



Shine

Sustainable Healthcare in Newcastle

Embedding sustainability
into our DNA

Annual Report 2025-26



Celebrating Excellence Shine Award winners: Green Prescribing intervention to lower liquid amoxicillin use (GPILL)



Contents

1. Foreword	4
2. Introduction	6
3. Performance	10
3.1 Carbon Footprint.....	11
3.2 Staff Engagement.....	14
4. Leadership, partnerships and collaboration	16
4.1 City	16
4.2 Region	16
4.3 National	17
4.4 International	17
5. Key Action Areas	19
5.1 People	20
5.2 Models of Care	22
5.3 Energy & Water	24
5.4 Journeys & Clean Air	26
5.5 Waste.....	28
5.6 Procurement	30
5.7 Buildings and Land	32
6. Overall Performance.....	34
7. Contact Details.....	36
8. Glossary	37



1. Foreword

I am pleased to introduce this year’s Shine Report, marking the conclusion of our six-year Climate Emergency Strategy and setting our direction for the future.

Whilst there is much to celebrate, I must start by acknowledging that we haven’t stayed within the original ambition of a science aligned carbon budget for 1.5 degrees and that our 2030 target is no longer achievable. We are not alone in this as many organisations are finding these targets difficult to realise. Our ambitious goals were set with a genuine intent to limit our carbon emissions. There are many reasons why this challenge has proved unachievable, but we remain committed to continued action to reduce our contribution to the escalating climate crisis and public health emergency.

This report demonstrates the progress we have made in embedding environmental sustainability into the way we work every day. Sustainability is no longer a standalone ambition—it is integral to how we deliver care, how we support our colleagues, and how we plan for the future.

Over the past year, we have worked closely with our colleagues, patients and partners to shape our new Trust Strategy, [Caring, Learning and](#)

[Improving Together](#). Through this, we have made a clear commitment to place sustainability at the heart of our priorities for 2026–2031. A strong and visible ‘green thread’ runs throughout the strategy, reflecting our ambition to be a modern, compassionate and well-led organisation that delivers high-quality care in a way that is environmentally and socially responsible.

Responding to the climate emergency is fundamental to this ambition. The climate crisis is already affecting the health of our communities, widening inequalities and increasing pressure on services. As a large NHS organisation, we have both an opportunity and a responsibility to reduce our environmental impact while ensuring our services remain resilient and able to meet future demand.

Our next phase will be delivered through our Climate Emergency Plan for 2026–2031, focused on three clear goals: delivering zero carbon care, improving air quality, and achieving zero waste. These goals provide a practical and measurable framework to support our wider

strategic objectives and to help our colleagues deliver excellent, sustainable care.

I am particularly encouraged by the strength of support from our colleagues. Sustainability continues to be a priority for our staff, with 98% of colleagues telling us it is important that the Trust works in a more environmentally sustainable way. Our network of over 1,200 Green Champions is a powerful example of how our people are leading change, helping us to embed sustainability into clinical practice, operational delivery and decision-making at every level.

We have also strengthened how sustainability is reflected in our governance and improvement work—embedding it within our Accrediting Excellence programme and ensuring regular Board oversight through our Integrated Board Reports. This reflects our commitment to making sustainability part of how we measure success as an organisation.

The support of Newcastle Hospitals Charity has enabled us to accelerate progress, investing in projects that are helping to embed sustainable practice



▲ Speech and Language Therapists taking part in the Green Champion plant competition

across the Trust and enhancing greenspace for health and wellbeing benefits for patients and colleagues. This includes the appointment of clinical sustainability leads, who are driving the adoption of sustainable quality improvement approaches and working with clinical teams to better understand and reduce the environmental impact of care.

We are also planning significant interventions to reduce our carbon footprint. The first year of our £46 million Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme programme has been successfully delivered, with significant work underway at the Freeman Hospital and community sites to improve energy efficiency and introduce low-carbon technologies. While challenges remain—particularly in decarbonising our largest site, the Royal Victoria Infirmary—we remain committed to working with partners to secure the investment and policy support needed to meet our long-term ambitions.

Across our clinical services, teams are leading innovation and improvement—from reducing plastic use in maternity services, to developing more sustainable approaches in theatres, emergency care and specialist pathways. Equally, our corporate and support teams are playing a vital role, demonstrating that sustainability is everyone’s business.

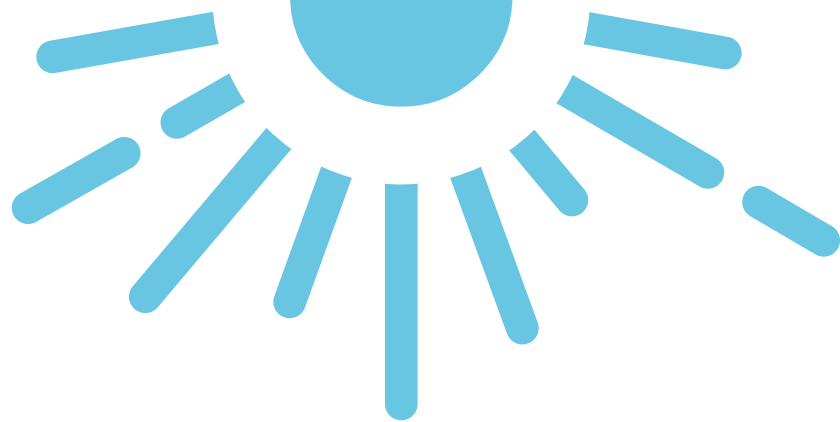
Improving air quality and reducing waste are also critical areas of focus. Through our Travel and Transport Plan and our ongoing commitment to cleaner air initiatives, we are taking practical steps to reduce emissions and create healthier environments for patients, colleagues and our communities. At the same time, our work to reduce waste—including improvements to recycling and more sustainable use of resources—is delivering both environmental and financial benefits. Our commitment to sustainable procurement means a focus on buying less and buying better, spending our money with

suppliers that support our sustainability and social value goals.

This report highlights both the progress we have made and the challenges that remain. What is clear is that sustainability is now firmly part of our culture at Newcastle Hospitals. By continuing to work together—with our colleagues, patients, partners and communities—we will build on this strong foundation and deliver care that is not only outstanding, but sustainable for the future.

I hope you find this report both informative and inspiring.

Rob Harrison
Acting Chief Executive,
Newcastle Hospitals



2. Introduction

As Executive Lead for Climate Emergency, and Chair of the Sustainable Healthcare Committee, I am pleased to introduce the Sustainable Healthcare in Newcastle (Shine) Annual Report.

In 2019 Newcastle Hospitals declared a climate emergency, acknowledging that this was also a health emergency. Following this a Climate Emergency Strategy was developed for 2020-2025, which set out goals to reduce our carbon emissions, improve our air quality and improve waste management. At Newcastle Hospitals alongside our Trust strategy, we are working to develop our **new Climate Emergency Plan for 2026-2031**.

As Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Chair of the Adaptation Committee has said in a recent Climate Change Committee report, [A Well-Adapted UK](#), "We must not let either the complexity of the issue or the unknowns of the future stop us from setting some sensible targets. We must get on with the things we know can deliver significant improvement to people's lives." Since we declared a climate emergency in 2019 we have achieved a lot, despite the challenges, but our fundamental reliance on fossil gas to heat and power our buildings has not changed. Significant capital is required to switch to renewable solutions. Our staff worked hard to bring in **Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding**

which will drop our emissions by 25% in 2028. Our new Climate Emergency Plan has been informed with our experience over the last 5 years and shows a trajectory, if we achieve our ambitious goals such as bringing geothermal to the RVI, that we could **halve our emissions by 2030 and reach net zero by 2040.**

We work in a context where **putting patient care and safety is at the heart of everything we do.** To ensure we can deliver excellent patient care there are some key areas that we need to ensure we are performing well in, such as waiting lists for elective care, waiting times in our emergency department and waiting times for cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Whilst our clinicians want to provide the best possible care at the point of access, **if we do not deal with the climate emergency then there will be problems with that delivery of care**, from extreme weather events increasing demand, to future pandemics requiring prioritisation of resource, to unavailable stock and supplies needed to deliver care. The recent [National Security Assessment on Global Biodiversity and Ecosystem](#)

[Collapse](#) highlighted how critical the issues are.

We recognise that the way to reach our goals is to **embed environmental sustainability into our existing processes**, so that it is a factor in our decision making and in how we prioritise.

I am pleased to see the successes we have already had in embedding sustainability into our processes and procedures, supported by the grassroots work of our staff. At our annual **Celebrating Excellence** awards we were able to see the huge amount of amazing work happening to embed sustainability into our delivery of care. **The Shine category**, last year, was won by Paediatrician **Dr Emma Lim** and her team, who have pioneered work on "KidzMed" enabling children to swallow pills, reducing the impact of our medicines by switching from liquid to pills, which has significant patient benefit as well as a reduced carbon footprint. The work has expanded to adult services and the winning project, **Green prescribing intervention to lower liquid amoxicillin use (GPILL)** sought to reduce prescriptions of

liquid amoxicillin, which has a carbon footprint 3 times that of the tablet form.

We also celebrated the work of those shortlisted for the award, which included a project initiated by **Clinical Sustainability Fellow Dr Emma Vittery**, embedding nature connection into the children's day unit at the RVI, work by **Pharmacists Sophia Martins** and **Suzi Butler** seeking to reduce plastic waste in pharmacy, a multi-disciplinary programme of work to **reduce onsite smoking** and **Julie Miller, reproductive science practitioner** and a sustainability advocate who has reduced reliance on single use items at the Centre for Life.

The green thread of sustainability was spread out beyond the Shine award category, from **David Coxon** our Energy Manager winning the **Rising Star** award to Paediatric-oncology Nurse **Jade Ryles** winning the **Quality Improvement and Patient Safety** award for her work "KidzScan" seeking to introduce play therapy instead of a general anaesthetic for paediatric patients requiring an MRI, reducing the carbon footprint of the care pathway. The **TAPER2** team won

We work in a context where putting patient care and safety is at the heart of everything we do.

the **Partnership Working** award for their work on opioid deprescribing, and the **Emergency department** were nominated for a project seeking to diagnose blood born viruses and ensure early treatment avoiding serious health problems. **Holly Downes** was nominated in the **Rising Star** category; Holly has supported the physiotherapy rehabilitation team to embed sustainability into their service. A part of sustainability often unseen is keeping our areas neat and tidy, this avoids wasting equipment and stock. **Denise Morrow** was nominated in the **Unsung Hero** category for her work ensuring Ward 15 is immaculate, including keeping the linen cupboard tidy and knowing exactly what is needed when. In the **Clinician of the Year** category **Gail Fisher** was championed for ensuring children are vaccinated, an important

public health measure that will help avoid future carbon-intensive treatment, and **Chris Browell** was celebrated for his work in making surgery at the Day Treatment Centre more efficient, improving their use of resources. In the **Team of the Year** category, we celebrated the **portering department** for their work which includes ensuring efficient waste management.

