



**Mersey and West Lancashire
Teaching Hospitals**

NHS Trust

GREEN PLAN

2025–2028



Date: 14/10/2025

Version: Number :05

Owner: Nicola Bunce, Director of Corporate Services

Authors: D Clegg, Deputy Director of Estates and Facilities, H Ryan, Compliance and Quality Manager, G Turton, Sustainability Manager, D. Downs, Senior Facilities Manager

Approval route: Trust Board

Approval status: Approved 29/10/2025

Forward

In demonstrating our drive and commitment towards achieving net zero Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is pleased to present its first Green Plan. The plan builds on the foundations of our predecessor organisations, established in 2022. It reflects on the achievements to date and sets out the next steps and key milestones towards the organisation achieving net zero. As a large provider of healthcare across Merseyside and West Lancashire we are motivated and dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of the communities we service and the environment for future generations.

The NHS contributes towards more than 5% of the UK's total carbon footprint and has made a collective commitment to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2040 for directly controlled sources and 2045 for those we influence, such as supply chains. As an anchor institution, MWL can influence local wellbeing and deliver social, environmental, and economic value. This Green Plan sets out the areas of priority action; energy use, travel, procurement, and waste management and the aspiration to go beyond compliance with legislation and embed sustainability into all aspects of our operations. Achieving these goals will require the involvement and commitment of all staff and key stakeholders.

The MWL Green Plan is rightly ambitious and reflects our commitment to act as a leader in environmental responsibility, to create a healthier future for our patients, staff, and communities.

Rob Cooper

Chief Executive

October 2025



Contents

Executive Summary.....4

Introduction.....5

Areas we serve.....6

Key achievements to date.....7

Objectives and Vision8

Workforce and System Leadership.....10

Net Zero Clinical Transformation11

Digital Transformation11

Travel and Transport12

Estates and Facilities13

Medicines14

Supply Chain and Procurement15

Food and Nutrition.....15

Adaptation16

Monitoring and Reporting.....16

Carbon Footprint Scope Summary17

Governance and Leadership20

Engage.....22

Appendices23

References24

THE GREEN GAZETTE

A Sustainability Newsletter for MWL Trust

5



WELCOME

A very big welcome to the latest issue of **The Green Gazette**, the sustainability and environmental newsletter for MWL staff

This **quarterly** newsletter, compiled and created by the Library, aims to bring sustainability issues, initiatives and ideas to MWL staff in a friendly and accessible way

CONTENTS

In the News	2
Recycling Your Uniform	2
FEATURE: Green Gifting	3
Quick Reads	3
Staff Stories	4
Journal Articles	4
Seasonably Sustainable	5

this issue, with the h of the new staff ms, we are looking at could be done with old one

we also show you how you can have a more eco-friendly autumn and winter with tips and advice on t to do with your tution leaves as well as suggestions for how gift a little greener mas

ly we have our In ection, as well Quick Reads and icles sections, inform and ate with all



If you have any ideas or features you'd like us to showcase in forthcoming issues, please contact MWL Library and Knowledge

Executive Summary

Global climate change is one of the key environmental threats facing the world today. Concerns over fossil fuel depletion, rising temperatures, higher sea levels, security of energy supplies and rising energy costs are focussing the attention of individuals, organisations, and governments on the need for energy conservation and carbon emission reduction.

This Green Plan sets out Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospital NHS Trusts approach to mitigating climate change through carbon reduction and embedding sustainable practices within its operations. This plan covers the period 2025 – 2028 and builds on the initial Green Plans approved by the Boards of our predecessor organisations in 2022. In line with National guidance this plan aims to focus on the nine key areas of focus within the organisation to achieve the net zero targets (NHS England 2025. Green plan Guidance).

These are as follows:



Workforce & Leadership



Net zero Clinical Transformation



Digital Transformation



Travel & Transport



Estates & Facilities



Medicines



Supply Chain & procurement



Food & Nutrition



Adaptation

Our Green Plan Goals

In summary there are 12 simple goals that we are aiming to achieve by the implementation of this Green Plan:-



Introduction

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (MWL) was formed in July 2023 following the long-term collaboration agreement between St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust. The Trust serves a population of over 600,000 people with a combined workforce of around 9,000 dedicated and skilled staff.

Our staff provide care from a range of locations including hospitals, community locations and in patient's own homes, delivering Five Star Patient Care to all patients.

Acute care and emergency services are provided at Whiston, Southport and Ormskirk hospitals, Maternity Services are delivered from the Whiston and Ormskirk Hospital sites. Other outpatient and elective services are provided from all of our hospital sites. Primary care services are also provided from Marshalls Cross Medical Centre, situated in St Helens Hospital.

The Trust delivers adult community services for the borough of St Helens, including an Urgent Treatment Centre, and a wheelchair service for people in Chorley, South Ribble and West Lancashire.

MWL hosts the Mersey Regional Burns and Plastic Surgery Unit at Whiston Hospital and the Regional Spinal Injuries unit at Southport District General Hospital, to more than four million people across the whole of Merseyside and West Lancashire, Cheshire, the Isle of Man and North Wales.

The Trust prides itself on being an anchor institution within the area and as well as having links with local universities and colleges, utilises many local supplies and has numerous links with surrounding communities.

The area we serve has one of the highest proportions of older people in the country and there are many residential and nursing homes. It is also socially and economically diverse with areas of both relatively high income and significant deprivation.

Southport is a coastal resort and as such attracts more than 5m visitors placing an increased seasonal demand on healthcare.

