

## Governance on sustainability: Statutory and Policy Drivers

Sustainable Development and carbon management are corporate responsibilities. Clear governance provides an assurance process that considers requirements, both in terms of the law and to achieve high quality health and care. Demonstrating high quality health and care will be enhanced by embedding sustainable development into management and governance processes.

*'Sustainable, Resilient, Healthy People and Places – A Sustainable Development Strategy for the NHS, Public Health and Social Care system'* asks local health and care systems to:

- **Include sustainability as an identifiable component of local plans** – For example, consider including in local Health & Wellbeing Strategies, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health and Wellbeing Board reports.

*'Sustainable, Resilient, Healthy People and Places – A Sustainable Development Strategy for the NHS, Public Health and Social Care system'* asks all organisations to:

1. **Have a Board approved plan** – A Sustainable Development Management Plan (or equivalent) including carbon reduction, adaptation plans and actions across the sustainability agenda.
2. **Measure, monitor and report** - Statement of progress and action on sustainable development and adaption performance with recognisable core standard figures in annual report.
3. **Evaluation** - for instance with the Good Corporate Citizenship self-assessment tool, to ascertain areas of strengths and opportunities for development.
4. **Engage staff, service users and the public** - Engagement with public, patients, clients and staff to help understand and support the development of a more sustainable and resilient health and care system.

What follows is a summary of the statutory and policy requirements, and accompanying evidence, which organisations in the NHS, Public Health and Social Care system should consider as part of their approach to sustainable development.

### Explanation of the key drivers for change

Driver	Description	Link to additional information	Type of Driver
Civil Contingencies Act (2004)	<p>The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 requires certain organisations to prepare for adverse events/ incidents.</p> <p>Our changing climate is a major driver of many of the emergencies and extreme events that the UK must be better-prepared for. Heat-waves, flooding and cold weather can disrupt the operation of the health and care system and have direct impacts on health. These situations are recognised as relevant to the Act, alongside major incident situations.</p>	<a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/36/contents">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/36/contents</a>	Statutory
Climate Change Act (2008)	<p>UK legislation – long term legally binding framework to reduce carbon emissions, mitigate and adapt to climate change. The Climate Change Act became law on 26th November 2008.</p> <p><b>UK Climate Change Act Targets</b> reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050 (1990 baseline)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 34% by 2020 – strategy ambition</li> <li>- 50% by 2025</li> <li>- 80% by 2050</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents</a>	Statutory
Public Services (Social Value) Act (2012)	<p>The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, places a requirement on commissioners to consider economic, social and environmental benefits, taking a value for money approach - not lowest cost - to assessing contracts, when buying goods and services.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/public-procurement-note-public-services-social-value-act-2012">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/public-procurement-note-public-services-social-value-act-2012</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/3/pdfs/ukpga_20120003_en.pdf">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/3/pdfs/ukpga_20120003_en.pdf</a></p>	Statutory
Health Sector Report on Adaptation for 2015	<p>Under the Adaptation Reporting Power provisions outlined in the Climate Change Act (2008) the government have nominated the Sustainable Development Unit with support from NHS England and Public Health England as the reporting authority for the health sector.</p> <p>A report has been requested for July 2015.</p>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209875/pb13945-arp-climate-change-20130701.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209875/pb13945-arp-climate-change-20130701.pdf</a>	Statutory