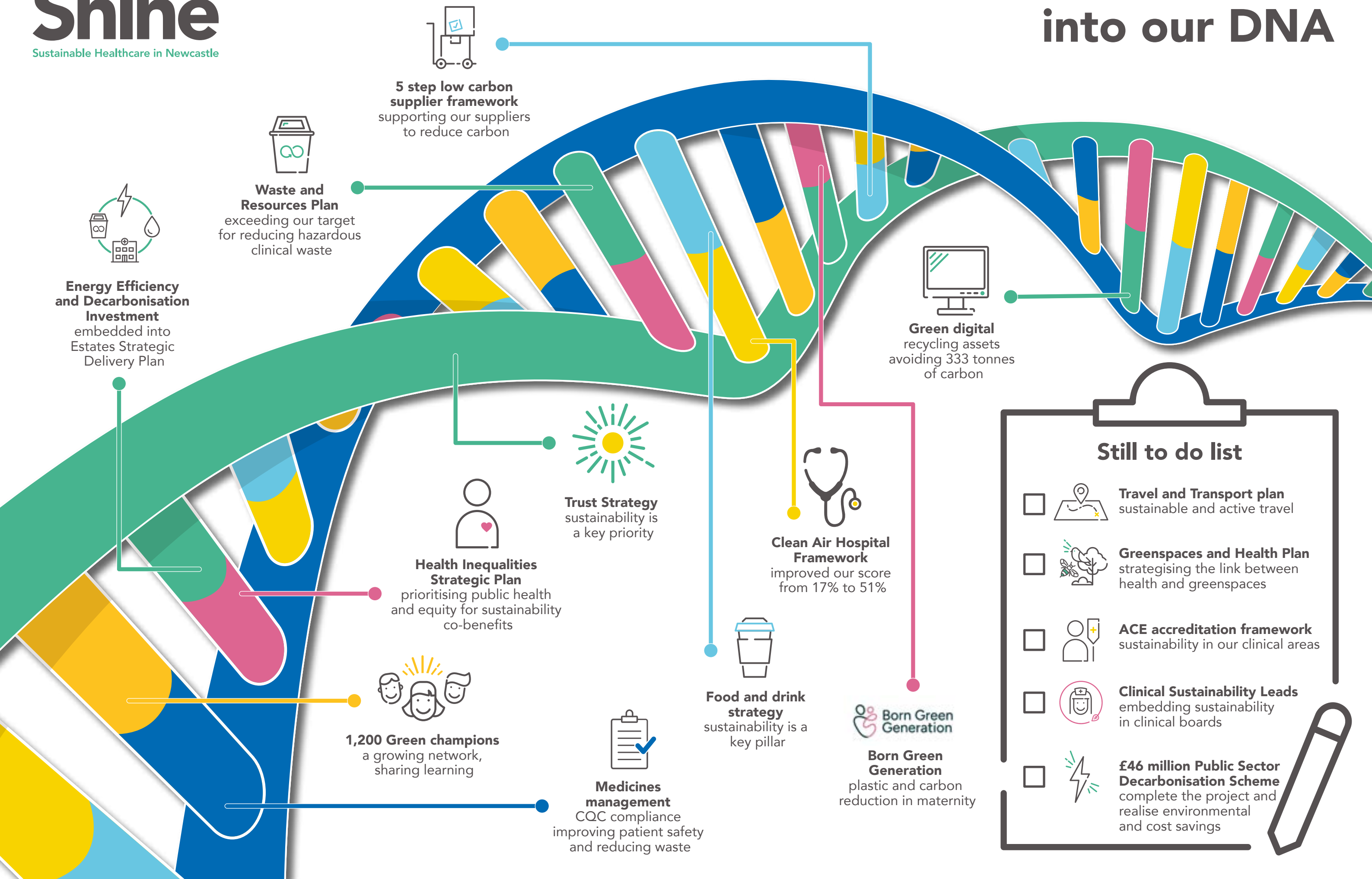
It is encouraging and gives me hope to share this glimpse of the work going on by our dedicated staff across the organisation, seeking to **embed sustainability into our DNA** and I look forward to supporting our clinical sustainability leads to embed a susQI approach within our clinical boards. Our overarching goals of **clean air, zero carbon care and zero waste** will remain our focus as we commence the next phase of our response to the climate emergency.

Victoria McFarlane Reid
Executive Director Lead
for Sustainability



▲ Green Champion meeting launching plant competition

Embedding Sustainability into our DNA



Still to do list

- ☐ **Travel and Transport plan**
sustainable and active travel
- ☐ **Greenspaces and Health Plan**
strategising the link between health and greenspaces
- ☐ **ACE accreditation framework**
sustainability in our clinical areas
- ☐ **Clinical Sustainability Leads**
embedding sustainability in clinical boards
- ☐ **£46 million Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme**
complete the project and realise environmental and cost savings

3. Performance

Please see our [Climate Emergency Strategy](#) for a detailed breakdown of our three long-term goals and our vision to reach Net Zero.

We are mirroring the Greener NHS definitions of ‘carbon footprint’ and ‘carbon footprint plus’ which were published in ‘Delivering a Net Zero NHS’. In addition, we have also continued to calculate and present our carbon performance in line with the global best practice framework of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

Category	Sub-category	Total tCO ₂ e			% change from previous year	% change from baseline year
		2019-20 (baseline)	2024-25	2025-26		
Newcastle Hospitals carbon footprint	Scope 1					
	Building energy – fossil fuels	48,519	43,027	45,503	6	-6
	Refrigerant gases	477	203	289	43	-39
	Anaesthetic gases	4,036	2,145	2,049	-4	-49
	Trust Fleet	90	81	85	5	-6
	Scope 2					
	Building energy - purchased electricity ⁴	2,959	3,191	2,742	-14	-7
	Scope 3					
	Water	441	185	200	8	-55
	Waste	558	419	361	-14	-35
	Inhalers	1,399	1322	1159	-12	-17
	Business Travel	1,335	949	860	-9	-36
	WTT/T+Di	8,335	9,094	9,386	3	13
Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint Total		68,149	60,615	62,634	3	-8
Patient Numbers (total patient contacts)		1,788,469	1,906,701	1,960,098	3	10
Footprint Carbon Intensity (tCO ₂ e per patient contact)		0.038	0.032	0.032	6	-17
Medicines, medical equipment and other supply chain	Medicines and chemicals	67,952	54,140	63,481	17	-7
	Other supply chain	39,094	200,402	151,273	-25	287
	Medical equipment	42,415	175,195	303,784	73	616
	Patient Transport Service	1,870	1,849	1,868	1	0
	Procurement total	151,332	431,586	520,406		
Personal travel	Staff commute	14,863	11,498	12,016	5	-19
	Patient and visitor travel	20,387	20,790	21,209	2	4
Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint Plus Total		254,731	524,489	616,266	18	142
Footprint Plus Carbon Intensity (tCO ₂ e per patient contact)		0.142	0.275	0.314	14	121

Table 1: Breakdown of Total Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint[‡]

[‡] Full carbon footprint report available on request

3.1 Carbon Footprint

This year, for the first time since 2021-22, we have seen an increase in fossil fuel consumption for building energy. This is due to a back-up generator fault at the start of the year at Freeman Hospital, so to ensure a reliable supply of power we had to burn more fossil gas to generate more electricity with our combined heat and power plant than we normally would. Whilst we progress with our decarbonisation projects, to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels in the future, this does highlight our short-term reliance on fossil fuels for our life-critical hospital energy supplies.

We continue to make good progress with our work on reducing the emissions associated with anaesthetic gases, and we have seen a drop in emissions from the prescription of inhalers for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic. There are also reductions in our business travel emissions as we seek to decarbonise and make efficiencies to the way our staff travel.

We are continually trying to improve our calculation process so in some areas, the calculation methods have altered, or the data source is improved. For example, there was a change nationally to the way electricity emissions are calculated, due to the continued decarbonisation of the grid, which has led to a more significant reduction in our carbon footprint for purchased electricity. We have recalculated our anaesthetic gas emissions, have included previously omitted data and made improvements in how we measure the impact of our nitrous oxide destruction devices in Maternity. See our full carbon footprint report for more detail.[‡]