The areas we serve

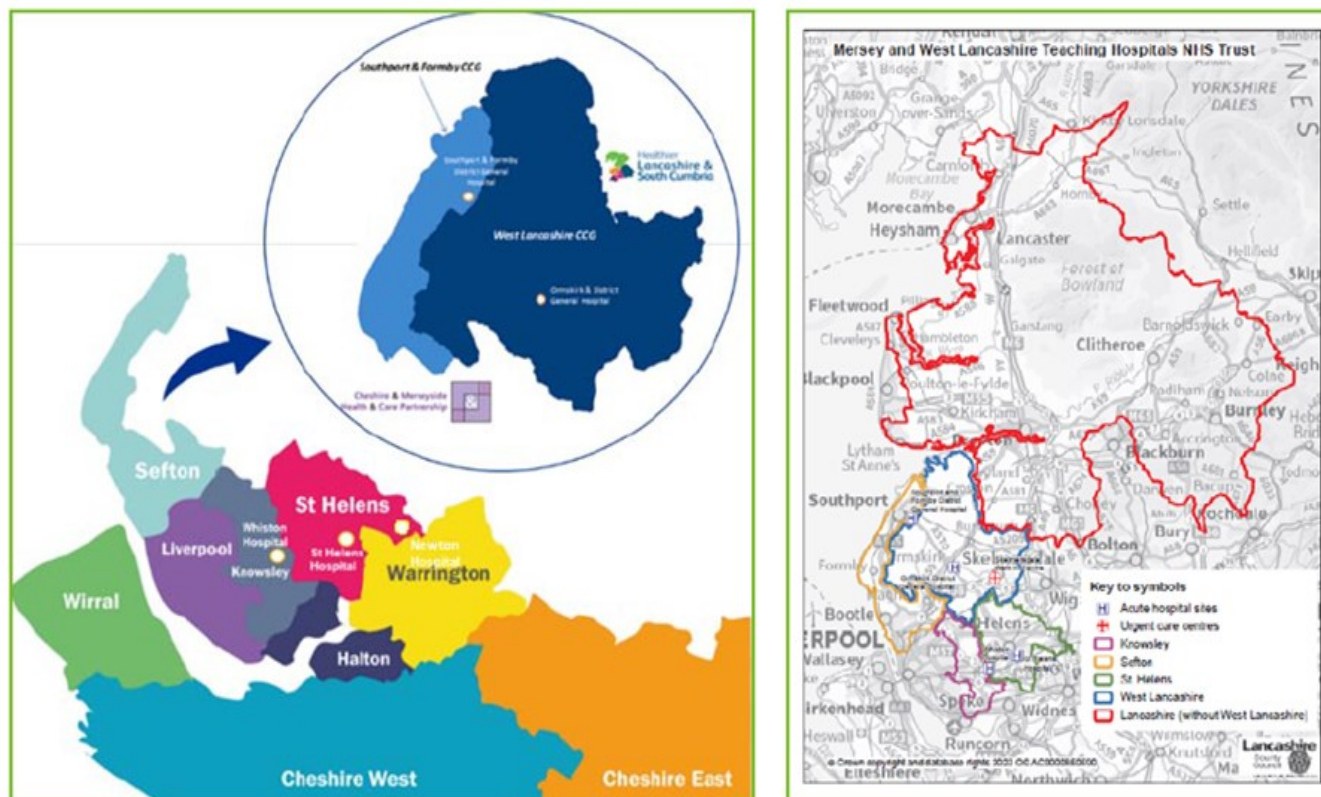
This infographic shows the areas covered by Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust which is based directly in four of the nine Place-based partnerships within Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care System (St Helens, Knowsley, Halton, Sefton) and the Central and West Lancashire locality within the Lancashire Place-based partnership in the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System.

The Trust consists of five hospital sites:

- Whiston Hospital
- St Helens Hospital
- Southport Hospital
- Ormskirk Hospital
- Newton Hospital

Additionally, we deliver care in and from a number of community sites including:

- Lowe House Health Centre
- Marshalls Cross GP Practice
- St Helens Millennium Centre
- Southport Centre for Health & Wellbeing



Geographical area of the Trust's sites across Cheshire and Merseyside and West Lancashire

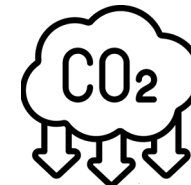
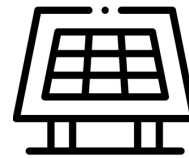
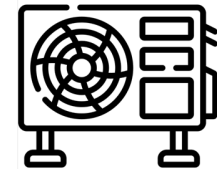
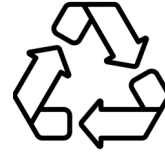
Community Estate

The Trust's community estate continues to expand as new clinical services are successfully tendered for. The community portfolio currently consists of circa 20 differing leased properties which can create challenges when making infrastructure and environmental changes are out of the Trust's direct control or influence.

Key Achievements to Date

Since July 2023 when MWL was formed the organisations carbon emissions has reduced by 3,473 tonnes. This has been achieved through a combination of projects and dedicated workstreams:

- ⇒ Achieving zero waste to landfill.
- ⇒ Use of re-usable sharps containers across our main sites.
- ⇒ Developed and implemented policies for Sustainability, Energy, Waste and Transport.
- ⇒ Supported flexible working policies including working from home for part of the week for some groups of staff, thus reducing staff travel miles.
- ⇒ Use of MS Teams for meetings reducing travel between sites.
- ⇒ All offensive waste is processed via waste to energy.
- ⇒ All energy consumption and waste tonnage is monitored and reported
- ⇒ Theatre air change set back was introduced throughout the Trust and has operated successfully for many years.
- ⇒ Double glazing is installed in all accommodation blocks
- ⇒ Operation of an electric delivery van powered by Trust own electric from CHP.
- ⇒ Installation of EV charging points across all sites. 37 at Southport & Ormskirk and 16 at Whiston and St Helens
- ⇒ £10million PSDS funding grant obtained for Southport site, for the retirement of a gas fed CHP, replaced by air source heat pump with CO2 savings of 3,500 tonnes.
- ⇒ All main sites have Carbon reduction Plans.
- ⇒ Installation of a Flu-Ace heat recovery unit at Whiston.
- ⇒ PV panels installed at St Helens, Whiston, and Ormskirk.
- ⇒ Fitted flange and valve insulation to heat emitting plant across all sites.
- ⇒ Removed single use plastics from hospital restaurants.
- ⇒ Rolled out Telehealth, thus reducing unnecessary patient travel.
- ⇒ Switched to energy efficient filters in our air handling units.
- ⇒ Introduced Warp-It; waste, reuse and recycle portal.
- ⇒ Increased LED light coverage all sites.
- ⇒ Recycled paper is used for all photocopying and printing.



The Aim of the Green Plan

The Trusts Green Plan sets out the strategy for further reducing carbon emissions over the next 3 years and beyond, by detailing a range of measures and actions to reduce both direct and indirect emissions across the estate as a whole and thus embed carbon management in the operational processes and fabric of the Trust. It is therefore hoped to raise and enhance environmental awareness, within the Trust, and the local community.

Internal and External Drivers for Change

In the UK climate change is expected to cause a marked regional difference in temperature and rainfall by the end of the 21st century. The climate in the UK has already changed and has experienced nine of the ten warmest years on record since 1990. Sea-surface temperature around the UK has risen by about 0.7°C over the past three decades and sea levels have risen around 10cm since 1900. It is also clear that Central England temperatures have increased by 1°C since the 1970's and that in most parts of the UK total summer rainfall has decreased.