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Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC)	<p>The Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) is a mandatory energy efficiency scheme.</p> <p>Organisations that meet the qualification criteria, based on how much electricity they consume, will be obliged to participate in the CRC.</p> <p>There are penalties, no matter how much energy you use, if the participation requirements are not met.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/pollution/126698.aspx">www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/pollution/126698.aspx</a></p>	Statutory
EU Directive on Public Procurement	<p>A new EU Directive on public procurement was agreed in 2013 setting new rules for public bodies when purchasing goods and services, including clinical services.</p> <p>It includes a number of positive drivers for sustainable development. For example, a provision that a greater emphasis is put on considering environmental and social issues in public procurement.</p>	<p><a href="http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/index_en.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.nhsconfed.org/Publications/briefings/Pages/New-EU-Directive-public-procurement.aspx">http://www.nhsconfed.org/Publications/briefings/Pages/New-EU-Directive-public-procurement.aspx</a></p>	Statutory
Principle 6 - NHS Constitution	<p>All NHS bodies and private and third sector providers supplying NHS services are required by law to take account of this constitution in their decisions and actions.</p> <p>Principle 6 states: <i>“The NHS is committed to providing best value for taxpayers’ money and the most effective, fair and sustainable use of finite resources.”</i></p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england</a></p>	Policy
Government Buying Standards	<p>The Government Buying Standards (GBS) are easy-to-use product specifications that enable public authorities to develop tenders which procure sustainably.</p>	<p><a href="http://sd.defra.gov.uk/advice/public/buying/">http://sd.defra.gov.uk/advice/public/buying/</a></p>	Policy
HM Treasury Sustainability Reporting Framework	<p>As part of its sustainable development strategy the Government mandates companies and public bodies to disclose their sustainability and environmental performance via their annual reports and accounts.</p> <p>A template has been created by DH to simplify the reporting for organisations and is available on the Sustainable Development Unit website. The reporting is based on Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) which includes mandatory sustainability and environmental reporting from 2012/13.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/delivery/measure/reporting.aspx">www.sduhealth.org.uk/delivery/measure/reporting.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-annual-reports-sustainability-reporting-guidance">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-annual-reports-sustainability-reporting-guidance</a></p>	Policy

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National Adaptation Programme	<p>The National Adaptation Programme (NAP) sets out what government, businesses and society are doing to become more climate ready.</p> <p>Healthy and resilient communities is a specific chapter and it contains an implementation plan of agreed actions by the health and care system.</p>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adapting-to-climate-change-national-adaptation-programme">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adapting-to-climate-change-national-adaptation-programme</a>	Policy
Public Health Outcome Framework	<p>The Outcome Framework for public health at national and local levels consists of five domains.</p> <p>The Health Protection and Resilience domain includes the indicator: Public sector organisations with a board-approved Sustainable Development Management Plan (SDMP).</p>	<a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_132559.pdf">http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_132559.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework/domain/4">http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework/domain/4</a>	Policy
NHS Standard Contract SD Service Condition requirements	<p>The NHS Standard Contract - Service Conditions – SC15 Services Environment and Equipment - requires all providers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take all reasonable steps to minimise their adverse impact on the environment</li> <li>• Demonstrate their progress on climate change adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development, including performance against carbon reduction management plans, and must provide a summary of that progress in their annual report.</li> </ul> <p>The NHS Standard Contract: Service Conditions SC30. Emergency Preparedness and Resilience Including Major Incidents - requires all providers to comply with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30.7.1 national and local civil contingency plans;</li> <li>• 30.7.2 the Civil Contingencies Act 2004;</li> <li>• 30.7.3 any other Law and/or Guidance in relation to Significant Incidents or Emergencies <b>including the EPRR Guidance.</b></li> </ul> <p>General Conditions – Definitions and Interpretations. EPRR Guidance.</p> <p>The emergency preparedness, resilience and response and sustainability guidance published by the Department of Health and NHS England from time to time, including: ... (iv) <b>NHS Sustainable Development Unit Adaptation Guidance.</b></p>	<a href="http://www.england.nhs.uk/nhs-standard-contract/">http://www.england.nhs.uk/nhs-standard-contract/</a>  <a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/plan">www.sduhealth.org.uk/plan</a>	Policy