NEWCASTLE HOSPITALS CARBON FOOTPRINT

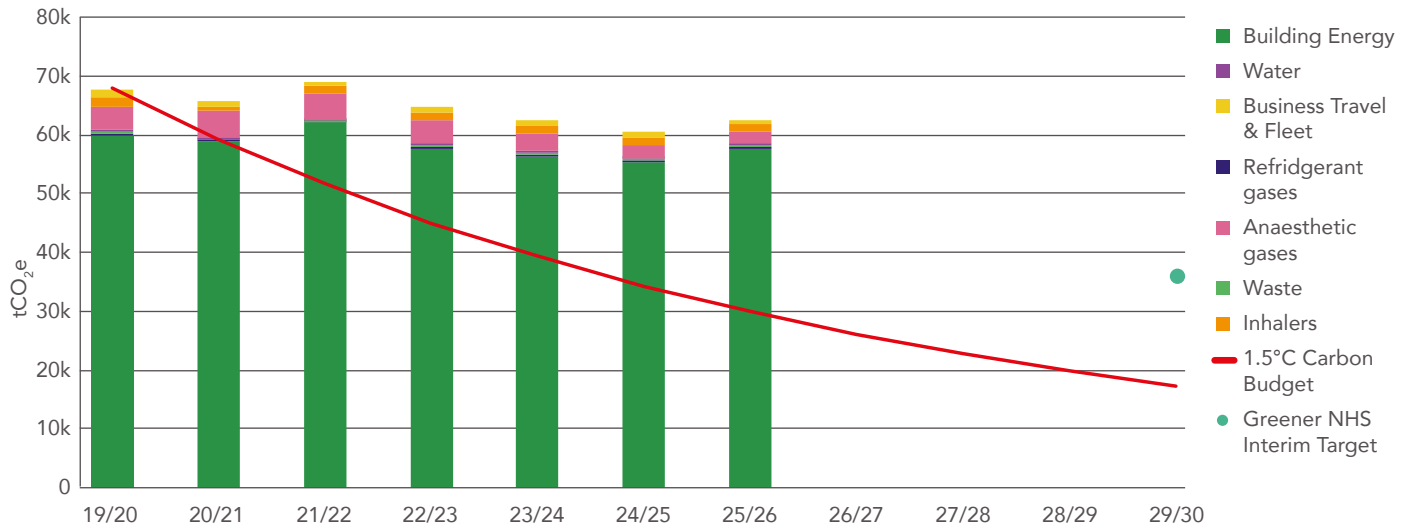


Figure 1: Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint

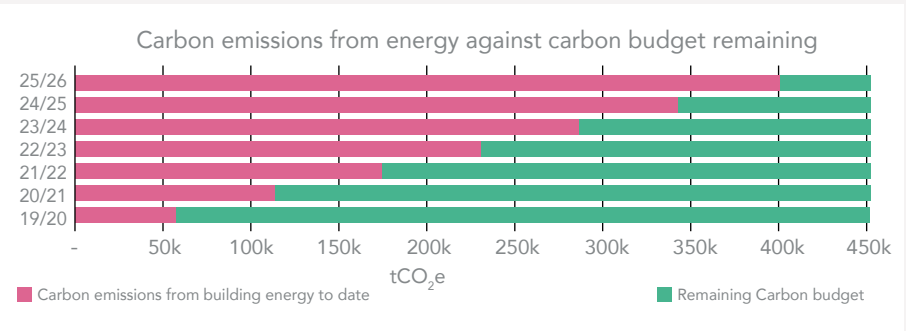
HOW MUCH OF OUR CARBON BUDGET HAVE WE USED?

We have almost exceeded the carbon budget which we set ourselves as an organisation when we launched our Climate Emergency Strategy. This was in conjunction with the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and corresponded to limiting our contribution to global warming, at an organisational level, ensuring that global temperatures remained well below 2°C.

The Climate Change Committee in their statutory report “The Seventh Carbon Budget” continue to monitor our contributions nationally. In this report they said: “Net Zero CO2 emissions as well as deep reductions in other GHG emissions globally are required to halt further global warming. While it is now almost

inevitable that warming levels will exceed 1.5°C in the next ten years, it may still be possible to limit warming to 1.5°C in the longer term, provided deep global emissions cuts begin immediately.”

In our revised Climate Emergency Plan we will continue to monitor and reduce our emissions, looking at innovative ways to power our buildings such as via deep geothermal. We will set out how the £40.5million of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding will support decarbonisation at the Freeman hospital. We will engage with leadership locally and nationally to promote the embedding of sustainability into everything we and the wider NHS do.



The methodology for reporting our carbon footprint plus has continued to evolve, as we work with our partners across the Great North Healthcare Alliance, following our 5-step low carbon supplier framework. We have made progress in collaborating with the Greener NHS team on the consistency of data collection platforms. We have used Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment data for the first time to supplement our supplier reported data set.

Previously we used a spend-based method to calculate our Scope 3 category 1 emissions, which provided an estimated amount of greenhouse gases dependent on how much we had spent. This would not consider our suppliers’ efforts to de-carbonise their goods and services. We are working to improve the accuracy of our supply chain emissions by adopting the greenhouse gas protocol hybrid method. We now collect data directly

from our suppliers, via our framework and the Evergreen assessment so we can see the benefit of efforts suppliers take to produce their goods and services more sustainably.

We have seen an increase in supplier engagement, with 600 suppliers attending our 6th annual event either in person or online, and an increase in the proportion of supplier reported data (75% of spend).

With improved confidence in our supply chain carbon data, we are in a position this year to establish a base line against which to track progress towards our Net Zero 2040 target. This includes a recalculation of last years Scope 3 category 1 and category 2 emissions which is shown in the graph below.

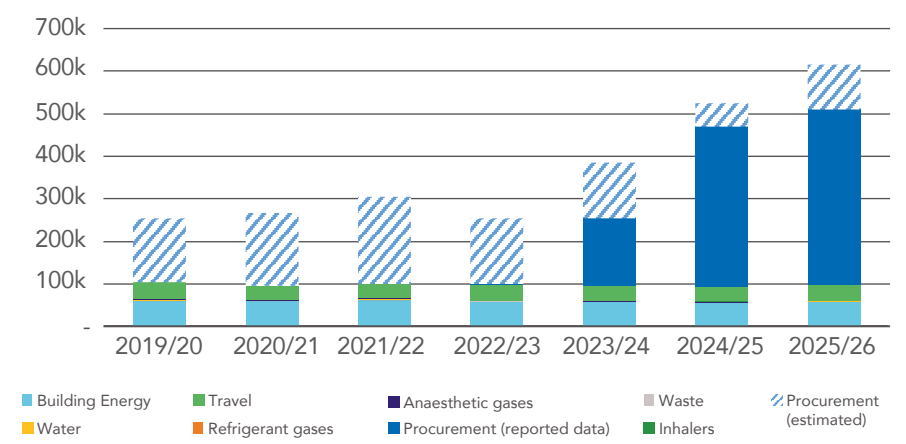


Figure 2: NHS Carbon Footprint Plus

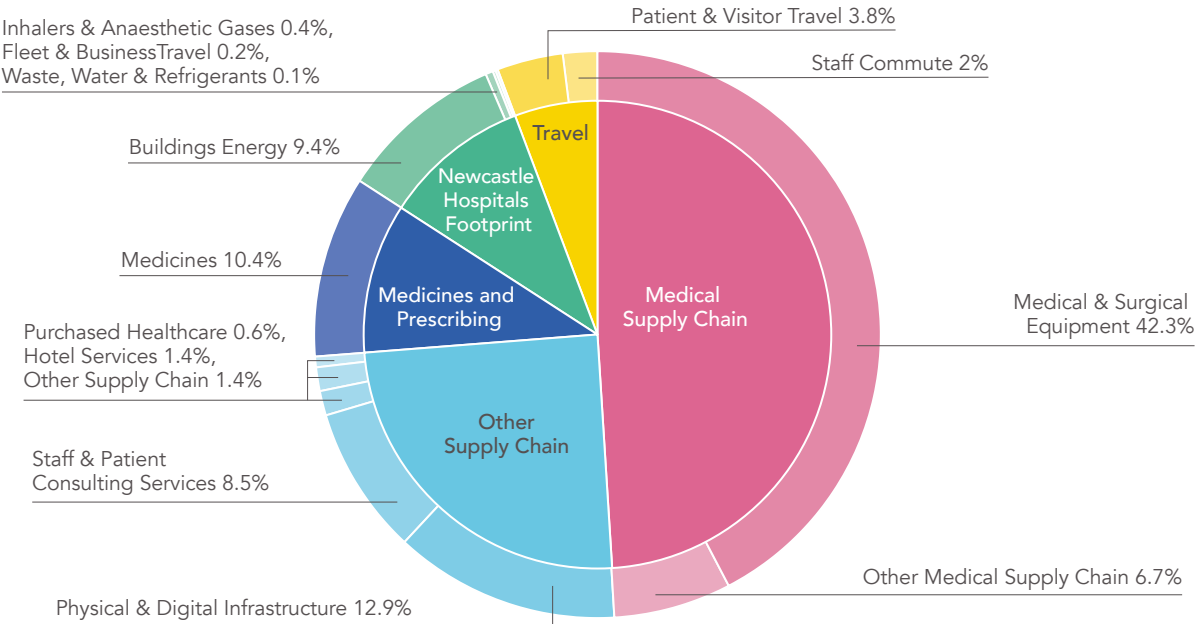
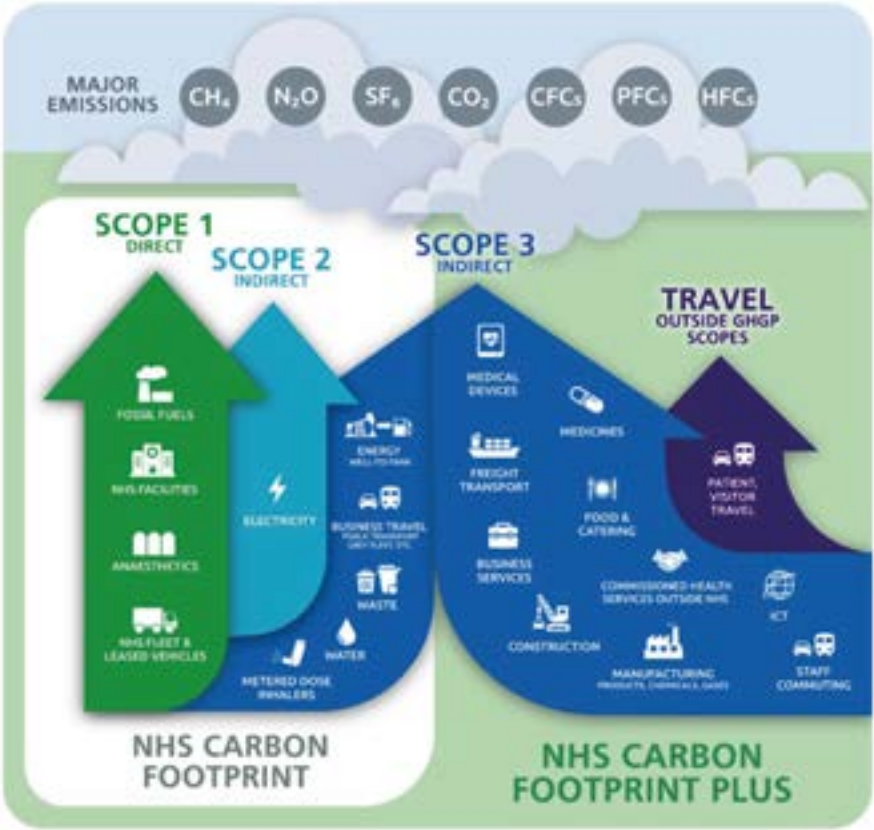


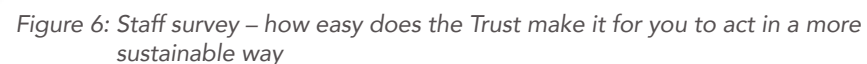
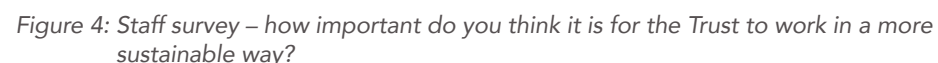
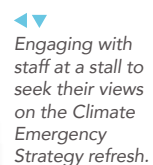
Figure 3: NHS Carbon Footprint Plus emissions breakdown



STAFF SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

81% of staff that undertook the survey were aware of the sustainability work undertaken by the Trust, a minor drop of 1% since last year.

With no change overall from last year 64% of staff report that the Trust makes it easy for them to act in a more sustainable way when doing their jobs, and we will continue to monitor this important trend.



How should we engage with staff on our climate emergency strategy refresh?

The answers allowed us to ensure we were balancing online engagement with face-to-face engagement, and we achieved this with stalls, attending various meetings, a survey promoted across the Trust and sharing via our staff newsletter and social media. We produced a poster which we encouraged our over 1,000 Green Champions to share with their colleagues, and we attended senior staff meetings to cascade the opportunity to contribute to our over 20,000 members of staff.



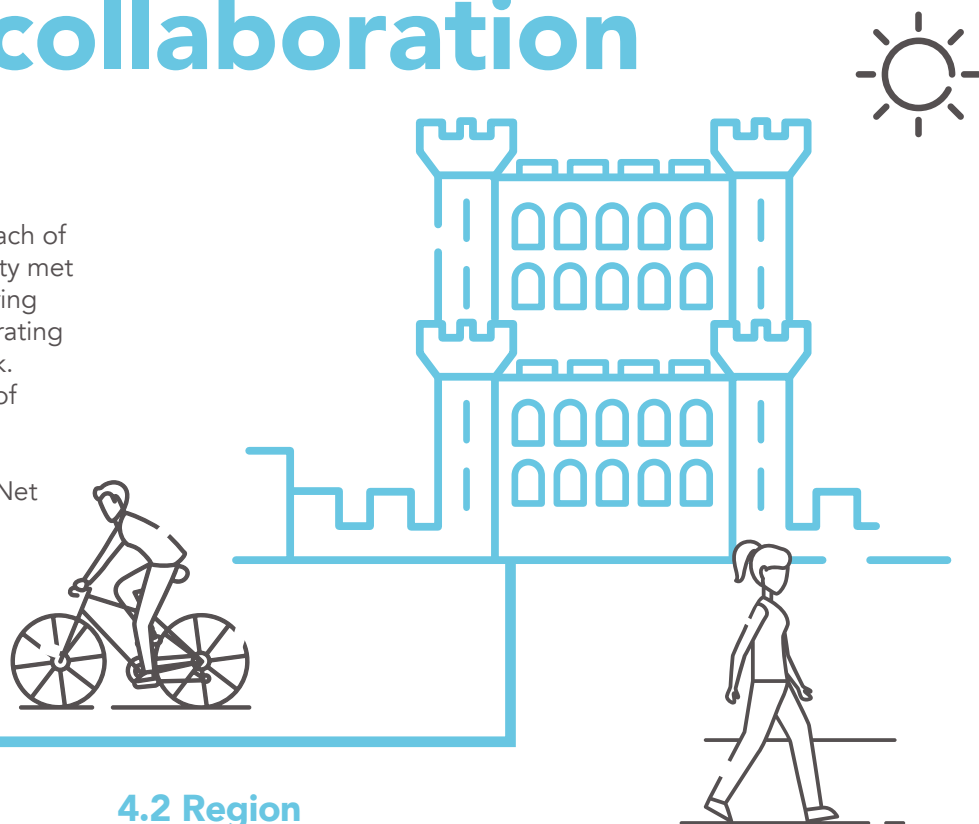
Figure 7: Word Cloud – the biggest words were most frequently mentioned in answer to the question.



4. Leadership, partnerships and collaboration

4.1 City

The sustainability leads from each of the anchor institutions in the city met in January, with the aim of sharing strategic priorities and collaborating on shared programmes of work. The group agreed a schedule of future meetings and to collate progress updates that will be presented at the city council's Net Zero Board meetings.



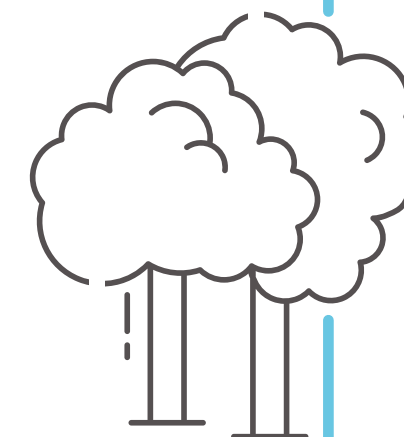
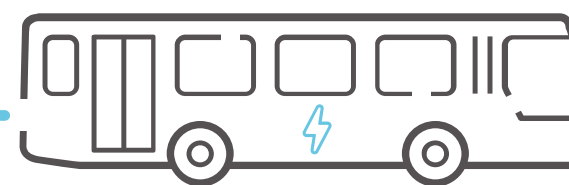
4.2 Region

We continue to co-chair the **North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Provider Collaborative Sustainability Leads** meetings, to share best practice across our group of 11 provider Trusts.

Environmental sustainability was agreed as a key priority in our Great North Healthcare Alliance (Northumbria, Newcastle, Gateshead and North Cumbria) Community Promise. The sustainability leads from each trust agreed a number of collaboration priorities including the joint recruitment of a shared Net Zero Data Officer to improve consistent carbon accounting and progress reporting across the Alliance.

Our [6th annual sustainable supplier event](#) saw increased collaboration across the region with public sector procurement colleagues. The event was opened by our Chair, Sir Paul Ennals, who is also Chair at Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. We are aligning our approaches across the region in how we engage with suppliers and measure and report on our Scope 3 emissions.

Our energy, waste and sustainability leads continue to work with peers across the region to benchmark, share best practice and align approaches to our improvement work. All with the collective aim of improving patient care, reducing operating costs and improving environmental performance.

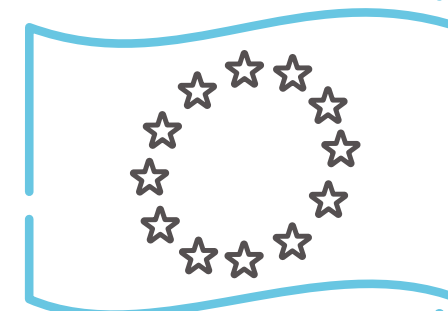


4.3 National

We joined colleagues at Northumbria Healthcare at the [UK Health Security Agency \(UKHSA\) Air Pollution Event](#) in November 2025 showcasing work to implement [Global Action Plan's 'Clean Air Hospitals Framework'](#). This has included installing small, low-cost tubes called diffusion tubes at outdoor locations at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Freeman Hospital and Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital.

Our energy team have supported collaboration of energy managers across the country, presenting to different energy manager groups and **publishing in the Energy Manager Association magazine**. David Coxon is on steering groups for national energy projects and he co-chairs the Energy National Performance Advisory Group meetings.

Our [Born Green Generation](#) team have shared their work in multiple forums, including the Greener AHP week in April, the Faculty of Sustainable Healthcare in September, and in a round table on sustainability with the NHS England Chief Nurse's Office and Greener NHS.



4.4 International

As an executive member of **Health Care Without Harm Europe** we worked with colleagues from healthcare organisations across Europe to refresh their [strategy](#), to help accelerate the transition of the European healthcare sector into a force for planetary health: low-carbon, climate-resilient, circular, non-toxic and centred on sustainable practices.

Our sustainability manager, Anna-Lisa Mills, presented at **Clean Med Europe 2025**, Europe's leading conference on sustainable

healthcare. Sharing our sector-leading approach to greenhouse gas reporting she helped other hospital sustainability leads to measure, report and create plans for reducing these emissions.

As a pioneer partner of the [Born Green Generation movement](#), aiming to reduce newborn exposure to plastics and harmful chemicals in maternity settings, we continue to collaborate with partners in Great Ormond Street Hospital, Center for Sustainable Hospitals in Region Midtjylland, Denmark and Centre

Hospitalier Angouleme in France. Our work has not only reduced newborn exposure to plastic and saved money in Newcastle but has been spread across fellow pioneer partners and we are now working with a fast followers cohort of maternity hospitals to take these benefits further.



5. Key Action Areas

This section explores the progress made in each of our Shine action areas which feed into our three Climate Emergency Strategy goals, and the plans for next year and beyond.

We have mapped action across these areas within our existing eight Shine themes.



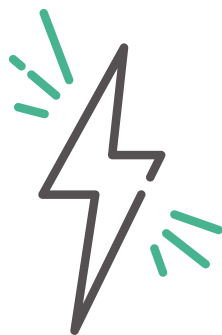
People

Inspire, inform and empower our people to deliver sustainable healthcare



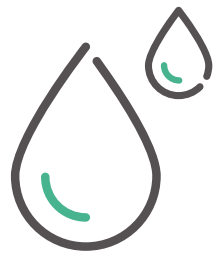
Care

Develop low carbon care pathways adapted to our changing climate



Energy

Minimise energy use and replace fossil fuels with zero carbon energy sources



Water

Minimise water use



Journeys

Embed active, clean, low carbon travel



Waste

Dispose of less, reuse and recycle more



Procurement

Work with our supply chain to decarbonise



Buildings & Land

Provide healthy, sustainable and biodiverse spaces



5.1 People

AIM

Inspire, inform and empower our people to deliver sustainable healthcare:

- Embed Shine and climate emergency action into the culture of our organisation, demonstrated in staff behaviours
- Upskill our workforce and ensure capacity to address the climate emergency
- Empower our people to make the most sustainable choice
- Extend our reach to influence action amongst our wider stakeholders, including patients

Staff signposted to sustainability training and bespoke training offered to teams across the Trust

PERFORMANCE



GREEN CHAMPION ENGAGEMENT

↑ 38%

Over 1,200 Green Champions



SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

↑ 61%

636 followers



SHINE REWARDS STAFF BENEFIT PROGRAMME AND APP

421 tCO₂e

avoided through staff actions since the launch of the program



SHINE AWARDS FOR SUSQI PROJECTS

20 projects

awarded a Shine Award this year

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- Lead Green Champion appointed to co-ordinate the Green Champion network and increase engagement
- Hosted our first Climate Cafe, allowing staff to share the emotional impact of the climate emergency
- The "GPILL" project won the Shine category of the annual Celebrating Excellence Awards, for their work developing a behaviour change intervention using information about greenhouse gas emissions to reduce liquid antibiotic prescribing
- Ongoing uptake in Clinical and Diagnostic Services of the Shine 10 step framework with sustainability embedded into the Therapy Services plan
- Staff signposted to sustainability training and bespoke training offered to teams across the Trust
- 20 Shine Awards given to staff led projects avoiding over 350 tonnes of CO₂e and saving the Trust over £170,000
- Climate Emergency Action Fund launched, funded by Newcastle Hospital Charities, to support staff-led sustainability projects
- Regular clothes and toy swaps held by our health and wellbeing team



PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Embed sustainability into the new Trust Strategy
- Develop and publish our new Climate Emergency Plan
- Formalise the green champion network and provide clear and relevant resources to green champions in clinical areas
- Embed sustainability into the ward accreditation framework
- Extend the reach of Climate Cafes to front line staff
- Provide sustainability training to staff in corporate services
- Set up a Human Resources working group to identify opportunities and ensure sustainability is embedded into our People Plan and Trust policies



CASE STUDY: GREEN CHAMPIONS LOVE PLANTS!