It is clear from the evidence that our climate in the UK has changed, and if the current rate of change continues the UK may experience:

(Source Met Office):

- ⇒ Greater winter precipitation, potentially causing more flooding.
- ⇒ Sea level rise by the end of the century of between 11 and 76cm.
- ⇒ Extreme heatwaves every other year by the 2040's, like the heatwave of 2003 when average summer temperatures were 2°C higher than normal which led to more than 2000 additional deaths in the UK and extra strain on emergency services.
- ⇒ Summer will become warmer and dryer, therefore droughts are more likely.
- ⇒ There may be more intense downpours of summer rainfall which could lead to flash flooding.
- ⇒ Temperatures are expected to rise across the UK with summer average temperatures set to rise between 2°C and 6.4°C above current temperatures.
- ⇒ The urban heat island effect already warms cities by more than 10°C on some nights, and this is expected to increase still further with increased urbanisation and release of waste heat

These factors adversely impact the whole population increasing the demand for healthcare services as well as challenge the infrastructure of the healthcare estate. Requiring buildings and services to operate out of the tolerated norms, such as cooling systems during periods of heatwaves.

Waste, energy and fuel costs have seen a dramatic rise in recent years, with energy prices increasing by over 50% since 2020. This trend is not expected to change, and we must take steps to offset cost increases where possible through generating more cost effective energy and decreasing wastage within our operations as an organisation.

Aging Estate: The Trusts Southport and Ormskirk hospital condition surveys highlight the investment needed to modernise the hospitals infrastructure. The cost of this investment is detailed in the Trusts estates returns known as ERIC. Investment in updating windows, insulation, ventilation, water and electrical systems will have a positive impact not only on the condition and appearance but will also contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

Funding Requirements

Delivery of this Green Plan requires a significant capital outlay, along with revenue spending for new technologies and innovations that can reduce our NHS carbon footprint plus. The public sector funds that exist to support the transition to net zero are highly competitive, have tight stipulations and are vastly oversubscribed. Capital finance spending caps, requirements for significant efficiency savings, and the maintenance of our aging estate, mean that under current financial arrangements the necessary investment to reach net zero is hard to make.

There are not the financial instruments currently in place to support the NHS's net zero ambitions. Recognising this we will undertake as much of our Green Plan as we can within the financial envelope that is, or becomes, available, and will work to secure internal and external funding, where available, and in the short-term will prioritise actions that are proven to be cost and carbon reducing

Objectives and Vision

This plan centres around three core actionable objectives:

1. Reduce carbon, waste, and water
2. Improve air quality
3. Reduce avoidable single use plastics

Our Trust acknowledges this position and our role as an anchor institution within the communities we serve, and so we adopt these new targets in full support of NHS net-zero commitments. Our vision is to be a sustainable Trust. Through implementing this green plan, we aim to embed sustainability into every area of our organisation to help meet these targets and our objectives.

Our Green plan Goals



Achieving the net zero targets

The green plan focuses on the following nine key areas within the organisation to achieve the net zero targets as set out in NHS England Green plan Guidance 2025. These areas are set out below with key work streams linked to each area of focus.

Workforce and System Leadership

Our Trust is committed to creating a healthy, sustainable, and supportive working environment for all staff while reducing our environmental impact. We have a dedicated board lead and Sustainability Group who oversee the delivery of our Green Plan, ensuring that sustainability remains a key priority across everything we do. We continue to run awareness campaigns, staff engagement events, and sustainability days to keep our people informed and inspired to take action. We also benchmark our progress against other Trusts and share success stories to celebrate what's working well.

Flexible and blended working options are promoted to help staff achieve a better work-life balance, supporting wellbeing through initiatives that encourage physical activity, reduce sickness absence, and listen to staff feedback through regular surveys. Sustainability is reflected in our organisational values and is becoming part of our everyday culture from including sustainability information on our website to delivering training in more environmentally friendly ways, such as online learning and live-streamed events.

Mersey and West Lancashire NHS

Flexible Working Policy
Version No: 1

Document Summary:

The Promise sets out a series of commitments, one of which is we work... our family, our friends, or our interests for work. flexible working patterns – and, if we do need to take time off, we are...

DEVELOPING ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE AND SUPPORTING OUR WORKFORCE

We will use an open management style that encourages staff to speak up, in an environment that values, recognises and nurtures talent through learning and development. We will maintain a committed workforce where our people feel valued and supported to care for our patients.

- Complete the harmonisation of all workforce policies across the Trust
- Promote a positive culture that enables staff to lead healthy and supports them to work flexibly
- Foster a workplace that champions equality, diversity, and inclusion to create a culture of belonging, respect, and opportunity for all
- Strengthen core management and leadership skills within our workforce to ensure our leaders are equipped with the required skills and techniques

Modern Slavery Statement

The Trust policies, procedures, governance and legal arrangements are robust, ensuring that proper checks and due diligence are applied in employment procedures to ensure compliance with this legislation. We also conform to the NHS employment check standards within our workforce recruitment and selection practices. This strategic approach incorporates analysis of the Trust's supply chains and its partners to assess risk exposure and management on modern slavery.

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our business, we provide training to our procurement staff. The procurement department's senior team are all Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) qualified and abide by the CIPS code of professional conduct. Specific training is provided annually for the Trust's internal supply chain management related to slavery and human trafficking.

In addition, the Trust is meeting its supply chain commitments on slavery and human trafficking by undertaking the following steps:

Looking to the future, we're building on this progress by expanding our apprenticeship and volunteer opportunities, exploring innovative ways to make our healthcare delivery more sustainable, and working closely with local communities to make the best use of shared resources.

Clinicians and practitioners are playing a vital role in developing low-carbon approaches to care that improve health outcomes, reduce inequalities, and minimise environmental impact.

We'll continue to include sustainability in how we design and deliver services, promote healthy lifestyles, and engage with patients and the public about the positive changes we can all make together.

Our commitment to transparency and ethical practice remains strong, demonstrated through ongoing sustainability reporting and our Modern

Slavery Statement. Together, these actions reflect our goal to make sustainable healthcare part of who we are for our people, our patients, and our planet.

Net Zero Clinical Transformation

As part of the Trust's commitment to Net Zero Clinical Transformation, a strategic shift is underway to embed sustainability into every facet of care delivery. Through the Shaping Care Together consultations, the Trust is re-evaluating service locations and models to align clinical transformation with environmental stewardship.

Prevention and early intervention are being prioritized to reduce illness and avoid unnecessary hospital admissions, thereby improving population health and conserving resources.

Clinically appropriate transitions to low-carbon practices such as favouring Sevoflurane over Desflurane and dry-powder inhalers over metered dose inhalers are actively encouraged.

Future-focused actions include quantifying the environmental and economic impact of care models, integrating sustainability into quality metrics, and appointing leadership to champion sustainable clinical pathways. By leveraging technology, redesigning patient pathways, and tailoring services to community needs, the Trust aims to reduce emissions while enhancing care quality particularly in high-impact areas such as perioperative care, mental health, and chronic disease management.

Digital Transformation

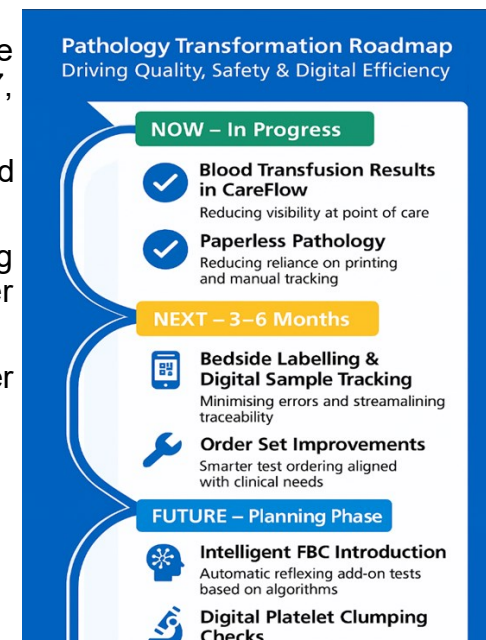
The Trust's Digital Transformation strategy is driving a fundamental shift in how technology supports sustainable healthcare delivery. By implementing Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) and transitioning to cloud hosting by 2027, the Trust is reducing emissions, power consumption, and physical

infrastructure demands. Digitisation initiatives such as Careflow Connect and Narrative are replacing paper-based processes, while agile working and virtual consultations are minimising travel for staff and patients.

Technology enabled care pathways including remote monitoring and telehealth are enhancing access and reducing environmental impact. Looking ahead, the Trust will expand the NHS App as a secure digital front door, reduce printer estate waste, and promote circular IT hardware practices.

Training staff in multi-modal digital communication and embedding sustainability into digital service design will further align with the Greening

Government ICT strategy. These efforts collectively support a low-carbon, high-efficiency digital ecosystem that improves care delivery while advancing the Trust's environmental goals.



Travel and Transport

The Trust's Travel and Transport strategy is central to its sustainability ambitions, aiming to reduce emissions, promote active travel, and improve access to care. Ongoing initiatives include expanding bike storage and shower facilities, enhancing the EV charging network, and promoting low-emission commuting through shuttle services and salary sacrifice schemes. Partnerships with local authorities are strengthening walking and cycling infrastructure, while e-health solutions are helping reduce patient travel.

Looking ahead, the Trust will develop a comprehensive sustainable travel plan by December 2025, with a focus on zero-emission vehicles, public transport, and active travel. Measures such as staff travel surveys, improved fleet monitoring, and carbon footprint assessments will inform future decisions, and incentives will be introduced to encourage greener commuting.

Digital alternatives to in-person meetings and procurement decisions that factor in transport emissions will further support the Trust's goal of minimising pollution and unnecessary travel while enhancing health outcomes and operational efficiency.



Estates and Facilities

The Trust's Estates and Facilities strategy is a cornerstone of its sustainability agenda, focused on reducing environmental impact while enhancing operational efficiency and wellbeing.

Ongoing efforts include comprehensive monitoring of energy, water, waste, and transport metrics, widespread installation of LED lighting and passive infrared sensors, and expansion of photovoltaic systems.

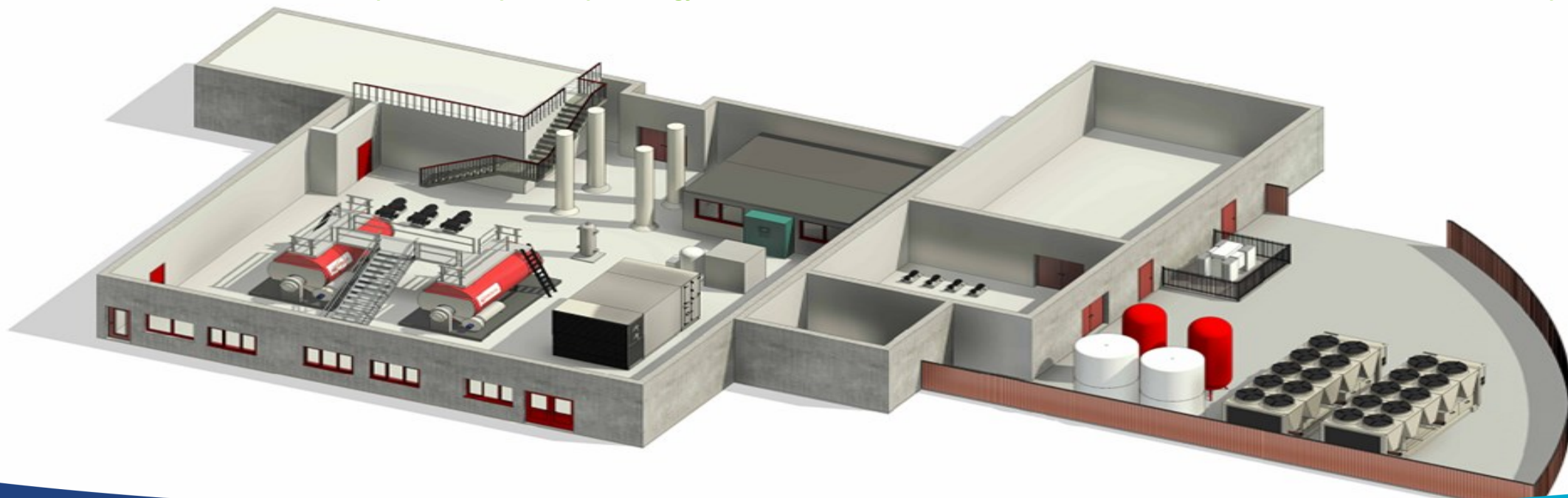
Initiatives such as the Warp-it reuse portal and designated virtual consultation spaces are reducing resource consumption and improving service delivery.

Looking ahead, the Trust will embed sustainability into capital projects by adopting renewable energy tariffs, enforcing green standards for leased buildings, and designing spaces that promote biodiversity and resilience to climate change.

Annual carbon footprint assessments, occupancy surveys, and life-cycle costing will guide strategic estate planning. Training for capital teams, sub-metering, and water conservation retrofits will further enhance resource efficiency.

Through collaboration, innovation, and leadership, the Trust aims to deliver high-performing, low-carbon environments that support patient care, staff wellbeing, and community engagement.

Proposed Concept: Southport Energy Centre PSDS—£10 Million Investment for Transition from Gas CHP to Air Source Heat Pump



Medicines

The Trust's Medicines strategy is advancing sustainability by transforming prescribing practices, reducing pharmaceutical waste, and lowering emissions from clinical treatments.

