



## State of Play audit - NHS

To ascertain the current level of activity around carbon reduction and climate change across the sectors participating in the Low Carbon Cities Programme (LCCP) a series of telephone interviews were carried out with representatives from across NHS Trusts, local authorities and higher education institutions. This flier presents the results of the audit pertaining to the following NHS Trusts:

- Bristol Primary Care Trust
- United Bristol NHS Trust
- North Bristol NHS Trust
- Birmingham Primary Care Shared Services
- Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospital NHS Trust

## Carbon Management matrix

The Carbon Trust's Carbon Management matrix was used to score the organisations based on their performance in the five areas defined in the table overleaf.

Two of the five organisations have Environment Strategies, one has a Climate Change Strategy and another has a Sustainable Development Strategy. One organisation has a Carbon Management Plan and another has no strategy or plan related to climate change. All of the strategies are either signed off, or in the case of one Trust, will be signed off upon completion of the Action Plan. All have the support of senior management and have monitoring in place to monitor progress with their implementation plans.

Category	Description	Rating out of 5
Policy	Whether the organisation has a climate change policy and action plan with targets, which is signed off and implemented.	3.2
Organisation	Whether climate change/ carbon management has political support from the highest level of the organisation and is the full time responsibility of an individual or integrated into the responsibilities of many individuals.	2.8
Information and data	Whether externally validated CO <sub>2</sub> emissions data is collated for buildings, transport, etc for a baseline year and at regular intervals.	2.8
Communication and training	Whether there is a formalised communications and training plan for all staff on carbon and energy related matters.	2.8
Finance	Whether there are effective internal financing mechanisms for carbon/ energy saving projects and the extent to which external sources of funding are utilised.	3.3
Monitoring and evaluation	Whether there are regular reviews of carbon management processes by core teams and senior management.	3.0
<b>Average</b>		<b>2.9</b>

## Targets

All of the trusts with strategies/plans have CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets built into these. Only one interviewee was unable to provide details of the targets. The remaining targets are as follows:

- 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2010 (1990 baseline).
- 15% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emission by 2010 (2000 baseline).
- 20% reduction by 2010 and 60% by 2050. (2000 baseline).
- 3% (or 4000 tonnes) emissions reduction in next 5 years

## Communication

Annual reports, newsletters and online resources, such as websites and intranet sites were mentioned as key communication methods. Other vehicles mentioned by individuals include: team

briefings, an energy champion and a staff survey.

Similar vehicles were used for training employees in climate change issues, e.g. newsletters and annual reports. Other training techniques included induction training, an energy campaign and an external Carbon trust training course.

## Monitoring

Monitoring is in place for oil and gas use within all of the Trusts interviewed. Only three organisations however, monitor transport fuel use for work related travel and two for fleet emissions. Only one Trust monitors commuting practices through a staff travel survey.

With regard to monitoring community energy use, one Trust mentioned the monitoring on nurses' accommodation and work towards a travel plan in conjunction with other employers from within the city.

A second interviewee also mentioned plans to conduct a hospital travel research project.

## Projects - Internal

Reference was made to compliance with NHS performance targets by one interviewee with regard to new buildings and refurbishments. This had involved fitting building controls and training employees in carbon management. Another interviewee stated that they will look at options such as CHP, biomass, other renewables etc. when evaluating companies tenders for development projects as they have set a site target of 20% renewable energy for new development and 20% recycled content of building materials.

One Trust has a specific Travel to Work Strategy, with an interlink bus between hospitals and provision of City Car Club cars. Another has changed the main boiler plant at one hospital from oil to gas, increasing efficiency and controllability to the extent that there are plans to extend this to other buildings.

Further internal projects involved an ICT strategy to only purchase flat screen computer monitors and a project to segregate waste streams across key buildings.

## Project - External

Transport policies were popular for external projects within this sector. Further to the Interlink bus between hospitals for staff and patients, one Trust provides bus timetables within outpatient clinics and travel information on the Trust website, as well as bicycle racks. Another Trust is trying to improve public transport by providing a free bus in

conjunction with the local authority. This Trust also participated in 'Chooseday', an initiative to encourage staff and patients to leave their cars at home.

None of the NHS Trusts reported failed or unsuccessful projects.

## Projects – Planned

One interviewee mentioned the construction of a new PFI hospital, however did not specify whether there would be low carbon aspects built into the design. Another Trust is initiating a programme to install boilers and building energy management systems across its buildings.

## Partnerships

The interviewees were asked whether they work in partnership with any other organisations with regard to climate change initiatives. The NHS interviewees listed the following organisations:

- Birmingham City Council
- Bristol Partnership
- Forum for the Future
- Green Commuter Club
- Liverpool City Council
- Other Primary Care Trusts
- Voluntary services

## Barriers to successful partnerships

Money was cited as a barrier by one interviewee and staff time to work on carbon initiatives was listed by another. A lack of enthusiasm for low carbon initiatives was listed by a third Trust.

Greater discussion between interested parties was championed by a number of Trusts as a way to break down barriers and achieve agreement on common goals.