Lead Green Champion, Cam Abbott and Nature Recovery Ranger Duika Burges Watson have worked together over the past year to support our Green Champions to engage with the network and strengthen their connection with nature.

At a meeting in January a Green Champion plant competition was launched - to encourage colleagues to bring greenery into office spaces and non-clinical staff areas, recognising the benefit to staff wellbeing in being close to nature.

The competition was very popular, with 73 members of staff collecting a plant and sharing their progress through the Green Champions Team Channel.





5.2 Models of Care

AIM

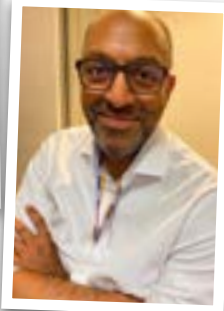
Develop low carbon care pathways adapted to our changing climate:

- Engage in research and innovation in order to lower carbon across our care pathways
- Lead on the systematic reduction of anaesthetic gas environmental impact across all care pathways
- Collaborate to reduce the carbon footprint of respiratory care through a detailed review of inhaler prescription and use
- Empower our clinicians to improve the sustainability of their models of care



▼ Dr Suren Kanagasundaram, Clinical Sustainability Lead

▲ Dr Louise Sanderson, Deputy Clinical Sustainability Lead



◀ Frances Slowie, presenting work on board level training

PERFORMANCE

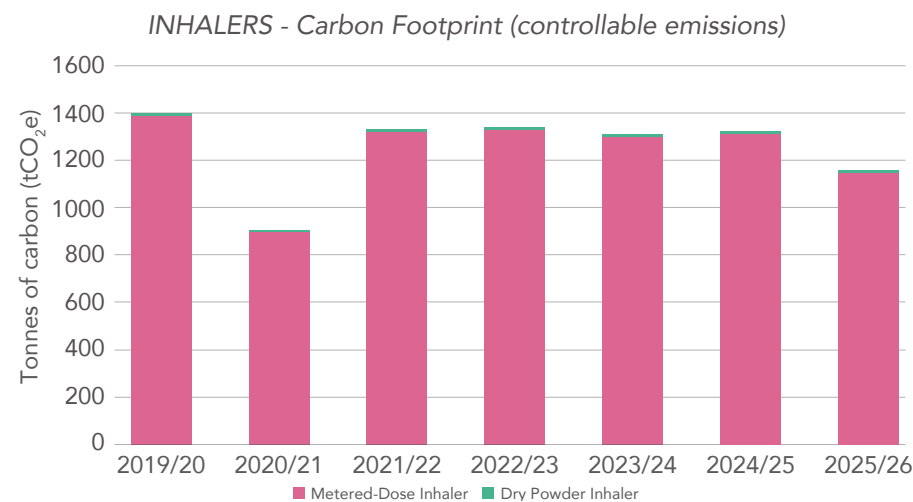


Figure 8: Carbon Footprint from inhaler prescribing at Newcastle Hospitals

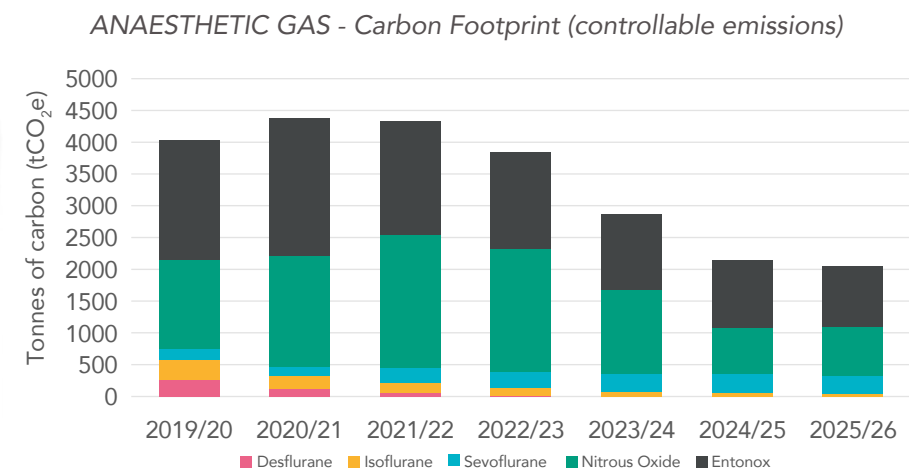


Figure 9: Carbon emissions from anaesthetic gas use at Newcastle Hospitals

20 Shine awards given to staff-led projects seeking to reduce the environmental impact of their service areas, avoiding over 350 tonnes of CO₂e and £170,000

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- Our nitrous oxide waste mitigation team received £15,000 grant funding to trial portable supply manifolds to reduce nitrous oxide waste in children's theatres
- Newcastle Hospitals Charity supported the appointment of clinical sustainability leads and a clinical sustainability fellow
- 20 Shine awards given to staff-led projects seeking to reduce the environmental impact of their service areas, avoiding over 350 tonnes of CO₂e and £170,000
- Born Green Generation project embedded into maternity avoiding 2 tonnes of plastic waste annually
- SusQI resources, signposting and tools improved for staff to embed sustainability into improvement work
- Sustainable Healthcare Satellite meetings, with Newcastle Health Research Partnership, to promote sustainable healthcare collaboration in research



► Dr Sarah Peters clinical sustainability fellow

◀ Eco-influencers Ward 2b GNCH

PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Switch from piped nitrous oxide to canisters where clinically feasible, to further reduce nitrous oxide waste
- Sustainability leads to work with clinical boards to identify sustainability opportunities and celebrate successes
- Embed a susQI lens to our quality improvement work
- Train more staff on susQI tools, via Newcastle Hospitals susQI forum, sharing impact stories across the Trust
- Improve the clinical governance of sustainable healthcare via the Models of Care working group and clinical board reporting
- Implement a Climate Adaptation Plan to ensure our patients receive excellent care in a changing climate

CASE STUDY:

SHINE AWARD WINNER: KIDZscan

Jade Ryles, a paediatric neuro-oncology specialist nurse, led the KIDZscan project in oncology to reduce the number of general anaesthetics a child needs for scans to aid treatment and diagnosis. Jade's approach was to provide children with procedural preparation sessions, supported by play therapists, to support them to undergo an MRI scan without the need for a general anaesthetic.

Jade obtained charitable funding to expand the project to all young people's procedures. The project supported 140 scans (avoiding general anaesthetic) with an estimated carbon avoided of 17.36 tonnes of CO₂e.

From a cost perspective Jade saved the Trust £135,000 in the pilot phase alone, avoiding spend on sedative drugs, staff time and allowing for more use of the MRI scanners.

The project supported children to avoid the risks of a general anaesthetic with less time in hospital and less time away from their daily routines.



▲ Paediatric patients' drawings of their MRI experiences



5.3 Energy & Water

AIM: ENERGY

Reduce carbon emissions from energy use, in line with science informed budgets, to be on track for net zero by 2030:

- Minimise energy use
- Improve energy efficiency
- Replace fossil fuels with low and zero carbon energy sources
- Maximise generation of renewable energy on site

AIM: WATER

Reduce carbon emissions from water use in our buildings:

- Eliminate wasted water
- Increase water efficiency



David Coxon winning Rising Star at the Celebrating Excellence Awards

PERFORMANCE

For the first year since covid recovery we have reported an increase in our carbon emissions associated with powering our buildings. This was due to a failure in the back-up generator at the Freeman hospital, requiring the combined heat and power plant to run at full capacity, resulting in increased fossil gas usage. Our estates teams are working hard to implement the public sector decarbonisation scheme projects which will allow us to reduce our reliance on gas in the future.

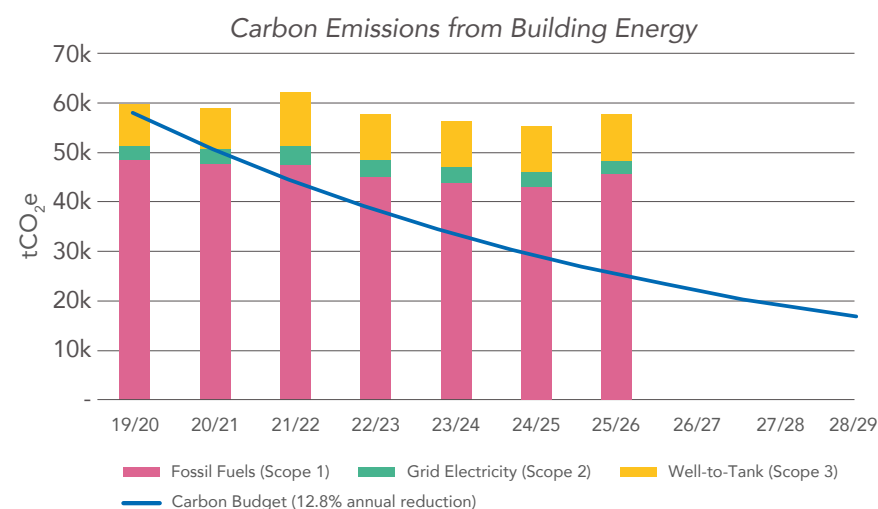


Figure 10: Carbon Emissions from Building Energy

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- Completion of the Urgent Treatment Centre; our first building compliant with the Net Zero Building Standard, including heat pumps and solar panels
- Increased generation of renewable electricity on site: we now have 1,293 solar panels
- Gas supplies removed at Crawford House and Regent Point, continuing our transition away from fossil fuels
- Significant improvements made to our building level metering provision for Freeman electricity, enabling targeted efficiencies
- Commenced the £46 million Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 4 project to decarbonise the Freeman Hospital and two community sites
- LED Lighting upgrade programme at the Freeman Hospital multi-storey carpark, via PFI partners Mitie
- Optimisation of RVI estates boilers saving more than £40,000 annually
- David Coxon, Energy Manager, awarded the Trust's Rising Star award at the Celebrating Excellence awards and Energy Manager of the Year Award from the Energy Managers Association

► Solar PV array on the RVI MSCP



PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Continue to implement the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 4 heat decarbonisation programme: progressing with de-steaming at Freeman and enabling works at the two community sites (Benfield Park and Ponteland Road)
- Expand sub metering of heat (steam) at the RVI to enable identification of efficiencies
- Expansion of theatre ventilation out-of-hours setback controls to realise significant cost and carbon savings
- Install 104 solar panels for the Urgent Treatment Centre at RVI
- Work with city partners to design a geothermal city heat network for the RVI

CASE STUDY: URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE, ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY

To alleviate the strain on our Accident and Emergency Department at the Royal Victoria Infirmary an Urgent Treatment Centre has been constructed, our first building to comply with the NHS Net Zero Building Standard. The centre has dedicated waiting areas for each service pathway, along with modern clinical spaces and a thoughtfully designed layout to enhance patient flow, streamline services and reduce waiting times. The building will be powered by 104 solar panels and thermally controlled by 4 heat pumps. A back up generator was also upgraded and is fuelled by hydrogenated vegetable oil a cleaner, lower carbon fuel source.