Current actions include phasing out desflurane in line with national guidance, switching to low-carbon inhaler alternatives, and using the nitrous oxide waste mitigation toolkit to monitor anaesthetic gas usage.

Looking ahead, the Trust will enhance pharmacy waste management, explore reuse of pharmaceuticals, and introduce carbon cost indicators for prescriptions to promote environmentally conscious choices.

Systems will be implemented to monitor gases and disposables, while prescribing guidelines will be reviewed to reduce inappropriate medication use. Where clinically appropriate, evidence-based therapies such as cognitive behavioural therapy or lifestyle interventions will be prioritised over pharmaceuticals. The Trust will also investigate sustainable approaches to medical instruments and single-use items and collaborate with primary care to optimise respiratory care and inhaler disposal. These efforts will ensure that medicines management supports both clinical excellence and environmental responsibility.

GLOVES OFF
in critical care

You don't need to wear gloves when preparing most IV drugs

>100 disposable gloves used per patient every day in ICU.

Be glove aware and only wear them when you need to.

You don't need to wear gloves for IV drug preparation unless you're preparing cytotoxic drugs or monoclonal antibodies.

Endorsed by

Oral vs. IV Phosphate

Why Does Phosphate Matter?

- Cellular energy (ATP)
- Bone mineralisation
- Neuromuscular functions

ORAL PHOSPHATE	IV PHOSPHATE
First-line option for most patients	Reserved for severe or symptomatic cases
<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer: lower risk of rapid shifts in serum phosphate and calcium • Effective: adequate for mild to moderate hypophosphatemia • Convenient: easy administration, especially in outpatient setting • Cost-effective: Phosphate Sandoz is £0.37 for 2 tablets • Using oral phosphate over IV not only reduces clinical risk but also cuts pharmaceutical waste, packaging disposal and carbon emission from production and delivery – making it the more sustainable option in most non-critical cases 	<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid correction: ideal for severe hypophosphatemia • Useful in emergencies: critically ill or NBM patients • Renal burden: requires close monitoring in renal impairment • More expensive: Polyfusor phosphates cost £17.25 and requires IV access and monitoring
<p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slower onset: takes longer to correct severe hypophosphatemia 	<p>Clinical tips for Nurses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always assess severity and symptoms before phosphate

Supply Chain and Procurement

The Trust's Procurement Strategy is focused on embedding sustainability into every stage of the procurement lifecycle from sourcing and purchasing to usage and disposal. Current actions include improving stock management to reduce waste, engaging with SMEs and local suppliers, and leveraging NHS buying power to align with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012. The Trust is also promoting reuse through the Warp IT scheme and applying environmental impact scoring in bid evaluations.

Future plans include adopting a standard equipment list to streamline refurbishment, developing a Board-approved Sustainable Procurement Policy, and encouraging suppliers to disclose and reduce their carbon footprints. Whole-life costing, energy efficiency, and recyclability will be central to future tendering processes.

The Trust will also support staff in making sustainable choices, promote access to eco-friendly products, and collaborate across agencies to address wider determinants of health. By reducing reliance on single-use items and fostering circular procurement practices, the Trust aims to build a resilient, low-carbon supply chain that supports both environmental and community wellbeing support the Trust's holistic approach to sustainable nutrition. These initiatives aim to enhance health outcomes, reduce carbon emissions, and foster a culture of environmental responsibility across the Trust.

Food and Nutrition

The Trust's Food and Nutrition Strategy is focused on delivering healthy, sustainable meals while minimising environmental impact and food waste. Current efforts include implementing the National Standards for healthcare food and drink, reducing waste from inpatient meal services and food packaging, and promoting responsible consumption.

Future actions will involve measuring food waste in line with ERIC standards, setting reduction targets, and designing menus that are healthier and lower in carbon featuring seasonal, plant-based options and fewer heavily processed foods.



Strategic procurement will prioritise local, ethical, and sustainability-certified suppliers, while supply chains will be reviewed to track food miles and disposal patterns.

Staff and patient engagement in food growing initiatives and feedback on wellbeing improvements from access to green spaces will further support the Trust's holistic approach to sustainable nutrition. These initiatives aim to enhance health outcomes, reduce carbon emissions, and foster a culture of

Adaptation

The Trust's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience strategy is designed to safeguard healthcare services against the growing risks posed by climate change. Current actions include developing adverse weather and business continuity plans, updating the risk register to reflect climate-related threats, and aligning local protocols with national heatwave, cold weather, and flood response frameworks. The Trust is actively building an evidence base to inform future resilience planning.

Looking ahead, a board approved adaptation plan will be created to assess the financial implications of climate change and the cost of inaction. Key initiatives will include climate risk assessments, flood risk mapping, and the formation of a dedicated adaptation working group. Infrastructure decisions will factor in climate projections, with enhancements such as green spaces, passive cooling, and improved drainage.

Partnerships with local authorities, schools, and community groups will support environmental initiatives and identify vulnerable populations. By integrating climate resilience into emergency preparedness, infrastructure design, and public health planning, the Trust aims to ensure continuity of care and protect the wellbeing of patients, staff, and communities.












Monitoring and Reporting

The Sustainability Group will monitor progress and identify any new opportunities with a green plan report produced quarterly. An action Group has been formed which will meet and report on initiatives, barriers to progression and future opportunities on a quarterly basis. All findings will be detailed in an associated Green Plan annual summary reported to Board.

The Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) requirements have been applied to NHS bodies since 2023/24 requiring disclosure of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions in the Trusts annual report. These are now calculated by NHS England.

Locally the Trust will also continue monitoring and understanding local carbon footprint trends. Emissions data for Whiston and St Helens Hospitals will continue to be updated internally, building on the foundations laid by the first STHK Green Plan. While all current data primarily focuses on Whiston and St Helens, and includes emissions categories such as Trust Vehicles, Gas& Oil, Electricity, Energy Well to Tank, Waste and Water for the Southport and Ormskirk sites, future reporting will be expanded to also capture comprehensive emissions from all Trust owned sites.