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NHS Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS) 2009	<p>The Carbon Reduction Strategy set an ambition for the NHS to help drive change towards a low carbon society.</p> <p>Published in response to the Climate Change Act it set an interim NHS target of a 10% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by 2015 (originally based on a 2007 baseline and given current progress, from a 2012 baseline)</p>	<a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/engagement-resources/nhs-carbon-reduction-strategy-2009.aspx">www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/engagement-resources/nhs-carbon-reduction-strategy-2009.aspx</a>	<b>Policy</b>
National Policy and Planning Framework	<p>The Framework sets out the government's planning policies for England. The document states that "the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development" (pg. 2).</p> <p>The national policy and planning framework has a specific section on Promoting Healthy Communities.</p>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf">www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf</a>	<b>Policy</b>
Health 2020 WHO	<p>Health 2020 is the European health policy framework for the World Health Organization (WHO) European region. It aims to support action across government and society to:</p> <p>"significantly improve the health and well-being of populations, reduce health inequalities, strengthen public health and ensure people-centred health systems that are universal, equitable, sustainable and of high quality".</p>	<a href="http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being">http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being</a>	<b>Policy</b>
Challenging financial environment	<p>The pressure on public service budgets since the global economic crisis in 2007 has been well documented. The challenging financial environment continues to act as a key driver for examining and transforming how health and care services are delivered.</p> <p>Platforms for these discussions, such as the NHS 'Call to Action' or the Local Government Association's 'Rewiring Public Services' campaign are an opportunity to engage in shaping the future.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.england.nhs.uk/2013/07/11/call-to-action/">http://www.england.nhs.uk/2013/07/11/call-to-action/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.local.gov.uk/campaigns/">www.local.gov.uk/campaigns/</a></p>	<b>Evidence</b>
Rising costs	<p>The paper 'Spending on health and social care over the next 50 years. Why think long term?' by John Appleby of the King's Fund provides a useful examination of the projections and drivers of rising costs in the health and social care sector.</p>	<a href="http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/files/kf/field/field_publication_file/Spending%20on%20health%20...%2050%20years%20low%20res%20for%20web.pdf">http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/files/kf/field/field_publication_file/Spending%20on%20health%20...%2050%20years%20low%20res%20for%20web.pdf</a>	<b>Evidence</b>

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Economics of Climate Change - Stern Review 2006	<p>This review assessed a wide range of evidence on the impacts of climate change and on the economic costs, and used a number of different techniques to assess costs and risks.</p> <p>From all of these perspectives, the evidence gathered by the Review leads to a simple conclusion: the benefits of strong and early action far outweigh the economic costs of not acting.</p>	<a href="http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130129110402/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/stern_review_report.htm">http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130129110402/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/stern_review_report.htm</a>	Evidence
Defra Economics of Climate Resilience Report 2013	The reports assess the UK's capacity to adapt to the future challenges of climate change and the degree to which adaptation action is already being taken or planned. The reports conclude that action needs to be taken urgently to ensure the UK is ready for the climate change challenge ahead.	<a href="http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Module=More&amp;Location=None&amp;ProjectID=18016">http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Module=More&amp;Location=None&amp;ProjectID=18016</a>	Evidence
NHS Marginal Abatement Cost Curves	Marginal Abatement Cost Curves developed by the NHS in England have identified over £180 million of health system savings through initiatives to reduce carbon emissions. For example, replacing 5% of NHS business miles with teleconferencing would save almost £14 million each year.	<a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/delivery/measure/finance.aspx">www.sduhealth.org.uk/delivery/measure/finance.aspx</a>	Evidence
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) AR 5 2013	<p>One of the main IPCC activities is the preparation of comprehensive Assessment Reports about the state of scientific, technical and socio-economic knowledge on climate change, its causes, potential impacts and response strategies.</p> <p>The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) is being released in four parts between September 2013 and November 2014.</p>	<a href="http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/#.UpdlgKxLeiA">http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/#.UpdlgKxLeiA</a>	Evidence
HPA Health Effects of Climate Change 2012	<p>This report provides scientific evidence of the wider risks to public health from climate change in the UK.</p> <p>It gives those in the health and social care sectors the information they need to make informed decisions about the pressures of climate change on public health.</p>	<a href="http://www.hpa.org.uk/hecc2012">http://www.hpa.org.uk/hecc2012</a>	Evidence