5.4 Journeys & Clean Air

AIM

Embed active, clean and low carbon travel to improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions from journeys:

- Reduce air pollution and carbon emissions from our owned and commissioned transport operations
- Use our influence to help fast-track the decarbonisation of transport in our supply chain
- Increase the proportion of people accessing our sites by active and sustainable travel methods
- Provide more care closer to, or at, home

PERFORMANCE

Overall, our emissions reduced, in part due to the government reducing their estimate of greenhouse gas emissions emanating from air travel, and due to our cost improvement work reducing taxi usage. There were no diesel miles from our "business lease" cars from September 2025 due to the ban on diesel vehicles through our business lease car scheme. There was an increase in our "grey fleet" emissions, staff using their own vehicle for travel, but an overall downward trend from our baseline.

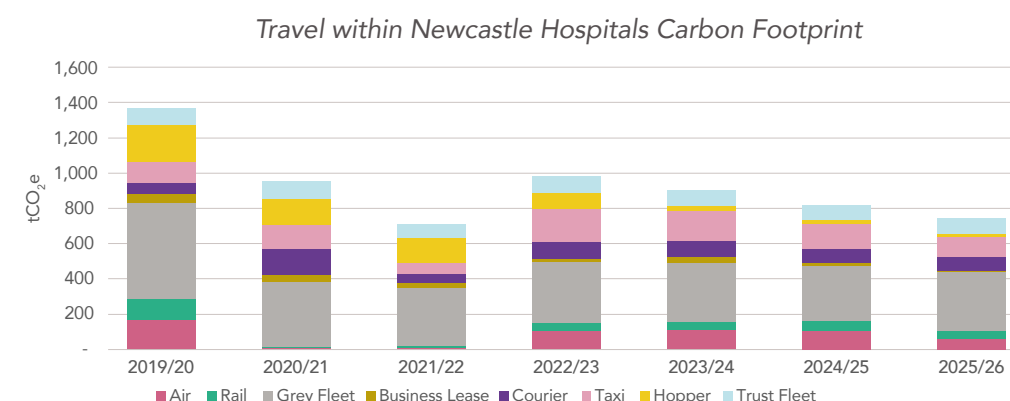


Figure 11: Carbon footprint from travel within the Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR, JOURNEYS

- Work started to develop a Travel and Transport Plan, to embed a sustainable approach to travel planning across the Trust, increasing rates of active and sustainable travel
- Newcastle Hospitals Charity funding provided bike maintenance sessions for staff held across our three main sites
- Maintained gold award for cycle friendly employer and engagement with staff via the active travel user group
- Expanded the Flock mobility scheme (shared transportation for renal dialysis patients) to use the electric vehicles for other areas when not needed by renal
- Construction of one of our on-site cycle hubs started at the Royal Victoria Infirmary
- Digital team swapped their vans from diesel to EV, saving £32,500 and 5.5 tCO₂e a year



ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR, CLEAN AIR

- Improved our score on the Clean Air Hospital Framework to 51% "good" thanks to actions such as the integration of air quality measures in our building works
- Hosted a Clean Air Day webinar, opened by our Acting CEO Rob Harrison, with expert medical speakers on the impact of air pollution for our patients
- Confirmed our commitment to the no-idling policy as this extended across other healthcare trusts in the north east
- Started to engage with staff and key stakeholders around the integration of air quality information into patient conversations
- Engagement with our Nature Recovery Ranger to ensure Freeman Nature Trail included low pollution zones

PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Integrate air quality information into patient conversations via Making Every Contact Count
- Host our fourth Clean Air Day, emphasising the health impacts of air pollution and strengthening the call for practical measures to reduce exposure
- Continue to increase our score on the Clean Air Hospital Framework and develop a Clean Air Improvement Plan
- Gain Board approval and commence implementation of the Travel and Transport Plan
- Identify a social enterprise / community interest group to run our on-site cycle hubs
- Install dedicated cycle parking for electric bicycles and electric scooters
- Install two rapid EV chargers for electric ambulances and install an additional 17 chargers across the Trust
- Engage with local city partners on infrastructure improvements and active travel initiatives



CASE STUDY: SHINE AWARD WINNER: David Bull and the Digital Team reducing transport related emissions

The IT Desktop Support Team currently support over 40 community sites with over 1,000 digital devices across the north east. To reduce the impact of our digital services David Bull, Desktop support manager, worked with the travel and transport team to switch from diesel to electric vans.

The goal was to transition to electric vehicles without any impact on the service provided. The team first trialled an electric vehicle at the Royal Victoria Infirmary for 4 months, ensuring that the weekly average mileage could support this option, that the vehicle was suitable and that they could conveniently charge it.

Working with the transport team, they were able to charge the vehicle from an app on a slow charge overnight. This meant that on return to the office the following morning the van had enough power for the day ahead.

The digital team have now completed the order of 2 electric vans for the Desktop Support team, saving the Trust £3,000 on lease costs, £29,500 on fuel costs and 5.5 tonnes of CO₂e annually.



Travel and transport team promoting active and sustainable travel at induction



5.5 Waste

AIM

Generate less waste; reuse and recycle more, and ensure unavoidable waste is disposed of in the most sustainable way:

- Reduce the amount of waste we create by working and purchasing in more resource-efficient ways
- Increase the number of items we reuse with a focus on reducing single-use plastics
- Repair or reuse more items that can be repaired or reused
- Increase the amount of waste that we reuse or recycle to 35% of consigned waste by volume



PERFORMANCE

- Total volume of waste has decreased by 4%
- The average volume of waste per patient has decreased to the lowest level of 2.4kg per patient contact
- Recycling increased by 1% however we did not meet our 2025 target of 35%
- Hazardous waste is at its lowest level ever at 11% of total waste volumes
- Prevention and reuse data estimated from sterile services department, sterile linen, loan equipment service repairs and collection of wooden pallets to show how we can report on progress embedding waste hierarchy principles and recognise teams avoiding waste

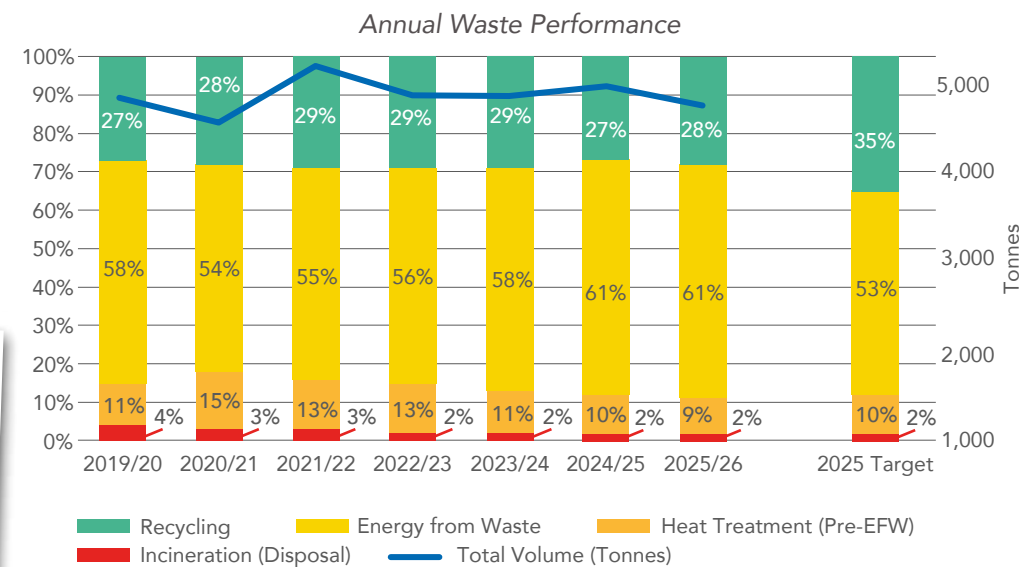


Figure 12: Total annual waste disposed of by waste outcome

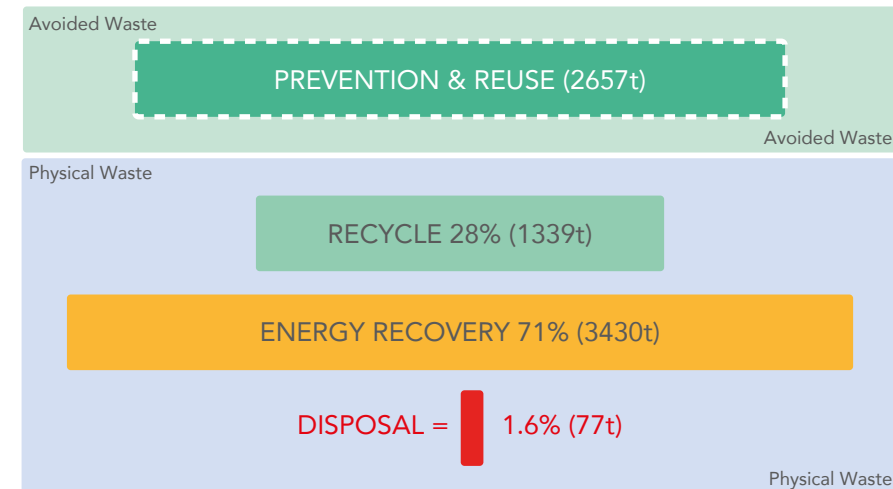
ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- Thanks to Newcastle Hospitals Charity, during Waste Awareness Week public facing bins were upgraded so the public know where to put waste, implementing Simpler Recycling legislation
- Coffee cup waste segregation promoted to ensure recycling is not contaminated
- Bin the Wipe campaign, in collaboration with Northumbrian Water, to reduce the number of toilet blockages at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, which costs £100,000 a year
- 82 waste audits completed in wards and departments
- Reuse metrics calculated and reported
- The non-infectious (tiger bag) waste stream was introduced to our community sites moving an additional 3 tonnes of waste every month away from treatment
- Working with Converge we recycled 3,000 units of IT, over 90% of the devices recycled have had a second life, either through refurbishment or by components being deployed elsewhere avoiding 34 tonnes of waste