Mersey West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Carbon Footprint Scope Summary

<div>NHS</div> <div>Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals</div> <div>NHS Trust</div>			Category	Carbon Footprint (TCO2e)		% Change to Date	% of Trust Carbon Footprint Plus
				2008 Baseline	2024/2025		
Trust Carbon Footprint	Scope 1 - Direct		Fleet & Leased Vehicles *	98	90	-8%	0.09%
			Anaesthetics*	2,571	1,660	-35%	2%
			Gas & Oil	13,492	18,426	37%	18%
	Scope 2- Indirect		Electricity	11,073	3,379	-69%	3%
	Scope 3 - Indirect		Energy Well to Tank	4,015	4,526	13%	4%
			Business Travel *	206	386	87%	0.4%
			Waste	1,572	1,296	-18%	1%
			Water	326	89	-73%	0.1%
			Metered Dose Inhalers	362	388	7%	0.4%
				Total Trust Carbon Footprint	33,715	30,242	-10.30%
Trust Carbon Footprint Plus	Scope 3 - Indirect		Medical Devices, Freight Transport, Medicines, Business Services, Food & Catering, Construction, Commissioned Health Services, Manufacturing, ICT, Staff Commuting, Other Supply Chain #	74,655	66,964	-10%	67%
	Travel Outside GHGP Scopes		Patient & Visitor Travel *	5,013	3,423	-32%	3%
			Total Trust Carbon Footprint Plus	113,383	100,628	-11%	

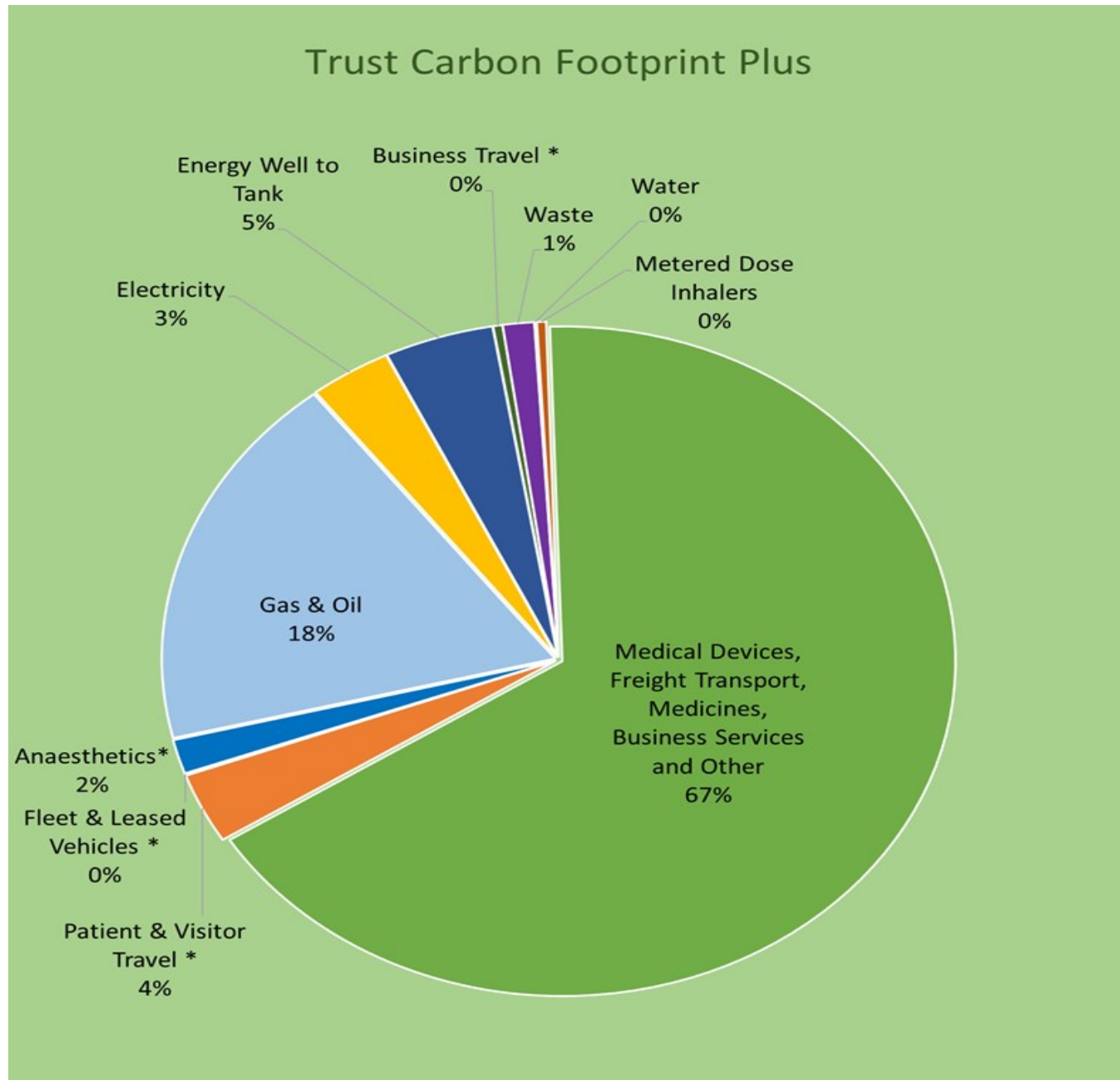
Note:* Later Baseline #Informed approximation

The gas and oil increase of 37% is due to CHP installation on sites since the baseline year with the Trust producing its own electrical power and therefore a reduction of 69% be achieved for electric.

This trend will change over the next 3-5 years as the Trust decommissions some of its CHP's and becomes more reliant on air source heat pumps powered by electric.

Business travel has also seen an increase since 2008, due to the Trust taking on more community services and improved reporting of business travel. As it only accounts for 0.4% of the whole estate this increase is not wholly significant, but we will still focus on reducing this where possible.

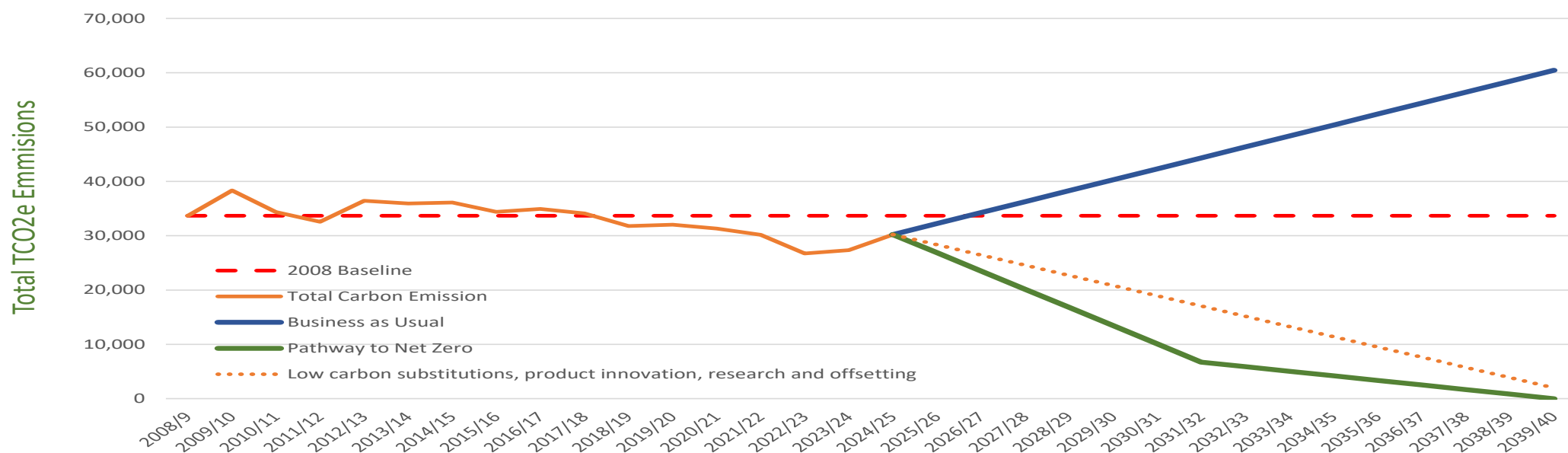
Mersey West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Emissions by % of Carbon Footprint