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Health Co-benefits Evidence	<p>There is a growing body of evidence that actions to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change can simultaneously improve health and wellbeing. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costello A, Abbas M, Allen A, et al. Managing the health effects of climate change. <i>Lancet</i> 2009; 373: 1693–733</li> <li>• Summary of health impacts of transport. <i>Health in the Green Economy. Health co-benefits of climate change mitigation. Transport sector</i>. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2011: 21 – 39.</li> <li>• Haines, A, Dora C. How the low carbon economy can improve health. <i>BMJ</i> 2012; 344:e1018: (Published 19 March 2012)</li> </ul>	<p>Lancet, 2009. <a href="http://www.thelancet.com/climate-change">www.thelancet.com/climate-change</a> [accessed 06 January 2014]</p> <p>WHO, 2011. <a href="http://www.who.int/hia/examples/trspt_comms/hge_transport_lowresdurban_30_11_2011.pdf">http://www.who.int/hia/examples/trspt_comms/hge_transport_lowresdurban_30_11_2011.pdf</a> [accessed 06 January 2014]</p> <p>BMJ, 2012 <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.e1018">http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.e1018</a> [accessed 06 January 2014]</p>	Evidence
NICE Guidelines - Active Travel	<p>Public Health Guidance 41 - Walking and cycling: local measures to promote walking and cycling as forms of travel or recreation.</p> <p>This guidance aims to set out how people can be encouraged to increase the amount they walk or cycle for travel or recreation purposes. This will help meet public health and other goals (for instance, to reduce traffic congestion, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions).</p>	<a href="http://publications.nice.org.uk/walking-and-cycling-local-measures-to-promote-walking-and-cycling-as-forms-of-travel-or-recreation-ph41#what-is-this-guidance-about">http://publications.nice.org.uk/walking-and-cycling-local-measures-to-promote-walking-and-cycling-as-forms-of-travel-or-recreation-ph41#what-is-this-guidance-about</a>	Evidence
Marmot Review 2010 - 'Fair Society Healthy Lives'	<p>Professor Sir Michael Marmot chaired an independent review to propose the most effective strategies for reducing health inequalities in England from 2010.</p> <p>The report concluded that reducing health inequalities would require action on six policy objectives. The objectives align with, and mutually support, the objectives of the sustainable development strategy.</p>	<a href="http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/projects/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review">http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/projects/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review</a>	Evidence
WHO Europe - Social Determinants and the Health Divide	<p>The review has collected new evidence on the magnitude and pathways related to health inequalities in the European Region and the most effective interventions and policy approaches to address them.</p> <p>It illustrates that what makes societies flourish and sustainable also makes people healthy.</p>	<a href="http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/215196/Review-of-social-determinants-and-the-health-divide-in-the-WHO-European-Region-final-report-Eng.pdf">http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/215196/Review-of-social-determinants-and-the-health-divide-in-the-WHO-European-Region-final-report-Eng.pdf</a>	Evidence



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Health and Social Care Carbon footprint	<p>The world's first combined health, public health and social care carbon footprint for a national health system estimates the health and care system carbon footprint to be 32 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e).</p> <p>This represents 40% of public sector emissions in England.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/report">www.sduhealth.org.uk/report</a></p>	<p><b>Evidence</b></p>
Sustainable Development Unit Ipsos MORI Surveys	<p>Ipsos MORI conducted surveys on behalf of the Sustainable Development Unit investigating public attitudes towards sustainability in the health and care system in 2011 and 2013.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/report">www.sduhealth.org.uk/report</a></p>	<p><b>Evidence</b></p>

Drivers for Change Diagram from Sustainable Development Strategy for the NHS, Public Health and Social Care System 2014-2020:

