woods and Loch. In addition to health benefits for patients and staff, investment in greenspace around hospitals and healthcare centres is helping to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss.

Nevertheless, responding to the climate emergency will require an unprecedented shift in how healthcare is delivered, and everyone associated with this Board has a role to play.

*NHS FV will build on the great work that has already been done, scale up activity, and support the energy and enthusiasm of people working for the Board to deliver the changes that are required.*



#### RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

Many of the actions needed in response to the climate emergency and the environmental crisis have positive health impacts. Cutting emissions and restoring biodiversity improves air quality and can reduce the incidence of or improve outcomes in diseases such as asthma, heart attacks and stroke. Eliminating pharmaceutical residues from wastewater prevents harm to biodiversity and limits the growth in antimicrobial resistant bacteria. Failure to protect the environment has direct consequences, and longer-term there are also risks associated with changing patterns of disease and the ability to treat these effectively.

Achieving Scotland's climate goals and Realistic Medicine fit naturally together. To become a sustainable and greener healthcare provider, Boards must deliver safe, effective, personalised care, and reduce harm and waste through improvement and innovation. Realistic Medicine promotes a culture of stewardship of finite NHS resources, where responsibility is taken individually and collectively, to use healthcare resources wisely.

*Clinicians and staff will be at the heart of this Board's climate emergency response and efforts to become an environmentally and socially sustainable health service.*



## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

NHS Scotland Boards are required to establish a strong management structure to ensure delivery of the aims of DL38 and fully integrate these aims into all planning, management decisions and clinical and operational practices.

An NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency and Sustainability Board has been established to oversee the NHS Board's response to the climate emergency. It will have both a governance and strategic role and will be responsible for reporting progress to the Scottish Government's Climate Emergency & Sustainability Board.

The Climate Emergency & Sustainability Board for NHS FV is chaired by the Chief Executive. Membership includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Chief Executive
- Director of Facilities & Infrastructure (Executive Lead for Sustainability)
- Director of Finance
- Director of Pharmacy
- Director of Public Health & Strategic Planning (Board-level Sustainability Champion)
- Medical Director
- Employee Director
- Representatives from Health & Social Care Partnerships
- Associate Director of Facilities & Infrastructure
- Director of Acute Services
- Director of Corporate Portfolio Management Office, Women & Children's Directorate, Chief Midwife

Internal scrutiny arrangements that are directly relevant to the climate emergency response include the following:

- A Climate Emergency/Sustainability Declaration is included in the Board Papers template – authors now must confirm the climate emergency and net-zero have been considered in the Business Case etc phase of all proposals.
- An annual Corporate Risk Deep Dive will be carried out to review the risks and control measures associated with the Board's Climate Emergency & Sustainability Corporate Risk.

- Progress is reported bi-annually (twice a year) to the Performance & Resources Committee.
- The NHS FV Climate Emergency & Sustainability Board meets quarterly.
- The NHS FV Climate Emergency Response & Sustainability Team meets monthly.

*NHS FV will maintain robust oversight and approvals processes to ensure that there is effective scrutiny of the Board's climate emergency response.*

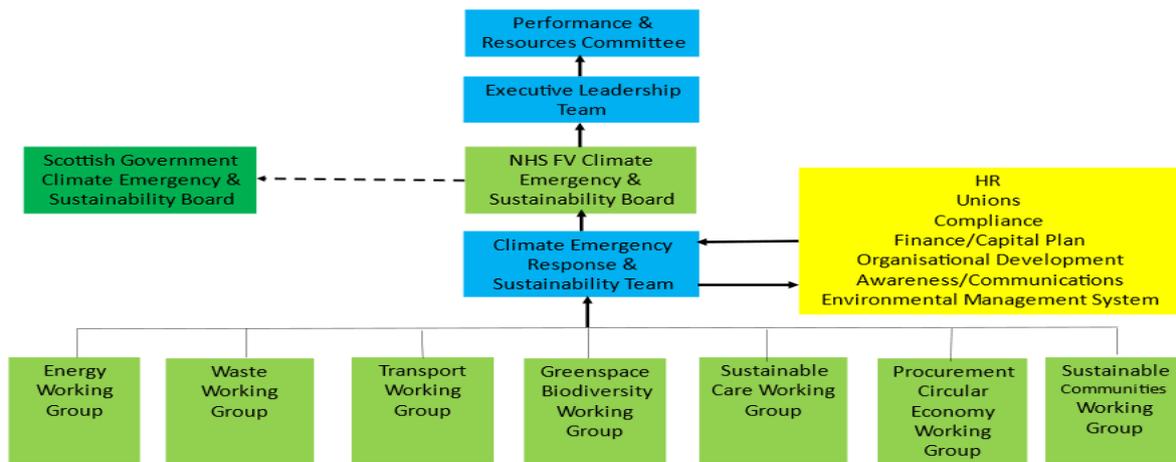
**OPERATIONAL STRUCTURES**

A Climate Emergency Response & Sustainability Team is in place to inform the NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy and develop and oversee delivery of outcomes within the NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency & Sustainability Action Plan.

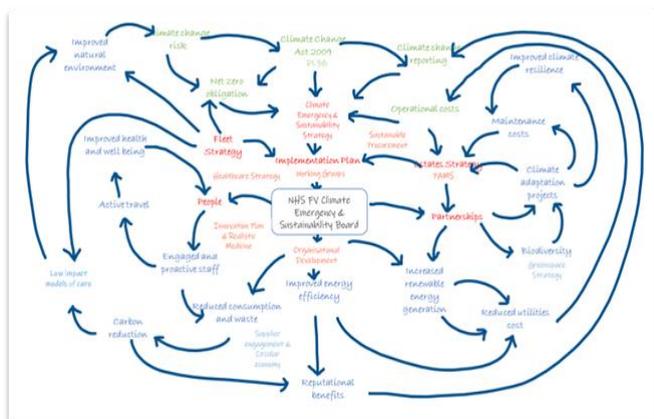
The Response Team has both a strategic and an operational role in NHS FV's response to the climate emergency. It will be responsible for reporting progress to the NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency & Sustainability Board and will coordinate output of the strategic Working Groups that have been established to address the requirements within DL38.

Figure 1 summarises the internal governance and operational structure that has been established to respond to the climate emergency.

*Figure 1: NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency Governance and Operational Structure*



*Each Working Group will focus on identification and implementation of projects and initiatives that will strengthen this Board's response to the climate emergency, and support development of a sustainable health service.*



In addition to the restructure that resulted in the governance and operational arrangements summarised above, the climate emergency has also been acknowledged by NHS FV in the following ways:

- An Executive Lead for Climate Emergency & Sustainability and a Board-level Climate Emergency & Sustainability Champion have been nominated to oversee the Board's climate emergency response.
- Climate Emergency & Sustainability controls are included within the Corporate Risk Register.
- The Performance & Resources Committee Terms of Reference has been updated to reflect the Board's climate emergency response.
- Climate Emergency & Sustainability have been included within the Board's Annual Delivery Plan and Medium-Term Delivery Plan as one of the 10 drivers of recovery in the transition from the recovery to the renewal phase post covid.
- Recurring resources have been approved by the Board's Executive Leadership Team to build a team that will be responsible for delivering the climate emergency response.
- Improved communications arrangements have been agreed to ensure that sustainability becomes everyone's responsibility.