Improved waste facilities at Ponteland Road Urgent Treatment Centre

NEWCASTLE HOSPITALS - WASTE HIERARCHY OUTCOMES 25/26



ZERO WASTE VISION



PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

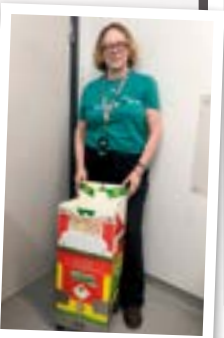
- Extend food waste recycling into staff eating areas and rest rooms
- Refresh and implement the Waste and Resources Plan to ensure an enhanced focus on prevention and reuse across the Trust
- Continue to complete regular waste audits in line with the Accrediting Excellence programme
- Upgrade infrastructure for waste segregation on site
- Enhance recycling at community sites such as Geoffrey Rhodes and the Campus for Aging and Vitality
- Explore opportunities for diverting clinical waste from high temperature incineration in collaboration with 3 other acute healthcare trusts in the region

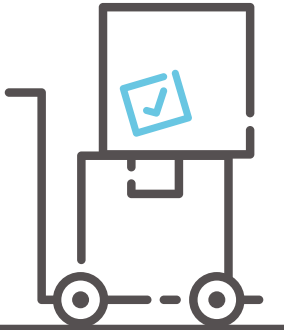


CASE STUDY: SHINE AWARD WINNER: BORN GREEN GENERATION

Aly Kimber-Herridge, a research midwife with over 30 years of experience, is currently working on the Born Green Generation project, seeking to reduce the reliance on plastic in maternity services due to its harmful effects. She says "The first principle of healthcare is to do no harm, yet our dependence on single-use plastics sits in direct contradiction to this. Plastic is everywhere in our environment, and once produced, it never truly disappears. There are thousands of varieties, mostly derived from petrochemicals, and over time, they break down into microplastic particles. These particles have been found in places as remote as the Mariana Trench and the peak of Everest – and, more concerning, throughout the human body. They have been detected in brain tissue, ovaries, umbilical cords, and even in meconium, a baby's first stool."

To combat this the team have made simple switches such as from plastic gallipots to cardboard, introduced sustainable sharps and placenta disposal and led a trial on sustainable skin preparation for caesarean sections. Their work has avoided the use of almost 2 tonnes of plastic or 51,000 individual items.





5.6 Procurement

AIM

Embed sustainability and support for climate emergency action into all purchasing decisions, working towards a net zero carbon supply chain:

- Consume less
- Embed carbon reduction into our procurement processes
- Establish positive relationships with key suppliers
- Engage in research and innovation in order to reduce impact across whole value chain
- Improve confidence in our supply chain carbon data
- Invest more in our local supply chain
- Increase the amount of sustainable, local, healthy food available to staff, patients and visitors

PERFORMANCE

As the graph on page 12 shows, carbon emissions associated with purchased goods and services are estimated to account for 89% of our total carbon impact. We have revised our calculation from last year and provided a baseline for emissions against which progress will be tracked:

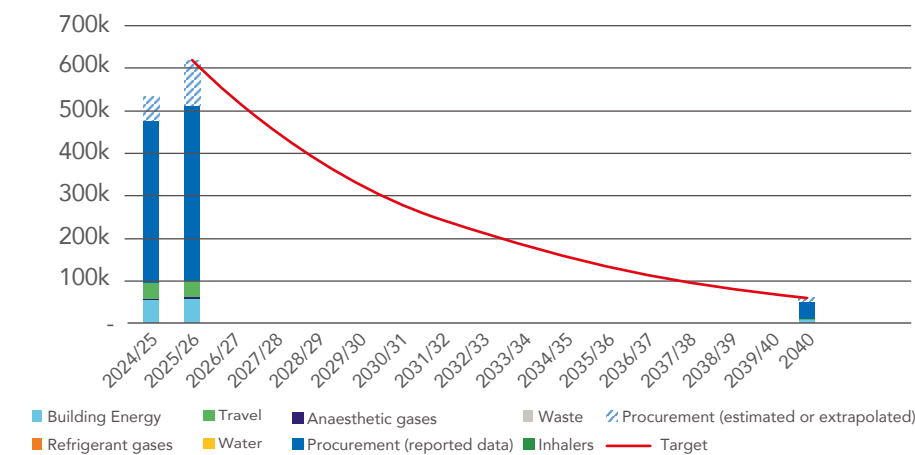


Figure 13: NHS Carbon Footprint Plus: baseline and target

This year we held our 5th and 6th supplier events, seeking to support our suppliers via our 5 Step low carbon supplier framework on their decarbonisation journeys. We moved the 6th one forward at the request of Newcastle City Council, to allow for an open discussion ahead of the pre-election period and to ensure a wider public sector involvement.

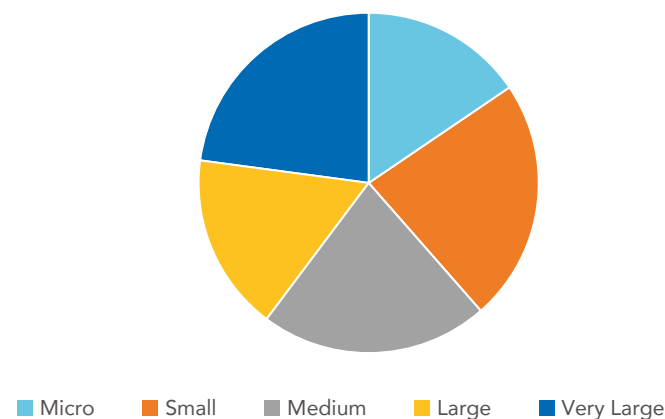


Fig 14: Mix of supply chain companies that attended our 6th annual supplier event by size

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- In collaboration with Newcastle City Council and with support from the North East Combined Authority and Newcastle Hospitals Charity held our 5th and 6th annual supplier events, increasing collaboration across the North East public sector and working with the supplier community. Chair of Newcastle Hospitals, Northumbria Healthcare and Gateshead Health Sir Paul Ennals opened both events. Over 600 attended on 24 March 2026 in person and online

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR (CONTINUED)

- Collaborated across the Great North Healthcare Alliance, recruiting a net zero data officer to ensure a consistent approach to carbon reporting
- Improved the governance of sustainability in procurement by establishing a steering group to oversee the progress of the existing working group
- Continued to promote and engage suppliers with our 5 step low carbon supplier framework, improving our sustainable procurement webpage so that suppliers can access support
- Extended the reach of our [Linkedin supplier network](#), which now includes all of the North East public sector
- Commenced implementation of changing from paper based menus to an electronic meal ordering system. When concluded we expect to make savings of £250,000 on food waste and offer more sustainable, low carbon menus.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Revise and update the sustainable procurement policy
- Carry on sustainability as a priority in the new Procurement Plan
- Ensure collaborative working across Newcastle Hospitals so that sustainability and a "buy less buy better" approach is embedded into cost improvement and materials management. Work to improve efficiencies via dedicated projects (e.g. electronic meal ordering, Scan4Safety and review of procedure packs)
- Improve confidence in the carbon data we are reporting and track progress against established baseline
- Continue to increase engagement with the 5-step low carbon supplier framework
- Establish a standardised approach to reporting across the Great North Healthcare Alliance

IMPACT STORY: INCREASING COLLABORATION ACROSS THE NORTH EAST

With support from Newcastle Hospitals Charity we worked with colleagues across the North East public sector to host the [North East Public Sector Sustainable and Social Value Supplier Event 2026](#), on 24 March 2026, our 6th annual supplier event.

This event started six years ago, initially run solely by Newcastle Hospitals for our suppliers. We have sought to collaborate to ensure a consistent approach across the region, and so this year the event was hosted by Newcastle City Council with support from the North East Combined Authority and Newcastle Hospitals Charity and collaboration from Northumbria University, Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria, the Great North Healthcare Alliance and Net Zero North East England. 600 attended the event either in person or remotely.

Our chair Sir Paul Ennals opened the event with a call to arms for climate action. He said it is easier if the public sector work together to combat the climate crisis, and that we are not going to stop working towards Net Zero, "if we don't take climate action, the world for our children and grandchildren is going to be an awful lot harder than the world we live in today".

There were speakers from the private and public sector, with panel discussions answering questions from the audience about how we can influence our suppliers, and how our suppliers can help us reach net zero.



▲ Sir Paul Ennals, Chair opening the supplier event



5.7 Buildings and Land

AIM

Provide healthy, sustainable and biodiverse spaces for patients, staff and visitors:

- Include opportunities for sustainability innovations in all new builds and refurbishments based on recognised standards
- Build climate adaptation and resilience into our management of existing estate as well as all new builds and refurbishments
- Expand our green space and enhance the biodiversity of our land

PERFORMANCE

Table 2: Statutory Biodiversity Metric Scores across the RVI and FH Sites

LOCATION AND ASSESSMENT TYPE	BASE LINE - *MARCH (YEAR)	2025 RESULT - *SEPTEMBER	2052 TARGET
FH habitat units	24.28 (2022)	26.85	28.89
FH hedgerow units	4.22 (2022)	4.8	4.93
RVI habitat units	23.87 (2023)	16.3	25.19
RVI hedgerow units	0.5 (2023)	0.58	0.77

*Notes about method: We have appointed an independent ecology specialist to complete these audits annually, since March 2021. It has been difficult to set a reliable baseline and track our progress to date, due to changes in methodology over this time period (through multiple versions) and the time of year the assessments were completed (we have moved from completing this task close to the end of the annual reporting cycle (March) to the summer (August) when biodiversity is at its best).

ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THIS YEAR

- Sir Bobby Robson Institute for cancer research has a design aim of BREEAM outstanding and aims to achieve the NHS Net Zero Building Standard
- Urgent Treatment Centre complete, our first non-fossil fuel building
- Improvement of governance via our Greenspaces Working Group including developing a project tracker and collaboration with our grounds maintenance contractor
- Onboarded our Nature Recovery Ranger who has engaged with staff and patients on multiple projects including:
 - Freeman Hospital nature trail development
 - Wellbeing labyrinth
 - Bioblitz and big pond dip
- Sensory engagement, bringing nature into our wards
- Onboarded PhD student to evaluate the health and wellbeing benefits of green space to patients, staff, visitors and community
- Submitted grant applications for green the grey projects for internal courtyards



Planting bulbs at the Freeman Labyrinth



PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

- Embed sustainability into the construction of Sir Bobby Robson Institute
- Work with capital team on decarbonisation at the Freeman, Ponteland Road Health Centre and Benfield Park Healthcare and Diagnostic Centre
- Finalise the Greenspaces and Health Plan
- Implement green the grey projects such as the old outpatient department courtyard with the help of Newcastle Hospitals Charity funding (Climate Emergency Action Fund)
- Establish a Freeman Hospital nature trail
- Establish a nature recovery volunteer programme with Volunteer Services
- Support our corporate volunteers to engage in greenspace activities
- Increase engagement with local providers like the Natural History Society of Northumbria and Ouseburn Way
- Progress the PhD study on the biodiversity benefits to health

It is my first day and I've already used this lovely space three times. Please keep it forever



CASE STUDY: STAFF AND PATIENT WELLBEING AT THE FREEMAN HOSPITAL LABYRINTH

At Newcastle Hospitals we were lucky to be chosen to host a Nature Recovery Ranger from the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare. Dr Duika Burges-Watson recently joined the sustainability team and has had a huge impact across the Trust.

One of her projects was to develop a labyrinth at the Freeman Hospital. With the help of estates colleagues and our grounds maintenance contractor Duika laid out the plans, and then invited colleagues and children from the Free Spirits Nursery to plant bulbs in the Autumn. The labyrinth consists of 20 metres of a walking meditation path wide enough for wheelchairs, and in the spring we saw the flowers erupt: purple crocuses, muscari and alliums.

Our clinical psychology teams have used the labyrinth as a therapeutic space for patients, and our staff have taken much needed breaks slowly walking and talking about their day.

One visitor said: "Being here makes me feel relaxed and it's an area to reflect. I came to give the dog a walk while my wife was at her appointment." A member of staff said: "It is my first day and I've already used this lovely space three times. Please keep it forever."

6. Overall Performance

In our Climate Emergency Strategy, we set out three long term goals, and the actions we planned to take by 2025 for the eight Shine themes. This is our final summary of how we have progressed towards those goals, and the published actions. More detailed reports are included for each area in Section 5 of this report, and the final Climate Emergency Action Plan is available on our website.

We will continue to seek to mitigate our impact in line with our science aligned targets and adapt to a changing climate

KEY



Red

Not achieved



Amber

Partially achieved



Green

Achieved

SHINE THEME	RAG RATING	What have we achieved since the launch of our Climate Emergency Strategy
Energy & Water 		We have reduced our carbon emissions, against a backdrop of increasing clinical activity, but we are not on track to achieve our target of Net Zero by 2030. We have established the foundations to enable significant carbon reductions in the future: - Recruited an Energy Manager, Assistant Energy Manager, Estates Net Zero Delivery Manager and Estates Net Zero Project Lead - Improved building level metering to ensure targeted efficiencies - Decarbonised Regent Point avoiding 40 tonnes of CO₂e annually - Installed 1,293 solar panels - Successfully bid for Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding (£40.5 million) to reduce emissions at the Freeman Hospital and two community sites.
Journeys & Clean Air 		We have reduced carbon emissions from our journeys and increased our score on the Clean Air Hospital Framework: - Ban of diesel lease vehicles - Recruitment of a PhD student to monitor air quality and report on our progress with the Clean Air Hospital Framework - Gold cycle friendly employer - Electric staff "Hopper" bus between our two main hospital sites avoiding 144 tonnes of CO₂e annually
Waste 		We have improved waste outcomes and reduced tonnage of waste per patient contact: - Reduced the annual volume of waste at the 'disposal' level of the waste hierarchy by 117 tonnes from our baseline - Implemented tiger waste (non-infectious clinical) stream segregation across the Trust - Programme of waste audits at ward level - Waste talk on induction for all new staff - Joined the Circular Economy Healthcare Alliance to prioritise reuse over single use



SHINE THEME	RAG RATING	What have we achieved since the launch of our Climate Emergency Strategy
Procurement 		We have increased engagement with suppliers and embedded sustainability into our procurement function: - Mandatory 5 step low carbon procurement framework - Annual supplier event with increasing collaboration across the public and private sector - Sustainable procurement policy overseen by a sustainable procurement steering group - Cool Food pledge to reduce our carbon emissions by 25% by 2030 and embedding sustainability into our Food and Drink strategy
Models of Care 		We have increased capacity for clinical colleagues to deliver sustainability work and are starting to embed sustainability into clinical boards: - Thanks to Newcastle Hospitals Charity we have been supported by clinical sustainability fellows and appointed clinical sustainability leads - Newcastle Health Research Partnership Sustainable Satellite set up to enable collaboration on research opportunities - Improved resources and signposting for clinicians working on susQI - Set up a nitrous oxide MDT to bring in efficiencies and move away from a piped supply where not clinically required - Installed units which capture Entonox in maternity and "crack" it to harmless oxygen and nitrogen
Buildings & Land 		We have worked with estates colleagues to ensure net zero building principles are standard in our capital programme: - Our Urgent Treatment Centre at the RVI is our first building to be built without reliance on fossil fuels - Thanks to Centre for Sustainable Healthcare we have hosted a Nature Recovery Ranger - Built a pond at the Freeman to improve biodiversity - Adaptation plans created and awaiting implementation
People 		Increased our Green Champion network and continued to promote climate action: - Environmental sustainability embedded into our trust-wide strategy 1,300 green champions across the Trust - Launched a staff behaviour change programme - Regular communications included in staff newsletters and on social media - Sustainability and climate emergency action included in job adverts and job descriptions

7. Contact Details

This Annual Report has been produced by the Sustainability Team at Newcastle Hospitals but reflects work taking place across the Trust. All information contained within it is, to the best of our knowledge, accurate at the time of publishing.

If you wish to contact the Sustainability Team please email nuth.environment@nhs.net

Or write to us at: Sustainability Team (Estates Department)
Royal Victoria Infirmary
Queen Victoria Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 4LP

You can follow us on : [Sustainable healthcare at Newcastle Hospitals: About | LinkedIn](#)

: [Sustainable NUTH \(@sustainablenuth\)](#) • Instagram photos and videos

Website: [Sustainable healthcare - Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust \(newcastle-hospitals.nhs.uk\)](#)

Let us know
your thoughts on
this report, and
how it could be
improved



8. Glossary

BREEAM – Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method used to assess, rate and certify the sustainability of buildings.

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) – A carbon dioxide equivalent or CO₂e, is a metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases on the basis of their global-warming potential (GWP), by converting amounts of other gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide with the same global warming potential.

CHP – Combined Heat and Power, the production of electricity or power, with usable heat as a by-product, from a single source of energy, in this case gas.

Climate emergency – A climate emergency declaration is action taken to acknowledge that humanity is in a climate emergency, and urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible damage resulting from it.

Greenhouse gas protocol – global standardised framework to measure and manage greenhouse gas emissions.

Hybrid method – used to calculate emissions from purchased goods and services. Method uses a combination of supplier-specific activity data (where available) and secondary data to fill the gaps. This method involves collecting allocated scope 1 and scope 2 emission data directly from suppliers; and using secondary data to calculate upstream emissions wherever supplier-specific data is not available.

ICS – Integrated Care System (ICS) a statutory committee jointly convened by Local Authorities and the NHS, comprised of a broad alliance of organisations and other representatives as equal partners concerned with improving the health, public health and social care services provided to their population.

NHS England Net Zero Supplier Roadmap & Evergreen Framework – In September 2021 a supplier roadmap was approved to help suppliers align with the NHS net zero ambition. The Evergreen sustainable supplier assessment is the mechanism for suppliers to engage with the NHS on the requirements of the roadmap. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/get-involved/suppliers/>

PPN 06/20 – Procurement Policy Note 06/20 (PPN06/20) applies to procurements covered by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and requires a minimum of a 10% weighting for social value questions.

PPN 06/21 – Public Procurement Notice 06/21 (PPN06/21) requires all companies and organisations who apply for central government contracts (above £5m framework value) to publish a Carbon Reduction Plan and demonstrate their alignment with the government's 2050 Net Zero goals.

PSDS – The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) provides grants for public sector bodies to fund heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency measures.

Shelford Group – is a collaboration between ten of the largest teaching and research NHS hospital trusts in England.

Spend-based method – used to estimate emissions from purchased goods and services by collecting data on the economic value of goods and services purchased and multiplying it by relevant secondary (e.g. industry average) emission factors.

Waste hierarchy – The waste hierarchy ranks waste management options according to what is best for the environment.

Notes about methodology:

- Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has adopted an operational control approach to establishing the boundary. The methodology adopted in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol¹ and the BEIS Environmental Reporting Guidelines. The calculations were completed on the SmartCarbonTM Calculator using the latest UK Government emissions factors.

- CO₂e is the universal unit of measurement to indicate the global warming potential (GWP) of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs), expressed in terms of the GWP of one unit of carbon dioxide. There are seven main GHGs that contribute to climate change, as covered by the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). Different activities emit different gases. Using CO₂e allows all greenhouse gases to be measured on a like-for-like basis.

- For National grid electricity consumption, Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has included factors for the transmission and distribution of electricity (T&D) losses, which occur between the power station and site(s). The emissions from T&D has been accounted for in Scope 3. As with other Scope 3 impacts, reporting T&D is voluntary but is recommended standard practice by UK Government.

- Well-to-tank (WTT) fuels conversion factors have been included to account for the upstream Scope 3 emissions associated with extraction, refining and transportation of the raw fuel sources to an organisation's site (or asset), prior to combustion. As with other Scope 3 impacts, reporting WTT is voluntary but is recommended standard practice by UK Government.

- Procurement carbon emissions are calculated using a hybrid method – deducting known scope 1 & 2 reported carbon data from suppliers from the carbon footprint calculated using a spend based method - £ spent in each spend category multiplied by average carbon factors for those categories.

- A full SECR compliant report is available on request. <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/resources/files/Net-Zero-Standard.pdf>



"We often talk of
saving the planet, but
the truth is that we
must do these things
to save ourselves."

*Sir David
Attenborough*