Since the first Green Plans were developed 5 years ago the chart above now incorporates the Southport and Ormskirk estate, however the only changes to the percentage mix are an increase in gas and oil of 3% and a corresponding decrease in electric from 6% to 3%, due to extensive CHP usage at both Southport and Ormskirk

Mersey West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Trajectory to Net Zero for Carbon Footprint Plus

Trust Trajectory to Net Zero - Carbon Footprint



This trajectory highlights if the Trust continues business as usual without working towards implementing the green plan the carbon footprint will increase, and we will fail to achieve net zero by 2040. Keeping on track and closely monitoring the positive actions taken we have a plan for meeting the target of achieving net zero by the 2040 target date.

Increase over the last two years has been due to a combination of a several elements:

- ⇒ Addition properties being purchased
- ⇒ Several extensions and building expansion

However, in 22/23 CO2 emissions were 8 tonnes/m2 but emissions in 24/25 had reduced to 7.6 tonnes/m2 indicating that Trust initiatives have been working to reduce emissions.

Governance and Leadership

The Green Plan will be overseen by a designated board-level net zero lead (Director of Corporate Services), on behalf of the Board.

The Executive Team will ensure participation and support is given from all Divisions within the organisation with designated representatives who will champion the green plan workstreams. Therefore, ensuring senior ownership across the organisation in working towards the carbon reduction targets.

The Sustainability Group will report to the Board via the Estates and Facilities Governance Council, which reports to the Finance and Performance Committee. The multi-disciplinary group will include as a minimum:

- ⇒ Private sector Partners (NewHospitals, Gension, GE, Medirest and Vinci FM),
- ⇒ Director of Corporate Services
- ⇒ Deputy Director of Estates and Facilities
- ⇒ Quality and Compliance Manager
- ⇒ Sustainability Manager
- ⇒ Procurement Lead
- ⇒ HR Lead
- ⇒ Finance lead
- ⇒ Divisional Leads

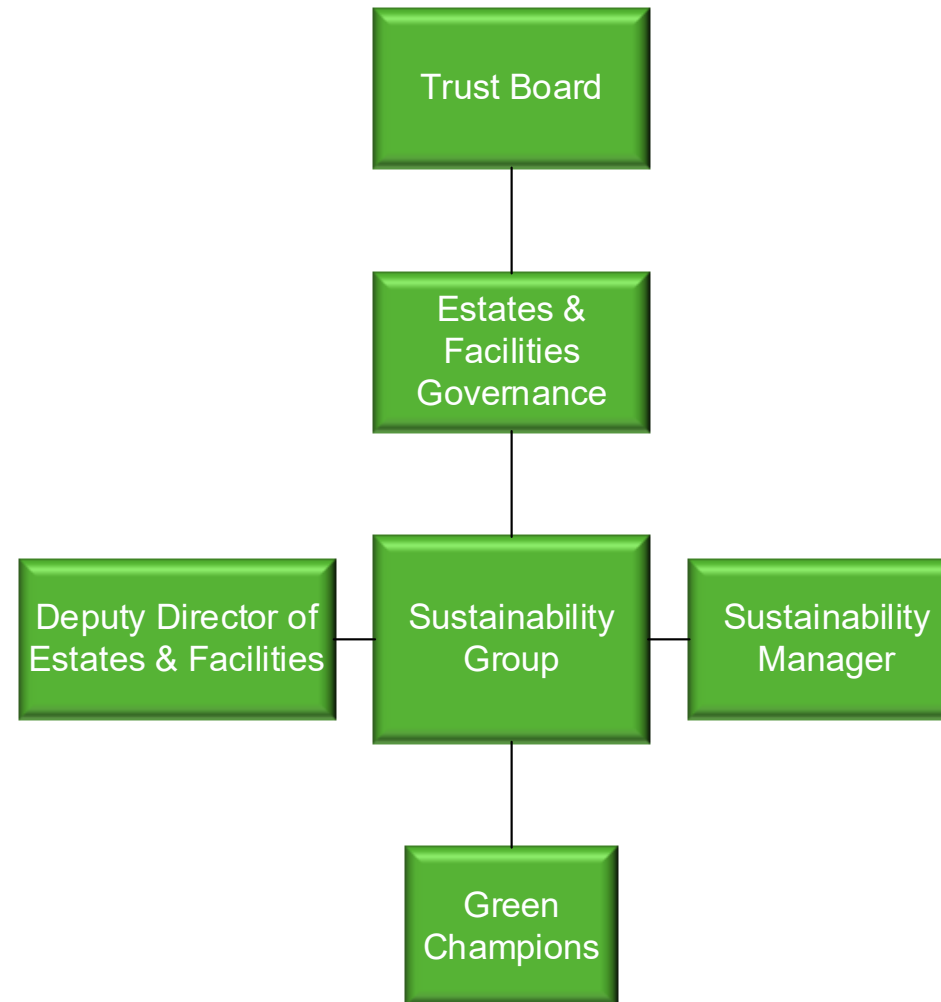
Quarterly reports and green plan metrics will be reported through this governance structure with an annual report produced for the Trust Board.

Green action funding will be tracked to ensure a clear financial plan, detailing sources such as the Capital plan, lifecycle, and revenue budgets.

Succession Planning

The Board is committed to maintaining a focus on carbon reduction and will ensure this is factored into succession planning and any future organisational change, so that roles and responsibilities remain clearly defined.

The following figure summarises the sustainable development implementation structure established by the Trust:



Engagement

There is a network of sustainability champions across the organisation to support engagement, awareness raising and information sharing. The Trust will provide updates about the Green Plan, including progress and information about new projects, through this network, on the intranet and Trust publications such as newsletters and awareness days. Staff are encouraged to participate in sustainability initiatives.



The Trust invites feedback and suggestions on how sustainability can be improved within your area of work. Participation as a Green Champion is also encouraged, to find out more or to send feedback and/or suggestion email EFMCompliance@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk Speak with your Line manager about how you can contribute to sustainability in your department.