## SECTION 2 - SHIFTING TO IMPLEMENTATION

The NHS FV Climate Emergency Response and Sustainability Team has been put in place to help the Health Board deal with the scale and complexity of the challenges of decarbonisation and environmental sustainability.

### PRIORITY AREAS

Five priority areas have been identified where NHS Scotland Boards must take action:

- Sustainable Buildings & Land
- Sustainable Travel
- Sustainable Goods & Services
- Sustainable Care
- Sustainable Communities



### AREAS OF FOCUS

NHS Scotland Boards must contribute towards the following areas of focus:

- Reducing Carbon emissions to net-zero by 2040 and decarbonising the NHS Scotland estate by 2038 (i.e. no gas heating)
- Reducing energy and resource consumption
- Reducing pollution resulting from activities
- Producing and implementing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan to ensure resilience of service under changing climate conditions
- Supporting the procurement of sustainable goods and services
- Supporting the establishment of a circular economy
- Identifying, delivering and promoting environmentally sustainable models of care
- Making best use of available greenspace and protecting/encouraging biodiversity
- Promoting environmentally sustainable methods of accessing healthcare (e.g. sustainable/active travel)
- Working and collaborating with staff, patients, local communities and organisations outside the NHS, including local authorities

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### HEALTHY AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are embedded within the SG's National Performance Framework (NPF) and underpin NHS Scotland's climate emergency response.

The NHS touches every community in Scotland and there are opportunities, as Anchor Organisations, to drive real change. The way that care is provided can have a major impact on communities and the environment – sustainable models of care are key in the transition to a net-zero health service. Now, more than ever, there needs to be a focus on ensuring health and care services are used equitably and sustainably to meet the needs of the people of Scotland – as well as those of our future generations.

As Anchor Organisations, NHS bodies have an unrivalled opportunity to model sustainability goals around fair employment, gender equality and sustainable communities. This enables a ‘whole system approach’ to ensuring quality healthcare services are available and accessible to all.

NHS Scotland will change how services are planned and delivered – empowering people to have more control over their health and deliver change that is environmentally sustainable, increasing good health and reducing health inequalities.

*NHS FV will work with staff, patients, and local communities in contributing to social and environmental sustainability and reaching net-zero.*

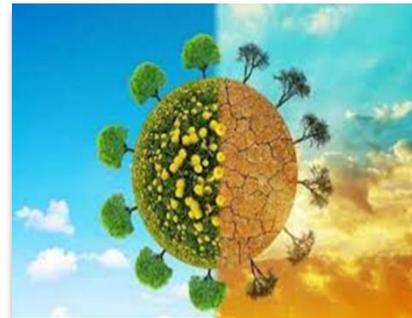


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#### ADAPTATION

The resilience of the NHS estate is vital to ensuring the delivery of health and care services without disruption. Projected climate change trends for Scotland will mean increased flooding, extreme temperatures, and more extreme weather events. Urgent action is required to protect NHS sites, essential services, and vulnerable communities.

*NHS FV will build on the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) that has been carried out and work on a cross-departmental basis internally and with Integrated Joint Boards, Community Planning Partners, Public Health Scotland, Local Authorities and Local Resilience Partners to prepare and implement climate change adaptation plans to ensure resilience of service under changing climate conditions.*



## SECTION 3 - DELIVERING OUTCOMES

NHS Scotland has shown throughout the COVID-19 pandemic that it can act quickly in a crisis. The energy and enthusiasm of everyone is now required to respond to the climate emergency – building on the great work that has already been done and scaling up activity across all aspects of the healthcare that is delivered.

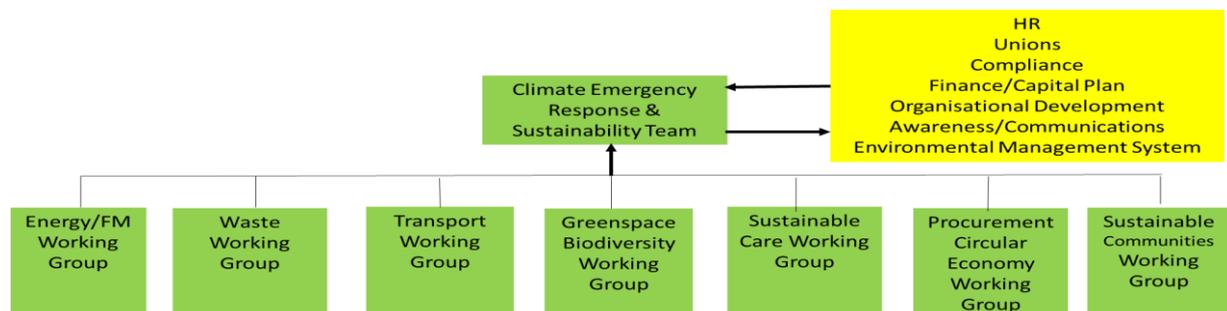
### DRIVING CHANGE

The areas of focus that will be tackled by the seven Working Groups are:

- Energy/Facilities Management: buildings estate/facilities
- Waste Management: minimisation and recycling
- Transport: fleet operations and active transport
- Greenspace & Biodiversity
- Sustainable Care Medical Planning: aligned with existing Realistic Medicine agenda and includes Green Theatres and the Forth Valley Greener GP Practice Group
- Procurement, Supply Chain & Circular Economy
- Sustainable Communities: aligned with Anchor Institution/Community Wealth Building activity

Figure 2 summarises the Working Group structure that has been implemented.

Figure 2 – NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency Response operational arrangements



In addition to the Working Group structure above, in March 2023 it was agreed by the Climate Emergency Response & Sustainability Team that a Communications Working Group should be established to inform staff, patients, visitors and the wider public of the progress that is being made and to encourage participation in the climate emergency response. Options are also being considered for an IT Working Group and a Medical Devices Working Group.

### SCOPE AND BOUNDARY

NHS FV has submitted annual climate change reports to SG since 2014/15 as part of the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD). These reports set out the progress that has been made in terms of reportable emissions reductions.

The following sources of greenhouse gas emissions are included within the PBCCD scope:

- building fossil-fuel energy use

- owned and leased fleet fuel use
- fluorinated gases and anaesthetic gases (only reported more recently due to data issues)
- purchased energy use (electricity, heat, steam)
- energy transmission and distribution
- waste (data issues)
- water consumption
- wastewater treatment
- business travel, including the use of grey fleet (historically has only focused on business mileage claimed by staff i.e. not other modes of travel)

The Board has made good progress in terms of emissions reductions within the PBCCD scope: the 21/22 report confirmed that reportable emissions had reduced by 36% compared with the 14/15 baseline.

NHS Scotland is working to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of its greenhouse gas emission reporting. In future years, more categories of emissions will be added to the scope and boundary with the result that future reporting may show apparent increases in some categories of emissions, which are in fact due to better data/reporting and/or scope and boundary changes rather than actual increases.

NHS Scotland Boards aim to maximise the health sector's contribution to Scotland-wide emissions reduction. There will be an increased focus around the emissions reported annually in the PBCCD reports, and the following sources, which the NHS does not control, but which it can influence, will become reportable:

- Supply chain
- Staff commuting
- Patient and visitor travel

N.B. Calculations methods are still to be agreed and implemented for the three sources listed above.

## NET-ZERO TARGETS

The emissions sources that will be tackled have been set out in the Scope and Boundary section above and further details regarding the NHS Scotland targets can be found in the [DL \(2021\) 38](#) and the [NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026](#).

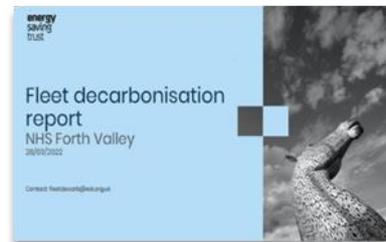
The NHS Forth Valley net-zero targets are aligned with the NHS Scotland ambitions:

- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions from NHS Forth Valley activities and from the activities under board control to net-zero by 2040 or earlier where possible (this includes all reportable emissions within the scope and boundary - not just buildings - and should be achieved without offsetting).
- The interim target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from NHS Forth valley activities by at least 75% by 2030 (this is linked to the availability of 1990 baseline data – where the 1990 baseline is not known for an emission source, interim targets for reducing emissions from that source must be set which are consistent with achieving the net-zero target from that emission source)

- Use renewable heating systems in all owned buildings by 2038 (i.e. shift away from gas-fired boilers for heating and domestic hot water)
- Transform the road-based fleet: removing petrol and diesel cars by 2025, adding no new petrol or diesel light commercial vehicles from 2025 and adding no new petrol or diesel heavy vehicles from 2030.
- Reduce the distance staff travel by car, both for business travel and commuting, in line with the national commitment to reduce car kilometres by 20% by 2030.
- Send no biodegradable waste to landfill by 2025 and send zero waste to landfill by 2030.
- Ensure that investment decisions, including procurement, are aligned with Scotland's net zero targets and support the move to a circular economy.

Since November 2021, this Board has aligned with the NHS Scotland targets mandated in DL38, which means the emissions scope and boundary previously used to establish the PBCCD baseline no longer addresses all the emissions sources included within the NHS policy. There is still work to be done to improve understanding of the NHS FV carbon footprint.

*NHS FV will establish a methodology to ensure that the Board's emissions are reported accurately, are meaningful, and comprehensive, within the context of improved data and a shifting scope and boundary.*



## MEASURING AND MONITORING

This NHS Forth Valley Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan provides the initial steps in a pathway towards net-zero between 2023 and 2026 – this will evolve and be developed as progress is made.

The mandatory Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD) framework is a solid base for monitoring progress; it will also be used to integrate the wider NHS Scotland ambitions in terms of emissions scope and boundary when methodology is agreed. The National Sustainability Assessment Toolkit (NSAT) that was developed for NHS Scotland addresses the majority of other areas of healthcare where opportunities to improve exist – NSAT also aligns efforts at Board level with UN SDG and the SG's NPF.

## SCRUTINY AND REPORTING

There is a significant level of scrutiny around NHS Scotland's climate emergency response. Annual submissions that are directly relevant to the climate emergency response include the following:

### ANNUAL 'DL38' REPORT

From November 2022, each Health Board is required to prepare, publish, and submit to the SG an annual report approved by its Chief Executive. This report summarises progress against the aims and targets set out in DL (2021) 38 – the NHS Scotland Policy on the Climate Emergency & Sustainability. The Annual Report submission date is the end of January.

### ANNUAL AND MEDIUM-TERM DELIVERY PLANS

As part of the next phase of the NHS Scotland *Remobilisation, Recovery and Redesign* Plan, 10 Recovery Drivers have been developed with the aim to continue innovating and transforming the NHS for the future. Given that the climate emergency has been widely recognised as the single biggest health threat facing humanity, the 10 Drivers now include Climate Emergency & Sustainability. Boards are required to set out the actions that will be taken in seven key climate-related categories. The Annual Delivery Plan submission date is 8 June – the Medium-Term Delivery Plan submission date is 7 July.

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#### NATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOL

NHS Scotland has developed a National Sustainability Assessment Tool (NSAT) which all Health Boards used to measure progress across sixteen areas of sustainability. NSAT is also used to measure NHS Scotland's contribution to the UN's SDGs and will continue to be used to assess progress against the actions set out in the NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy. In April 2023, the NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Board agreed that NSAT assessments should be carried out bi-annually (every two years). The next assessment will be in 2024/25, with a submission deadline of end August 2024.

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#### ANNUAL PUBLIC BODIES CLIMATE CHANGE DUTIES REPORT

The Annual PBCCD Report is a mandatory requirement under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 – affected Boards have complied with the requirement to submit an annual report since 2014/15. The report includes an update on progress against a number of statutory targets including greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity. The Climate Change Report submission date is the end of November.

*Arrangements will remain in place within NHS FV to ensure compliance with all climate change and sustainability reporting requirements.*

## SECTION 4 - CLIMATE EMERGENCY & SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

To achieve the aims that have been set out above, NHS FV must start doing things differently and work collaboratively to mitigate and limit the effects of the global climate emergency.

The drive for net-zero has shifted from ambition to delivery. Rapid action is required to limit further climate damage and impacts – globally, nationally in the UK and Scotland, and from the NHS Scotland perspective. In this new phase, whereby the targets have been set, the focus is on immediate delivery of the changes that are required. The priority emissions sources must be tackled to reduce impacts, and emissions sources not currently being addressed must be brought into scope.

The following section sets out what NHS FV aims to achieve in each area of focus.

### ENERGY & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Building energy use makes up the biggest proportion of NHS Scotland direct greenhouse gas emissions. Limiting these emissions will have health and wellbeing benefits for communities, as well as supporting Scotland's transition to a net-zero society and limiting environmental impacts. Boards must monitor, assess and report progress towards net-zero emissions via their annual Public Bodies' Climate Change Duties Report which is to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 30 November each year.



The NHS FV Energy & FM Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

Emissions from Buildings Based on actual consumption Estate GIA -190528 square metres								
Source	PBCCD Baseline 2014/15		PBCCD emissions previous year (2021/22)		Annual Consumption Targets - percentage reduction compared against previous year			Total percentage reduction in consumption by 2025/26 compared with 2021/22
	Consumption	Emissions (tCO2e)	Consumption	Emissions (tCO2e)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
Electricity	24,251,404 kWh	13,572.60	23,449,368 kWh	4,979	-2.50%	-2.50%	-2.50%	-7.50%
Gas	53,731,513 kWh	9,938.70	51,012,741 kWh	9,343.50	-2%	-2%	-2%	-6%
Water	189,421 m3	65.2	171,048 m3	18.8	-2%	-2%	-2%	-6%

The total kWhs of renewable electricity generated by NHS FV in 2021/22 = 64,410 kWh

Target increase in renewable energy generated by NHS FV by 2025/26 = 10% increase from 2021/22 baseline.

Please note, reporting on the emissions from buildings targets is directly aligned with the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting processes and timescales – annual performance is reported in November for the previous financial year.

### WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING

Each NHS Scotland body must set appropriate targets for reducing the volume of healthcare waste produced through measures including greater use of reusable items, improvements to waste segregation and increased recycling.



There is a requirement within DL38 to:

- Reduce domestic waste arising by a minimum of 15%, and greater where possible, compared to a financial year 2012/13 baseline.
- Ensure that no more than 5%, and less where possible, of all its domestic waste goes to landfill.
- Reduce the food waste it produces by 33% against a financial year 2015/16 baseline.
- Ensure that 70% of all domestic waste is recycled or composted.
- Reduce the volume of healthcare waste produced through measures including greater use of reusable items, improvements to waste segregation and increased recycling of recyclable materials (directly linked to the circular economy).

