

Healthier Planet
Healthier People



Shine Green News Bulletin – October 2023

With so much activity on sustainability in healthcare taking place across the NHS and wider, we have decided to try to pull together a Shine Green News Bulletin to compile the most useful and interesting bits of information.

You may have noticed there was no summer edition of quarterly Green News, as we deal with some resource issues within the sustainability department we also think this will be a better way of keeping in touch with you on a regular basis.

We hope to be able to reinstate Green News in the future. In the meantime if you would like us to include anything in the monthly bulletin, please email nuth.environment@nhs.net by 12 p.m. on the last Friday of the month.

Greener NHS North-East and Yorkshire Bulletin

You can sign up for the monthly North East and Yorkshire Greener NHS Bulletin [here](#).

To read the September 2023 edition [Go to this Sway](#)

You can get in touch with our regional team:

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Sustainability in Healthcare update – Libraries and Information Service

The Trust's Libraries and Information Service shares this [sustainability bulletin](#) produced by Hampshire Hospitals Library Service. It contains links to journals, digital toolkits, e-books, case

studies and more related to sustainability in healthcare, and is a really comprehensive collection of information, research & guidance.

In this issue:

- It's not easy being green – a tool for choosing sustainable clinical products – Nursing Times
- Spotlight on Nursing and Sustainable Healthcare – Centre for Sustainable Healthcare
- Disposable versus reusable medical devices and carbon footprint: old is gold – Anaesthesia Critical Care & Pain Medicine
- Plus links to a wide range of CPD and events

Training round-up

There is now an abundance of training available on sustainability in healthcare. Take a look at our web page: <https://www.flourishatnewcastlehospitals.co.uk/flourish-key-themes/sustainable-healthcare/training/> to find out more.

The aim is to ensure there is training available for all, whatever your role and wherever you are on your sustainability journey.

We have tried to collate the offers in one place. We are not able to attend all of this training ourselves so we would love to know if you do, and what you think of it!

As well as training we are happy to offer 1:1 or small group coaching sessions to help you put your learning into practice.

Waste Management Training

If you work in a clinical setting please take the time to familiarise yourself with the waste training and resources that are available on the intranet here: [Intranet > Support Services > Sustainability > Waste and Recycling](#)

There are important environmental and legal compliance reasons that waste must be managed appropriately in a healthcare environment.

The Waste Management Team are always happy to hold training sessions on wards and departments, or come and visit to discuss any waste issues at any time.

Climate Emergency Action Fund

Don't forget there is a Climate Emergency Action Fund available to help get projects off the ground. Applications are welcome from any member of staff with a sustainability idea they would like to get off the ground. Previous projects include:

- Re-usable sample transport boxes
- E-bike trial for staff
- Bike maintenance stands
- Part-funded sensory garden developments
- Indoor planting

- Sustainable hand splinting product trial

If you have any ideas you would like to chat through please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Green Champions Plus event

We held our first ever annual face-to-face meeting of the Green Champions Plus in early September. This was an opportunity for all staff who have joined the network to meet face to face, learn about the vision for a Net Zero NHS, and find out more about how the role helps us achieve the goals set out in the Climate Emergency Strategy.

We heard some excellent case studies of work being led by Green Champions Plus and were lucky enough to be joined by members of the Innovation Team and the Newcastle Improvement Team who are really keen to support staff who want to drive change through improvements and innovation.

We have shared the slides from the meeting on our Shine web pages, where you can also read more about the role: <https://www.flourishatnewcastlehospitals.co.uk/flourish-key-themes/sustainable-healthcare/get-involved/>

Clinical Sustainability Fellows

Funded by the Newcastle Hospitals Charity and co-managed by the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare, we have two Clinical Sustainability Fellows in post for the year to work part time on sustainable healthcare, and part time in clinical practice.

Dr. Fatima Tahir will be working within Oncology, and Dr. Emma Vittery will be working within Children's Services.

Fellowships have a strategic role in accelerating transformation towards sustainable healthcare. They can focus on the clinical specialty or on a cross cutting theme such as education, quality improvement or on a specific topic such as single-use plastics.

Objectives for the fellowship are:

1. Increase knowledge about resource use and opportunities to improve value within specialty care pathways.
2. Support the transmission of good practice through a network of local representatives within clinical departments.
3. Accelerate progress in the specialty via policy development, commissioning and education.
4. Professional development of the fellow as an ambassador for sustainable healthcare.

The Fellows are based within the specialisms and are supported by the Sustainability Department.

Children's Garden

Architects are busy re-designing the children's play area at the RVI into a 'place to play and grow' following a children's competition.

A summary of the project to date is here, and we promise to keep you up to date as things progress!

<https://www.flourishatnewcastlehospitals.co.uk/flourish-key-themes/sustainable-healthcare/nature-connect/>

Regent Point Decarbonisation

The vast majority of our 'Newcastle Hospitals Carbon Footprint' is related to the energy we use to heat and power our buildings, so we are happy to report that a successful bid was made for Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding to fully decarbonise our Regent Point office building. This will include air source heat pumps, solar panels, LED lighting and Building Management System upgrades.

We intend to submit a bid for the next round of funding as well and will keep you up to date with our progress, as we work to transition our estate away from fossil fuels and onto renewable energy sources.

Embedding Sustainability into Departments and Directorates

We have developed a framework for departments, directorates and even clinical boards to use to embed sustainability throughout their structure.

It covers 10 steps - starting with having a person named with responsibility for sustainability, through ensuring there are sufficient Green Champions and a good level of training and awareness, all the way up to creating a sustainability working group, and creating and working through an action plan of sustainability projects.

You can read more about it here: [Intranet > Support Services > Sustainability > Support for Directorates and Departments](#)

It is fine to start small and a good initial step is to get together with other Green Champions to share ideas. If you would like to implement this in your area of work please get in touch and we would be happy to have a chat to talk about how you can do this.

SBRI Healthcare – Competition 24 – Delivering a Net Zero NHS for a Healthier Future

Innovation has a significant role to play in supporting the NHS to reach net zero and investing in innovation now will accelerate action and ensure the best outcomes for patients.

The competition seeks applications focusing on:

- Challenge category 1: Clinical community engagement
- Challenge category 2: Novel business models to enable circularity in perioperative care and critical care settings

- Challenge category 3: Net zero transformation across clinical pathways

Applications for SBRI Healthcare, Competition 24: Delivering a Net Zero NHS for a Healthier Future will be open from 31st October and close on 22nd November 2023.

Please click the link and download the guidance if you would like to find out more. We are happy to support any applications to the fund <https://sbrihealthcare.co.uk/competitions/competition-24>

Activity across healthcare

As the sustainable healthcare agenda continues to gain momentum, there are the other networks we have become aware of that you may wish to explore. Some are linked below.

Please take some time to investigate what is happening in your specialism or area of expertise and access resources and support.

[Infection Prevention Society Sustainability Special Interest Group](#)

[Green ED – Royal College of Emergency Medicine](#)

[Greener Endoscopy](#)

[Royal College of Nursing Sustainability](#)

[Centre for Sustainable Healthcare](#)

[Sustainable Healthcare Coalition](#)