



# Case Study

Partnerships and  
networking

Isle of Wight NHS Trust and CCG

## Greener Care – An integrated approach to sustainability on the Isle of Wight

The Isle of Wight is located off the Hampshire coast and is the largest island in England, with a population of 140,000.

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust is the only integrated acute, community, mental health and ambulance health care provider in England.

The NHS Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) commissions healthcare services on the Island working alongside health care professionals from secondary care, public health and the local authority.

### What was the issue / problem being addressed?

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust has had a Carbon Management Plan in place since 2010 and made notable progress towards its carbon reduction targets. However, a number of sustainability topics were not captured, and the Trust recognised the need for a strategic document with a wider scope.

### What action was taken to overcome the issue?

The Trust and CCG agreed to work together on developing a joint SDMP, in order to align strategies and optimise outcomes. *Greener Care, a shared Sustainable Development Management Plan 2015-2020* is a common vision, which sets out the organisations' ambitions for reducing

their environmental impacts and embedding sustainability.

This is believed to be the first SDMP in the NHS developed collaboratively by commissioner and provider organisations together. A cross organisational SDMP is an example among others of innovative integration taking place in the unique Isle of Wight healthcare economy.

*My Life A Full Life* is a programme jointly funded by the council, Trust and CCG and works together with third sector organisations, local people, families and carers. The programme has been a catalyst for change, bringing together organisations to deliver a significant programme of changing cultures, attitudes and behaviours.



The focus has been on person centred community response to ensure people receive co-ordinated care and support.

### **What was the impact / result?**

Developing the SDMP has allowed for constructive dialogue, mapped out opportunities, and opened new lines of communication. However it will take time for the commitments of Greener Care to be genuinely embedded into the respective organisations. The SDMP was specifically designed to be user-friendly and accessible to a wide range of people. As a result it will also be used as an engagement and educational tool.

### **Lessons learned**

Developing a joint vision with a number of stakeholders can be challenging, as it can bring to light some fundamental differences in approaches or priorities. Engaging with a range of stakeholders raised the profile of sustainability at a number of levels in both the Trust and the CCG.

Commissioner and provider have vastly different environmental impacts and ways to progress the sustainability agenda. The Trust's main impact and areas of focus are 'traditional' environmental topics, such as waste, energy and water management. The CCG's main focus is on taking commissioning decisions that fully incorporate the principles of sustainable development. Themes which could be worked on jointly and those with individual ownership have been clearly identified and labelled as such in the Plan.

*“Applying the principles of sustainable development is a model of thinking which contributes to our organisations being resilient and fit for the future. Importantly, saving carbon also save costs, which means we can concentrate our limited resources on patient care.”*

– Caroline Morris, Head of Corporate Business and Primary Care at the Isle of Wight CCG

### **Scaling up**

While the NHS is facing increasing pressure on resources taking time to develop a Sustainable Development Management Plan may seem to some a low priority. However, the production of *Greener Care* has been seen a genuine investment in the future as long term sustainability of the local NHS. The Trust and CCG strongly encourage those organisations who have not yet adopted an SDMP to do so. The process of developing an SDMP itself is an opportunity to create a positive debate and scope opportunities for change.

### **For further information contact:**

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