The NHS FV Waste Management Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

Emissions from Waste (*Data incomplete in some areas)						
Source	PBCCD data/emissions previous year (2021/22)		Annual Consumption Targets percentage reduction compared against previous year			Total percentage change by 2025/26 compared with 2021/22
	Tonnes	Emissions (tCO2e)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
Clinical Waste Orange	683	186.4	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	-9.0%
Clinical Waste Yellow	7	2	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	-1.5%
Clinical Waste Red	1	0.8				
WEEE Mixed recycling	4	0.1				
Mixed Recycling	682	14.5	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	14.4% increase
Organic Food & Drink Compost/AD	94	0.8	11.0%	11.0%	11.0%	-33.0%
Paper & Board Recycling	207	4.4				
Metal Cans/Metal Scrap	9	0.2				
Refuse Municipal/Commercial to Combustion	1,125	24	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	-15.0%

Please note, reporting on the emissions from waste targets is directly aligned with the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reporting processes and timescales – annual performance is reported in November for the previous financial year.

## TRANSPORT (FLEET)

Each NHS Scotland body must take action to reduce the carbon emissions resulting from travel associated with fleet operations. NHS FV will implement the NHS FV Electric Vehicle Strategy/Plan to reduce the need for travel and remove all petrol and diesel fuelled cars from the owned and leased fleets by 2025 or earlier where possible.



The NHS FV Transport (Fleet Operations) Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

Fleet Operations - Electric Vehicles (EVs)									
Vehicle Class	EV's (2021/22)	Fossil Fuel/Hybrid (2021/22)	Total (2021/22)	Percentage EVs (2021/22)	Annual Targets - percentage of fleet that is electric compared against previous year				Total percentage reduction by 2025/26 compared with 2021/22
					2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
Cars	18	40	58	31%	52%	88%	100%		100%
Light Commercial Vehicles	25	50	65	38%	44%	74%	91%		91%
Heavy Goods Vehicles	0	0	0	0					No HGVs in NHS FV fleet

In 2021/22 reporting of emissions associated with fleet operations shifted from distance (miles) covered to fuel used (litres) to reflect the transition to EVs.

Fleet Operations - Fuel Usage							
	2021/22 Fuel Usage (litres)	2021/22 emissions (tCO2e)	Annual Targets - percentage reduction in fuel usage compared against previous year				Total percentage reduction by 2025/26 compared with 2021/22
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
Fleet Operations - Diesel	68,463	172	-44%	-74%	-91%		-91%
Fleet Operations - Petrol	56,716	124.4	-52%	-88%	-100%		-100%

## TRANSPORT (ACTIVE)

Each NHS Scotland body must take action to reduce the carbon emissions resulting from travel associated with activities, including those associated with staff and patient travel.

- Number of staff accessing the Board's Cycle to Work Scheme;
- Number of staff waiting to 'borrow' an E Bike;
- Number of staff that have 'borrowed' an E Bike;
- Number of staff accessing the 'Dr Bike' sessions provided at FVRH and SHCV.

## SUSTAINABLE CARE

Clinicians and staff must be at the heart of NHS Scotland's climate emergency response. The NHS Forth Valley Sustainable Care Working Group has 7 priority areas of activity: Inhalers, Medical Gases, Green Theatres, Realistic Medicine, Care Pathways (and 'green/active' alternatives), Medicines and Supporting Primary Care.



The NHS FV Sustainable Care Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

## INHALERS

It is estimated that emissions from inhalers in NHS FV in 2021/22 were 4385 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e (Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) Propellant Primary Care + MDI Propellant Secondary Care). This project is being led by the Greener GP Practices Group.

Target by 2023/24 – reduce MDI-associated CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by 20%.

## MEDICAL GASES

NHS Scotland has an ambitious target to be net-zero for anaesthetic gases by 2027; the following targets have been set by NHS FV:

Anaesthetic gas use						Anaesthetic Gas Targets - Total tCO <sub>2</sub> e			
Source	2018/19 (baseline year) tCO <sub>2</sub> e	2021/22 - tCO <sub>2</sub> e	21/22 % change since 2018/19	2022/23 - tCO <sub>2</sub> e	22/23 % change since 2018/19		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
<b>Volatile gases</b>									
Desflurane	115.2	0	-100%	TBC			0	0	0
Isoflurane	1.9	0.6	-68.42%	TBC			0	0	0
Sevoflurane	54	40.3	-25.37%	TBC			40	42	42
<b>Volatile gas total</b>	<b>171.1</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>-76.09%</b>	<b>TBC</b>			<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>
						% reduction on previous year	0%	0%	tbc
<b>Nitrous oxide and Entonox</b>						<b>Nitrous and Entonox Targets - Total tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>			
Piped Nitrous oxide	246	64	-73.98%	473	92.3%		40	0	0
Portable Nitrous oxide	39	17	-56.41%	30	-23.0%		210	200	150
<b>Total Nitrous oxide</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>81</b>		<b>503</b>			<b>250</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>150</b>
						% reduction on previous year	50%	20%	25%
Piped Entonox	855	940	9.94%	780	-8.7%		750	710	710
Portable Entonox	59	69	16.94%	57	-3.4%		50	50	50
<b>Total Entonox</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>1009</b>		<b>837</b>			<b>800</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>760</b>
<b>Nitrous oxide and Entonox total</b>	<b>1199</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>-9.09%</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>increased</b>	% reduction on previous year	5%	5%	tbc
<b>Anaesthetic gas total</b>	<b>1370.1</b>	<b>1130.9</b>	<b>-17.45%</b>						

Please note, reporting on the emissions from anaesthetic gases is directly aligned with the availability of data which currently is issued periodically by the Scottish Government.

## GREEN THEATRES

NHS Forth Valley is fully supportive of the NHS Scotland Green Theatres Programme (NGTP) and has been involved in delivery of associated projects for several years. The Sustainable Care Team will continue to implement initiatives and changes where appropriate (refer to Delivery Plan section below).

In particular, the aim is to achieve six out of the seven 'Bundle A' targets set by the NGTP.

For reference, the NGTP 'Bundle A' projects are:

1. Desflurane – this has been removed from all NHS FV stock lists and has not been used by the Board for more than 18 months
2. Oral Paracetamol vs intravenous - to reduce emissions
3. Anaesthetic Gas Scavenging System (AGSS) - switch off out of hours (currently not possible but efforts continue)
4. Theatres ventilation system – adjust settings to deliver energy savings
5. Nitrous oxide – decommissioning the manifold for piped nitrous
6. Surgical fluid system – roll-out following pilot
7. Waste segregation/minimisation – underway and ongoing

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## REALISTIC MEDICINE

Develop aspirational targets and metrics to report environmental/sustainability benefits achieved from Patient Initiated Reviews (PIR) and Active Clinician Referral Triage (ACRT) opportunities.



Realistic Prescribing - stressing the importance of patient centred medicines reviews to avoid inappropriate prescribing and where necessary to deprescribe. This has patient safety benefits and reduces carbon footprint as well as chemicals reaching the waterways and adversely impacting plant and animal life.

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## SUSTAINABLE CARE PATHWAYS

Maximise outpatient appointments available via NearMe, with an aspirational target to shift 10% of all outpatient appointments to virtual by 2025/26.



Develop more Nature-based interventions for patients - connections to nature and outdoor physical activity have been linked to improved mental health which is relevant to all psychological therapies.

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## MEDICINES

By 2028 there are plans in place for all medicines to be assigned a carbon footprint – this will help inform decisions.

The vast majority of medicines are prescribed in primary care (and contribute up to 60% of the carbon footprint of primary care) – this will be the main area of focus.

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## SUPPORTING PRIMARY CARE

Work will continue with the Greener GP Practices Group to identify and implement opportunities to reduce impacts e.g. energy efficiency, waste minimisation/recycling, sustainable transport etc.

Support the organisational push to smooth out the discharge from hospital information (IDL letters etc) so it is completely electronic (faster and reduces paper usage).

## GREENSPACE & BIODIVERSITY

Boards are expected to provide access to high quality greenspace that offers health-enhancing opportunities for patients, staff, and communities and has a positive impact on biodiversity. Each NHS Scotland body must promote improvements to biodiversity as far as is consistent with proper exercise of its functions.

The NHS FV Greenspace & Biodiversity Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

- Expand the NHS FV Greenspace & Biodiversity Working Group by including members of the SHCV Working Group along with Forth Valley wide key stakeholders by end of June 2023
- Ongoing delivery of the SHCV project – completion by March 2024
- Map NHS FV greenspace by July 2023 (currently ongoing, commissioned by NHS Assure)

- Appoint a Green Health Champion (Executive Board level) by July 2023.
- Develop an NHS FV Greenspace Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan by March 2024 (in addition to the Biodiversity Plan that is required by 31 December 2023).

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

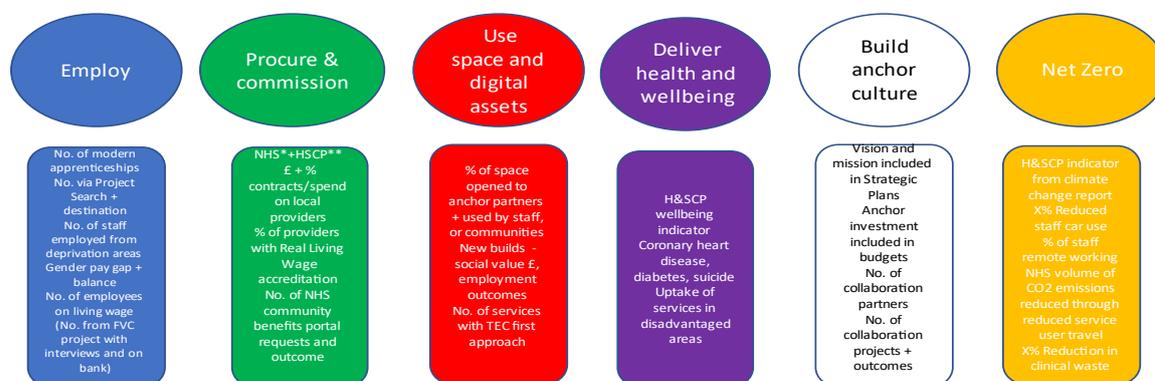
The climate emergency undermines the foundations of good health and deepens inequalities for the most deprived communities. As anchor organisations, NHS bodies have an unrivalled opportunity to model the sustainability goals around fair employment, gender equality and sustainable communities.

In responding to the climate emergency each NHS Scotland body must align the role as an anchor institution with the drive for net-zero.

The NHS FV Anchor Springboard has the following Key Objectives:

- To establish a set of outcomes and programme of work to maximise the contribution NHS Forth Valley makes to local communities of greatest need to mitigate the social impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- To establish anchor institution milestones within the Health Improvement Programme Board and Infrastructure Programme Board Strategic Deployment Matrices.
- Ensure that those using services and who have lived experience are able to influence our thinking and offer their expertise and experience into the collective contribution.
- Develop and test a set of measures and measurement framework for the anchor institution work.
- To combine expertise and experience from across NHS Forth Valley clinical, care and corporate support services that already have, or are developing plans that will contribute to economic development and reducing the health inequalities of the Forth Valley population i.e. community wealth and health building.
- To identify economies of scale and opportunities to gain best value across NHS Forth Valley & Health and Social Care Partnerships.
- Increase collaboration with other local Anchor Institutions and community groups committed to community wealth and health building.
- Work with specialist/regional/national partner organisations to gain and share learning, build knowledge and expertise and attract resources such as evidence base and evaluation.
- Coordinate approaches to research and applications to funding agencies, to complement different developments across Forth Valley.
- Identify and take advantage of innovation opportunities where a collective approach would have a greater likelihood of success than individual organisations.

The NHS FV Sustainable Communities Working Group is aligned directly with the NHS FV Anchor Springboard, which has the following measurement framework:



Robust measuring and monitoring arrangements are embedded within the Anchor Springboard process; Sustainable Communities outcomes are directly aligned with measurement framework above.

## SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

NHS Scotland spends around £2.5 Billion each year on goods and services from around 8000 suppliers. It is estimated that the NHS supply chain accounts for around 60% of the overall carbon footprint.

The NHS FV Sustainable Procurement & Circular Economy Working Group has the following targets/metrics:

- Develop a supplier engagement programme to communicate sustainability commitments and expectations to suppliers by March 2024.
- Baseline NHSS product-based Scope 3 emission reduction plan maturity on a supplier level basis by 31st March 2024. The aim will be to have either contacted or will have a plan to contact all of our contracted product suppliers on all National NP contracts to understand and gauge their net zero ambitions.
- Relaunch the Warp-it reuse scheme by June 2023.
- Ensure that key suppliers are aware of their vulnerability to climate change disruptions and have resilience and contingency arrangements in place to minimise disruption resulting from extreme weather by 31/03/2024 in supply chain questions on Major tenders.
- Scoping the Procurement of forthcoming single use plastics regulations by reviewing the 8,000 items in NDC (National Distribution Centre) firstly to understand what products can be removed and swapped to reusable or more sustainable products via road map and systems and resources to complete by March 2024.

- Build on existing cardboard reuse initiative and roll out to 2 sites by March 2024.

## SECTION 5 - CLIMATE EMERGENCY & SUSTAINABILITY DELIVERY PLAN

DL 38 and the NHS Scotland Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026 clearly set out the level of ambition; NHS Boards have an important role to play in delivering lasting action that secures a just transition to a climate resilient and net-zero future. It is each NHS Scotland Board's responsibility to develop the delivery plans that will achieve the decarbonisation targets and outcomes.

The Climate Emergency Response & Sustainability Team contributed towards development of the NHS FV Climate Emergency & Sustainability Strategy and each Working Group has agreed to a set of actions and the outcomes that form the NHS FV Climate Emergency & Sustainability Action Plan.