Appendix A – The national mandatory KPIs shown in the table below are reported through the Greener NHS dashboard and ERIC (Estates Return Information Collection).

Focus Area	Metric
Workforce	Named board-level lead for green plan delivery
Medicines	Emissions (tCO ₂ e) and volume (litres) of nitrous oxide by trust
Medicines	Emissions (tCO ₂ e) and volume (litres) of nitrous oxide and oxygen (gas and air) by trust
Medicines	Average inhaler emissions per 1,000patients
Medicines	Mean emissions of Short-acting beta-2agonists (SABAs)inhalers prescribed
Medicines	% of non-SABA inhalers that are MDIs
Travel and transport	% of owned and leased fleet that is ultra-low emission vehicle (ULEV) or zero-emission vehicle (ZEV)
Travel and transport	Total fleet emissions
Travel and transport	Does the organisation offer only ZEVs in its salary sacrifice scheme
Travel and transport	Does the organisation operate sustainable travel-related schemes for staff (for example, salary sacrifice cycle-to-work)
Estates and facilities	Emissions from fossil-fuel-led heating sources
Estates and facilities	Number of oil-led heating systems
Estates and facilities	% of gross internal area covered by LED lighting
Estates and facilities	% of sites with a heat decarbonisation plan
Supply chain and procurement	Inclusion of Carbon Reduction Plan and Net Zero Commitment requirements in all relevant procurements
Supply chain and procurement	Inclusion of requirements for a minimum 10% net zero and social value weighting in procurements, including defined KPIs
Food and nutrition	Weight (tonnes) of food waste, with further break down by spoilage, production, unserved and plate waste
Adaptation	Number of overheating occurrences triggering a risk assessment (in line with trust's "heatwave" plan)
Adaptation	Number of flood occurrences triggering a risk assessment

References

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Clinical Strategy 2024-2026 [online] Available at <https://www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk/media/.resources/66cda684f24960.40633610.pdf>

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Modern Slavery Statement [online] Available at <https://www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk/modern-slavery-statement>

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals People Strategy 2022-2025[online] Available at <https://www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk/media/.resources/65dcc11a5b5f59.61816661.pdf>

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals SO Green Plan 2022-2025 [online] Available at <https://www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk/media/.resources/65ddb118035204.11435999.pdf>

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals STHK Green Plan 2022-2025 [online] Available at <https://www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk/media/.resources/65ddb10345a913.36044943.pdf>

National Health Service (2019). The NHS Long Term Plan. [online] Available at: <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/nhs-long-term-plan-version-1.2.pdf>.

NHS England (2022). Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service. [online] Available at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/wp-content/uploads/sites/51/2022/07/B1728-delivering-a-net-zero-nhs-july-2022.pdf>.

NHS England(2022) National Standards for healthcare food and drink [online] Available at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/national-standards-for-healthcare-food-and-drink/>

NHS England (2025). Green plan Guidance. [online] Available at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/green-plan-guidance/>

NHS England (2023) Net Zero Travel and Transport Strategy. [online] Available at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/net-zero-travel-and-transport-strategy/>

Data and analytics sources

[FutureNHS: Greener NHS Data and Analytics](#) (login needed)

[Greener NHS Dashboard](#) (login needed)

[FutureNHS: Green Plan Support Tool](#) (login needed)

Workforce and leadership

[FutureNHS: Greener NHS training hub](#) (login needed)

[Building a Net Zero NHS](#), an accessible introduction to climate change and healthcare

[Carbon Literacy for Healthcare eLearning Pathway](#), more advanced training to support staff drive positive net zero change

[Sustainability Leadership for Greener Health and Care](#), to support system leaders to deliver net zero.

[Centre for Sustainable Healthcare Networks](#)

[FutureNHS: Nursing and Midwifery Sustainability Network](#) (login needed)

[Estates and facilities workforce action plan](#) and [NHS estates recruitment and career pathways guidance](#)

Net zero clinical transformation

Critical and perioperative care – [Green Theatre Checklist \(Royal College of Surgeons of England, Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow\)](#) and [Green Surgery report \(UK Health Alliance on Climate Change, Brighton & Sussex Medical School, The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare\)](#)

Mental health – [Net Zero Mental Health Recommendations \(Royal College of Psychiatrists\)](#)

Urgent and emergency care – [GreenED \(Royal College of Emergency Medicine\)](#)

Diagnostics – [Green Endoscopy \(British Society of Gastroenterology\)](#)

Renal care – [Sustainable Kidney Care Committee \(UK Kidney Association\)](#)

General practice – [Net Zero Hub \(Royal College of General Practitioners\)](#)

Pharmacy – [Royal Pharmaceutical Society Sustainability Policies](#)

Digital transformation

[FutureNHS: Digital Net Zero](#) (login needed)
[What good looks like framework](#)

[Greening government: ICT and digital services strategy 2020 – 2025](#)

[Greenhouse Gas Protocol ICT Sector Guidance](#)

Medicines

Nitrous Oxide – [Nitrous Oxide Waste Mitigation Toolkit](#) and [Health Technical Memorandum 02-01 – Medical gas pipeline systems](#)

Desflurane – [Guidance: Desflurane decommissioning and clinical use](#)

- High-quality, lower-carbon respiratory care:

[NICE NG245 Patient decision aid on asthma inhalers and climate change](#)

[Asthma + Lung UK inhaler choices \(for people living with a lung condition\)](#)

[Greener practice visual aid and asthma toolkit](#)

[RightBreath – Information for clinicians on different inhalers](#)

[Core20PLUS5 – an approach to reducing health inequalities](#)

Medicines optimisation – [National Medicine Optimisation Opportunities](#) and [National Overprescribing Review \(NOR\)](#)

Travel and transport

[FutureNHS: Net zero travel and transport](#) (login needed)
[NHS Net Zero Travel and Transport Strategy](#)

Estates and facilities

[FutureNHS: Estates Sustainability Hub](#) (login needed)
[FutureNHS: Estates Net Zero Delivery Plan](#) (login needed)

Supply chain and procurement

[FutureNHS: CCF sustainability hub](#) (login needed)

[NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap](#)

[Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment](#)

[NHS Net Zero Product Savings Calculator](#) (login needed)

[DHSC Design for Life roadmap](#)

Food and nutrition

[FutureNHS: Food and nutrition](#) (login needed)

Adaptation

[NHS Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool](#)

[Third National Adaptation Programme](#) (*fourth report pending in 2024/25*)

[Emergency preparedness resilience and response \(EPRR\) core standards](#)

[UK Health Security Agency Adverse Weather and Health Plan](#)