

NHS Lothian understands that the impacts its operations have on the environment are of significant importance and is committed to its responsibilities for safeguarding the wellbeing of the local and wider environment.

Through the continuous improvement of our Environmental Management System, we will ensure that our activities across the organisation support our aim in providing an environmentally and socially sustainable health service. The NHS Lothian Environmental Management Policy Statement provides a clear focus for our commitment to our own environmental objectives and the national objectives set by NHS Scotland.

We will commit to fulfil our legislative requirements and obligations and demonstrate good practice by operating to the international standard for environmental management ISO14001.

Through delivery of this policy statement, our aims are:

- To develop and implement an effective Environmental Management System aligned to the ISO14001 standard.
- Through regular audits and reports, raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges for reducing environmental harm.
- Ensure that information associated with environmental management is readily available to staff who do not have an in-depth knowledge of environmental management systems.
- Learn from and collaborate with partner organisations to shape the regulatory frameworks that can protect the environment, support sustainable healthcare and promote health and wellbeing.
- Develop Key Performance Indicators (KPI's), objectives and targets as part of the Environmental Management System

To achieve the aims of the policy statement, we will:

- Implement an integrated quality management system for managing our environmental compliance.
- Ensure the appropriate resources are allocated to Environmental Management for the effective delivery of this policy.
- Ensure staff are trained and aware of their responsibilities in relation to Environmental Management.
- Continually improve our use of energy by promoting energy efficiency, water conservation, investing in appropriate technology including renewables and energy management aligned to the ISO50001 standard.
- Develop procurement strategies that take into consideration Environmental Management.
- Enhance the natural features of the grounds, gardens and properties, and maintain them in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Assess our environmental efficiency and openly communicate our performance to staff, patients, government authorities and other interested parties on request.
- Monitor our carbon emissions and actively work to reduce them to meet global and national targets.
- Promote and assist in initiatives aimed at conserving natural resources.
- Be an exemplar organisation compliant with Government policies on Sustainable Development, Climate Change, the NHS role as an Anchor Institution and Good Corporate Citizenship.

Endorsed by the Chief Executive..........Date.....4/12/23.....