In this initial phase – 2023 to 2026 – the Working Groups that have been established will be the enablers delivering outcomes in the following key areas:

- Sustainable Buildings & Land – areas of focus
  - Electricity consumption
  - Gas consumption
  - Renewable energy generation technologies
  - Water consumption
  - Sustainable Capital Planning – sustainable future development of the estate
  - Sustainable Design & Construction – applies to new-build and refurbishment projects
  - Asset rationalisation (where appropriate)
  - Green Theatres – energy/water/waste/PPE
  - Greener GP Practice Group – energy/water/waste/PPE
  - Reducing waste and improving waste management
  - Adapting the estate to a changing climate
  - Protecting, managing, and enhancing greenspace and protecting and encouraging biodiversity – aligned with green health activities. Where there is a proposal which would result in the loss in quantity or quality of greenspace to the NHS or its contribution to biodiversity, Boards must refer the proposal to the SGHSC
  
- Sustainable Travel – areas of focus
  - Reducing the need to travel – aligned with sustainable care pathways and Realistic Medicine
  - Promoting Active Travel
  - Promoting Public and Community Transport
  - Decarbonising the NHS FV fleet
  
- Sustainable Goods & Services – areas of focus will include addressing the significant carbon footprint associated with the manufacture and supply of medicines, chemicals, equipment and other materials used by the NHS
  - Create circularity in NHS supply chains and reduce waste by maximising repair and reuse of equipment (where appropriate)
  - Work with suppliers to address the issues associated with products that have the highest environmental impacts and greatest risk of socially unsustainable practices

- Increase the resilience of the NHS supply chain to climate change
- Develop options for treatment of equipment, materials and goods at end of life – work with suppliers to enable greater re-use and reprocessing of medical devices and equipment (where appropriate)
- Sustainable Care – areas of focus
  - Green Theatres – anaesthetic gas/energy/water/waste/PPE
  - Greener GP Practice Group – inhalers/energy/water/waste/PPE
  - Supporting Primary Care to minimise environmental impacts and maximise benefits to health and the environment
  - Medical Devices – green strategy
  - Pharmacy – green strategy
  - Realistic Medicine
  - Sustainable Care Pathways
- Sustainable Communities – the NHS touches every community in Scotland and has an opportunity as a large employer, major buyer and ‘Anchor Institution’ to engage in the following areas of focus
  - Supporting health and wellbeing
  - Building community resilience
  - Engaging communities in the drive for net-zero
- Climate Emergency Communications - areas of focus
  - Staff, patient, visitor and wider public engagement

The following section sets out how NHS FV will achieve the aims within each area of focus. The Delivery Plan will be updated annually to reflect progress and shifting priorities.

ENERGY AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Energy & FM Working Group has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Energy</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Primary Care Review	Redesign and improve access to GP and primary care services across Forth Valley	Potential estate rationalisation and improvements to building stock. This programme could deliver medium to long term climate emergency outcomes but will need to be supplemented by other actions in those locations not covered by the programme.	Ongoing – due to be conclude 28/29, subject to approvals and funding.
FCH Development	Setting out the vision for how existing services could be developed, improved and expanded (or relocated).	Development or relocation will result in more efficient buildings that are better suited to healthcare delivery in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century and shift the site on to a net-zero trajectory. This project could deliver medium/long term climate emergency outcomes.	Ongoing – due to be conclude 28/29, subject to approvals and funding.
FVRH Energy Efficiency – PV project	Roof mounted PV arrays	Circa 200kWh of on-site electricity generation.	Phase 1 detailed design complete. Planning and G99 etc applications ongoing. Aiming for project completion by March 24.
FVRH Energy Efficiency – Chiller project	Chiller replacement to improve efficiency and provide ‘free’ cooling option	Circa £40k to £50k/year energy saving	Completed March 2023.

FVRH Energy Efficiency – LED project	LED lighting upgrade	This project will deliver consumption and financial savings by reducing demand for electricity.	Discussions with Forth Health ongoing. Aiming for project completion by March 24.
CCHC Energy Efficiency – PV project	Ground and roof mounted PV arrays	Scoping underway	Implementation is dependent on availability of funding.
GPSEDS Programme – Phase 1 (procurement)	Fabric First and on-site generation projects	£1.9M funding secured for investment in the Primary Care estate (i.e. non-PPP/HUB estate).	Procurement in early 23/24 using the NDEE framework
GPSEDS Programme – Phase 1 (construction)	As above	As above	Construction/completion etc by March 24
GPSEDS Programme – Phase 2	Prepare and submit bid for further funding		Prepare bid in 23/24 for funding to deliver projects in 24/25
Hybrid/Bivalent Pathfinder	Understanding the implications of the mandated shift away from fossil fuel (gas) heating by 2038	£700k funding secured – procurement ongoing	Work ongoing to appoint a contractor by June 23. Aiming for project completion by March 24.
Net-zero Routemaps	Mapping the net-zero implications in our larger more complex sites (FVRH, SHCV, Bo’Ness Hospital and HC)	HFS contractor (Jacobs) commissioned – work ongoing	Expected completion December 2022
Capital Plan	Forward planning through a ‘climate emergency lens’	Securing additional and ongoing funding to support the shift to net-zero	Ongoing
Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)	Undertake CCRA and develop Adaptation Plan	CCRA complete – work ongoing to integrate into the Board’s existing risk management arrangements	Ongoing – target completion 23/24. The Adaptation Plan (once developed) will be updated every 5 years

Environmental Management System (EMS)	Essential to the NHS FV climate Emergency Response as this will enable impacts to be identified and managed	Tentative discussions have taken place in the Estates Department – work to do	Ongoing and significant resource implications (staff and finance)
Collaborate with Integrated Joint Boards and Health & Social Care Partners	Shift away from ‘silo’ working to development partnership opportunities with shared outcomes	Options for shared properties and joint bids for grant funding etc	Ongoing
Collaboration with other public bodies and partner organisations	e.g. align with Local Authority Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and Regional Energy Masterplans (REMs)	e.g. Opportunity to benefit from district heating	Ongoing with more emphasis on this regional type of approach as building specific opportunities reduce
<b>Facilities Management</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Estates Grounds Tasks	Consider more sustainable ways of working within the grounds team who currently use a lot of fossil fuel machinery and tools.	New sustainable ways of working to cut down use of fossil fuelled tools/machinery.	Currently ongoing but would require investment for new tools and machinery and to be well planned.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Waste Management & Recycling Working Group has the following actions/outcomes

<b>Waste Management &amp; Recycling</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Waste Management Compliance	Ensure that the Board’s waste related activities are complaint.	Confirm and maintain duty of care and operating permit requirements across all waste streams	Ongoing

Clinical waste bins - FVRH	Address findings/recommendations of the Clinical Waste Pre-Acceptance Audits by rebalancing the spread and provision of orange bag bins.	Reduction in orange bag waste	Initial implementation of changes June 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
Waste Segregation – NHS FV wide	Develop, with a view to embedding into mandatory training, information/instruction for the source segregation of waste at the place of production e.g. ward/unit level	Increase in recycling levels.	Initial implementation of changes August 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
Recycling – FVRH	Review and enhance current waste disposal processes used at FVRH.	Increase in recycling levels.	Initial implementation of changes October 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
Recycling – FV wide estate	Review current arrangements with Enva and seek to provide a uniform approach across all sites.	Increase in recycling levels.	Initial implementation of changes October 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
Waste Data	Undertake waste composition and weight audits to develop a better understanding of waste segregation and confirm accuracy around waste data.	Greater confidence in waste data.  Identify areas for targeted action.	Initial implementation of changes October 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
Waste Data	Align all waste contractors to NHS Scotland's National Waste Data reporting tool.	Greater confidence in waste data.	Initial implementation of changes June 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.

