

# Sustainability in Healthcare update November 2021

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## NHS

### [Sustainability in the NHS – what's the theory and what's the practice?](#)

Being a major producer of carbon emissions in England, the NHS has many opportunities to tackle climate change and become more sustainable.

NHS Confederation. J. Foster & G. Badger, 14 October 2021

### [Sustainable improvement: growing a greener NHS](#)

The Health Foundation supports the NHS's ambition to reduce its contribution to climate change and become the world's first net zero health care system. The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) is being held in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November, where world leaders will be sharing how they are meeting their promises made at COP21 in Paris and galvanising action around climate change. Here we look at some of the improvement work we are funding that can contribute to achieving NHS net zero, and how local NHS institutions can contribute to sustainability in the places they serve.

The Health Foundation, 28 October 2021

[Space to Breathe: Research shows value of NHS green space for staff wellbeing](#) Research from the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare shows gardens and other green spaces at hospital sites have an important role to play in supporting staff

wellbeing. Our year-long study, "Space to Breathe", focuses on three NHS sites that have taken steps to encourage staff to relax and recharge in green space.

NHS Forest, October 2020

### [Going green: what do the public think about the NHS and climate change?](#)

With the NHS aiming to become the world's first 'net zero' emissions health care system, understanding the views of the public will support the development and implementation of policies to successfully transition to net zero.

The Health Foundation, 25 October 2021

### [Sustainability chief pledges to avoid 'death by strategy' in push for carbon net zero](#)

National funding will be given to those health systems with the 'best ideas' on how to become more environmentally sustainable, the NHS' net zero chief has told HSJ.

HSJ. Nick Carding, 26 November 2021

## COP26

### **COP26: an opportunity to shape climate-resilient health systems and research**

Published online: November 17, 2021

Amanda V Quintana, Rashmi Venkatraman, Samantha Brandon Coleman et al

[The Lancet Planetary Health](#)

### [Five things you need to know about the Glasgow Climate Pact](#)

The Conversation, 13 November 2021

**Glasgow Climate Pact: what happened at COP26 and what it means for the world – podcast.**

The Conversation, 18 November 2021

[Listen to The Conversation Weekly podcast.](#)

### Digital

#### [The importance of greening our working lives](#)

Written to coincide with the close of COP26, this article from Chief Technology Officer, Mark Reynolds, highlights the sustainability challenges facing the digital sector and explores how NHS Digital plans to tackle them. Digital Health, 11 November 2021

### Facilities

Chauhan, A. and Singh, S. P. (2021) 'Selection of healthcare waste disposal firms using a multi-method approach', *Journal of Environmental Management*, 295, p. N.PAG.

[Click here for full text - OpenAthens required](#)

### Nutrition

#### **A slow road from meat dominance to more sustainable diets: an analysis of purchase preferences**

Maijaliisa Erkkola, Satu Kinnunen, Henna Reetta Vepsäläinen et al

medRxiv posted 26 November 2021

doi:10.1101/2021.11.25.21266850

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

### Pharmaceuticals

#### **Global antibiotic consumption and usage in human, 2000–18: a spatial modelling study**

Published online: November 11, 2021

Annie J Browne, Michael G Chipeta, Georgina Haines-Woodhouse et al.

[The Lancet Planetary Health](#)

#### **[How to reduce the carbon footprint of inhaler prescribing](#)**

endorsed by the NHS England and NHS Improvement Inhaler Working Group, Asthma UK, and the British Lung Foundation. October 2021

### QI

#### **[Sustainability in Quality Improvement \(SusQI\): challenges and strategies for translating undergraduate learning into clinical practice.](#)**

Marsden O. *BMC Medical Education* 2021;21(1):555.

[The healthcare sector is a major contributor to climate change and there are international calls to mitigate environmental degradation through more sustainable forms of clinical care. The UK healthcare sector has committed to net zero carbon by 2040 and sustainable healthcare is a nationally mandated outcome for all UK graduating doctors who must demonstrate their ability to address social, economic, and environmental challenges. Bristol Medical School piloted a successful SusQI workshop.]

[Freely available online](#)

### Case Studies

#### **Case studies of the work by general practices to support the Greener NHS ambitions**

NHS England 4 November 2021

- [General practice and the local community tackling climate change together](#) - Frome Medical Practice

- [Moving towards a greener general practice](#) Colton Mill Medical Centre

### CPD opportunities – Webinars & Conferences

#### **[After COP26: What will it take to get the NHS to net zero?](#)**

[The NHS is already making good progress to reduce its impact on the climate, now in the second year of delivering its strategy to reach net zero – by 2040 for the emissions it directly causes and 2045 for the emissions it influences. This webinar brings together an expert panel to reflect on the outcome of COP26, the challenges and opportunities this presents for decarbonising health care and what this means for the NHS.] Webinar

Date: 8th December, 2021, 10:30am-11:45am

<https://www.health.org.uk/about-the-health-foundation/get-involved/events/webinar-after-cop26-what-will-it-take-to-get-the-nhs-to-net-zero>

### Further information

[Centre for Sustainable Healthcare - Resources](#)