Waste Data	Develop reporting benchmark around the relationship between patient activity numbers and waste outputs.	Establish the current correlation between activity and waste generation.	Initial implementation of changes October 2023 to deliver ongoing savings and reductions.
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## FLEET OPERATIONS DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Sustainable Transport Working Group (Fleet) has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Transport (Fleet)</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Funding Bids for EV charging infrastructure	Discuss via working groups the locations for further EV charging infrastructure projects.	Bidding documents received from NSSNF for SG SOF Funding 2022-2023	Ongoing – bid submitted for additional fleet only EV chargers at FVRH.
Electric Vehicle Programme	Continue fleet replacement programme as per SG decarbonisation directive 2025/30	Dependant on vehicle availability from manufacturers and vehicles with correct requirement for service requirement.	Fleet replacement SG deadline 2025.
NHSFV Leased Car Scheme	Work already ongoing to engage with vehicle users for the promotion and change over to ULEV	Dependant on vehicle availability from manufacturers. Supporting EV infrastructure to meet demand at FV sites.	SG Deadline 2032 or earlier.
Fleet telematics	Use telematics to optimise fleet logistics to reduce the need for travel	Dependant on procurement at national level of a suitable telematics package	National Procurement timelines – contract in place by March 2024

Explore options for car club use	Reduction in high polluting grey fleet vehicles and reduction in mileage expense claims.	Cost savings Mileage reduction Lower CO2 emissions Mileage Claims Expenses. Indications of 100k savings achievable. Grey fleet compliance benefits.	Ongoing.
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## SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT (ACTIVE) DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Sustainable Transport Working Group (Active) has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Transport (Active)</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Active Travel Promotion and Brand Ambassador Programme	Utilise staff who are willing to help promote active travel options and share experiences with other staff. Ambassadors mentored and supported by FEL.	Increased awareness of travel options. Identify barriers to change via feedback.	Ongoing exercise to be replicated across the NHS FV estate.
Cycle Friendly Employer (CFE) Award	Undertake initial and follow up CFE Award audits across all NHS FV sites. Seek to gain the award for all sites.	CFE Award status for all sites.	Ongoing programme
NHS Forth Valley staff and patient E bike fleet - maintenance, insurance and safety checks	Supported by FEL, the planned preventive maintenance and safety inspections of identified bike fleets.	Provide suitable and equipment for staff and patients to use.	Ongoing programme

	Rolling replacement programme and grant funding applications.		
NHS Forth Valley staff e bike 'free trial scheme' support and administration	Supported by FEL the provision of E bikes, training, route planning and dedicated support to staff who are looking to change travel behaviours.	Level of uptake/waiting list and transition to long term change.	Ongoing programme for FVRH.

## SUSTAINABLE CARE DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Sustainable Care Working Group has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Sustainable Care</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Inhalers	Move from Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) to Dry Powder Inhalers (DPI) where appropriate.	Updated primary care guidelines to increase DPI prescriptions will reduce environmental impacts.	Initial primary care roll-out February 23 – ongoing thereafter
Medical gases	Reduce usage of anaesthetic agents	Zero use of desflurane, stable use of sevoflurane and decommissioning of nitrous manifold	Piped supply of nitrous in FVRH blanked in May 23. Decommission manifold by July 23. Ensure that pharmacy data on cylinder usage is robust.
Green theatres	Tackle multiple small individual areas to reduce environmental impacts.	Participation in SG's National Green Theatres Programme (NGTP) to	Neptune suction system live by Jan 23.

		<p>align with national data collation and benchmarking.</p> <p>The NGTP 'Bundle A' projects are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Desflurane – this has been removed from all NHS FV stock lists and has not been used by the Board for more than 18 months</li> <li>2. Oral Paracetamol vs intravenous - to reduce emissions</li> <li>3. Anaesthetic Gas Scavenging System (AGSS) - switch off out of hours (currently not possible but efforts continue)</li> <li>4. Theatres ventilation system – adjust settings to deliver energy savings</li> <li>5. Nitrous oxide – decommissioning the manifold for piped nitrous</li> <li>6. Surgical fluid system – roll-out following pilot</li> <li>7. Waste segregation/minimisation – underway and ongoing</li> </ol>	<p>Involvement of wider board waste team required to improve on 25% reduction in Theatre waste already achieved.</p> <p>Staff engagement for ideas – suggestion board live May 23 with five projects underway.</p>
Realistic Medicine	Patient Initiated Reviews (PIR) Active Clinician Referral Triage (ACRT) opportunities	Underway in selected specialities to reduce unnecessary outpatient appointments and associated impacts	Identify opportunities for scaling up in 23/24 and ongoing

Sustainable care pathways	Baseline and target for PIR and ACRT in 7 specialities and develop nature-based prescribing opportunities.	Increase to clinically accepted maximum to reduce environmental impacts	Baseline for all seven specialities in 2023 with associated targets and metrics (PIR and ACRT).  Nature based prescribing throughout psychology services
Medicines	Work with GPs and Pharmacies to identify opportunities, targets and metrics	Establish GP and pharmacy representation/time allocation to assist in reconciliation	Ongoing
Supporting primary care	Reduced paper communication.  Identify energy and waste projects for delivery in the primary care estate	Reduce environmental impacts.	2023 confirmation of zero paper copies sent out (aspirational).  Ongoing identification and implementation of opportunities.

## GREENSPACE & BIODIVERSITY DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Greenspace & Biodiversity Working Group has in place the following supporting activities:

Greenspace & Biodiversity			
Activity (Overarching)	Brief description	Expected outcome	Indicative Timeframe & Comments

Establish a biodiversity baseline and plan ongoing monitoring of change/improvements	Agree arrangements with Stirling University to establish biodiversity baseline and plan ongoing monitoring of improvements.	Measurement and reporting takes place against a validated baseline and data collection that informs the mandatory Biodiversity Reporting Duty (every three years) and the Biodiversity Plan that is required by 31 December 2023.	Discussions are ongoing in early 2023.  When arrangements are agreed, this will be an ongoing (annual) monitoring and reporting process.
Partnership working	Work with partners e.g. the three Local Authorities to identify greenspace and biodiversity opportunities in the Forth Valley area and Forest & Land Scotland re activities at Larbert Woods and Loch.	Greenspace and biodiversity projects have been developed collaboratively to meet shared outcomes and maximise resources.	Ongoing throughout strategy delivery with measuring and reporting arrangements to be agreed by July 2023
Maximising assets and resources for climate and therapeutic benefit	Adapt grounds management and maintenance to enhance greenspace, encourage biodiversity, and increase availability of access to staff, patients and the community.	Organisations, the community, staff and patients have experienced positive outcomes from increased greenspace and improved biodiversity.	Ongoing throughout strategy delivery with measuring and reporting arrangements to be agreed by July 2023
<b>Activity (Stirling Health &amp; Care Village (SHCV))</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Establish structure for stewardship and leadership of greenspace and biodiversity activities at Stirling Health and Care Village (SHCV)	Stakeholder engagement activities, project steering, reporting and governance structures agreed	The programme of activities at SHCV has been provided with strategic support and appropriate governance, use of evidence informed approaches and opportunities for synergy and	Completed April 2023

		integration with other work programmes maximised.	
Feasibility study of SHCV greenspace	<p>Feasibility study report will be commissioned and delivered that focuses on the biodiversity, clinical and social outdoor spaces, arts and environmental improvements, including green / blue infrastructural provisions and surface water management.</p> <p>The study will set out the opportunities presented at a strategic level looking at green networks and active travel opportunities in the wider area.</p>	Greenspace and biodiversity projects have been developed and delivered based on comprehensive, expert led opinion.	Completed Oct 2022
Active Travel Routes around SHCV	Clackmanannshire and Stirling HSCP Health Improvement Service and Stirling Council City Centre South Team to explore linking existing and new active travel routes within SHCV to local active travel network.	Opportunities for existing and new active travel routes around and in the campus have been identified.	Exploratory work undertaken and shared with key stakeholders September 2023
Outdoor clinical and wellbeing spaces at SCHV	Enhancement of existing greenspace to support work using the natural world to help with the development of sensory processing in children and by Adult Psychology Services to utilise the beneficial	The site's greenspace has been effectively developed to contribute to health and wellbeing outcomes	Quick win sites at SHCV by March 2024

	<p>effects of nature on people's sense of mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Staff wellbeing opportunities will be incorporated</p>		
Rehabilitation and Community Growing Garden at SCHV	Create growing areas within the grounds of the SHCV that are accessible and meet the needs of stakeholders. Spaces would be multifunctional to provide useable spaces for a wide range of groups including growing areas, accessible planting beds and an interactive real musical instrument play area.	The site's greenspace has been effectively developed to contribute to wellbeing outcomes.	Quick win sites at SHCV by March 2024
Biodiversity Projects at SHCV	<p>Bumble bee trail will be installed following site survey from Bumble Bee Trust and community involvement from local schools.</p> <p>Working in partnership with estates to identify opportunities for landscaped grasslands to be enabled to return to a naturalised state</p>	Ecological value of amenity space has been improved	Started July 2022 – project initiation phase complete by March 2024
<b>Activity (Population Health)</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>

Therapeutic Interventions for wellbeing	Promotion to public and delivery of subject matter advice and support to professionals to implement Natural Health Award	Increased health improvement capacity to deliver activity that uses the natural environment to contribute to health and wellbeing outcomes.  Increased knowledge and skills on the benefits and use of natural environment to contribute to health and wellbeing outcomes.	March 2024
Outdoor clinical and wellbeing spaces at FVRH	Strength & Balance boards located at FVRH loch and outside maternity ward  Supply resources and subject matter expert input to enable use of Natural Health Award by CAMHS and FLCs in Larbert Woods	Increased awareness and usage of greenspace at FVRH to contribute to health and wellbeing outcomes	Started September 2022  March 2024  March 2024
Outdoor clinical and wellbeing spaces at other NHS FV Sites	Pedal Forth cycling sessions facilitated by Forth Environment Link for patients at Bellsdyke hospital	Increased awareness and increased usage of NHS greenspace to contribute to health and wellbeing outcomes.	Ongoing from December 2022
Staff Health and Wellbeing Plan	Principle of sustainability included within the 3-year plan	Increased awareness of corporate objective on sustainability.	July 2025

	The value of incorporating sustainability, biodiversity and use of green space in action to improve staff wellbeing is actively promoted by Staff Support and Wellbeing group.	Increased awareness of staff role in supporting the vision of green and sustainable healthcare.  Expectation that activities and interventions to support staff health and wellbeing are aligned to corporate objectives and have been embedded.	July 2025  July 2025

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES' DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Sustainable Communities Working Group has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Sustainable Communities</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Ensure that there are good connections with structures and processes already in place i.e. the Anchor Springboard group and Greenspace and Biodiversity subgroup	Enhance synergy and reduce duplication.	A holistic approach to contributing to the NPF.	Ongoing
Begin a process of engagement with all 3 Community Planning	Collaboration and partnership working	Common understanding of requirements and approaches of public sector organisations, and	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing

Partnerships and sustainability leads for the 3 Councils		activity of CPPs. Improve engagement with communities.	
Develop a partnership approach to sustainable communities	Review available information to develop a coordinated approach.	Collaborative working to achieve common goals.	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing
Review the NPF – considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metrics</li> <li>• System dynamic modelling</li> </ul>	This will illustrate inter-connections and impact of specific activity on other goals which may be intended, unintended, positive and negative.	Improved understanding	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing
Develop a communications plan (inc. engagement and involvement)	Use a range of approaches including social marketing to improve communications and engage communities.	Working towards full engagement of all Forth Valley residents.	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing
Implementation of NICE guidelines on energy advice etc. in the NHS	The National Institute of Clinical Evidence has produced guidelines. There is a view that we need SIGN guidelines (Scotland specific)	Feasibility of implementation of these guidelines to be assessed.	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing
Attitudes survey	There is an apparent lack of evidence regarding public attitudes to sustainability and the climate emergency in Forth Valley	Literature review Feasibility study	Commenced November 2022 - ongoing
Materials	Develop materials to support this work through dialogue with stakeholders, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of philosophical frameworks</li> <li>• Application of CURVE</li> <li>• Workbooks</li> <li>• Consider on-line materials</li> </ul>	Resources produced and applied. Feedback obtained	Ongoing with report by November 2023

## SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT & CIRCULAR ECONOMY DELIVERY PLAN

The NHS FV Sustainable Procurement & Circular Economy Working Group has in place the following supporting activities:

<b>Sustainable Procurement &amp; Circular Economy</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Indicative Timeframe &amp; Comments</b>
Include community benefits in capital projects.	<p>Currently Community Benefits are only in National Procurement Contracts greater than £4M.</p> <p>With the New NSS Community Benefits Gateway 3<sup>rd</sup> sector, charitable organisations and bidders can submit a “need” on the portal.</p> <p>NHS Forth Valley team will assess the “needs” and reject or approve if it meets the agreed criteria.</p>	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector organisations’ requirements are met by a National Contract supplier.	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>A total of 5 Community Benefits “Needs” were approved in 2022/23, mainly in relation to employment / un-employment.</p>
Use existing sustainable procurement methodology and training to ensure that social and environmental sustainability is considered when procuring goods and services	<p>Sustainable Procurement Training made available by National Procurement in F/Y 23/24.</p> <p>Existing Sustainable Procurement methodologies in use by NHS Forth Valley include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Annual Procurement Report includes</li> </ul>	<p>Sustainable Procurement Training will be attended by the NHS FV Head of Procurement in 2023/24.</p> <p>The Board’s Annual Procurement Report is published on the NHS Forth Valley public website on each</p>	Ongoing

	<p>sustainability to address the Sustainability Duty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fair Work Practices are included in all Tenders from January 2022.</li> <li>• The Flexible Framework is available to staff.</li> </ul>	<p>previous financial year's activity at the end August 2023.</p> <p>Review of Flexible Framework with a view to refreshing the Board's approach to sustainable procurement.</p>	
<p>Use learning from other Boards and National Procurement to understand the key impacts associated with the NHS Scotland supply chain</p>	<p>Head of Procurement attends the National Procurement SMT (Senior Management Team) meetings monthly.</p> <p>Sustainability is a Standing Agenda item with updates provided on all National and Board-specific initiatives. Key information is shared with the NHS FV Climate Emergency Response Team (and senior management where appropriate).</p>	<p>Shared National Learnings are communicated to the Working Group Project Leads within NHS Forth Valley to align with the National Procurement Programmes.</p>	<p>Supply chain – shared learning completion by March 2024.</p> <p>Internal sustainable procurement communications ongoing.</p>
<p>Roll-out additional cardboard re-use opportunities</p>	<p>The re-use of Cardboard packaging is currently ongoing in CSD (Central Supplies Dept) in Stirling.</p> <p>Packaging that has contained medical and commercial product is re-used (where appropriate) for</p>	<p>Another location that could re-use cardboard is Theatres. Where appropriate boxes will be reused for returns to suppliers.</p>	<p>Ongoing and roll out to Theatres by March 2024.</p>

	redistribution of goods e.g. PPE, LFDs and Labels.		