



Environmental Policy Statement 2021/22

The North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) NHS Foundation Trust covers the counties of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham and Teesside, an area of approximately 3,230 square miles and employs more than 2500 staff, serving a population of 2.7 million. The Trust acknowledges that as a major provider of services to the community, our activities and operations will inevitably have an impact on the environment.

We seek excellence in every aspect of the Trust and as a consequence we are committed to preventing pollution from our business. We endeavour to comply with and, where possible, exceed the requirements of all relevant environmental legislation as well as other requirements to which the Trust subscribes.

The Trust's commitment is to;

- Identify, evaluate and manage our significant environmental risks and impacts.
- Reduce our consumption and increase efficiency of utilities and fuel, and where possible use renewable energy produced on site.
- Measure and take action to reduce the Trust's carbon footprint in line with the targets in the Trust Green Plan which reflect the NHS Net Zero 2040 requirements, and the 2030 ban on purchase of new petrol, diesel & hybrid vehicles.
- Manage the waste & single use plastics generated by the Trust in accordance with the NEAS Waste Management Policy and the premise of reduce, reuse & recycle.
- Give due consideration to environmental issues and energy performance in the acquisition, design, refurbishment, and use of buildings.
- Purchase where possible environmentally superior goods & services from supply chain partners who have demonstrated a clear commitment to good environmental practice.
- Continually improve our environmental performance & integrate environmental best practice into the Trust's operations.
- Complete NHS Green Team sustainability assessment tool on an annual basis and strive for improvement year on year.
- Further promote agile working and virtual meetings where possible to reduce the Trust's impact from commuting vehicles and need for car parking, which will have a positive impact on the work -life balance of our staff.

To meet our commitments, we will;

- Set and monitor key targets & objectives as outlined in the Trust Green Plan 2021-2026
- Communicate key ideas and initiatives through the Trust's Environmental Compliance & Sustainability Group on a quarterly basis, encouraging feedback and stakeholder engagement.
- Provide training and education to our employees to ensure environmental compliance across the Trust.
- Benchmark ourselves against other Ambulance Services through The Green Environmental Ambulance Network (GrEAN), the National Ambulance Procurement Board, National Estates Group and the National Strategic Fleet Group, and strive for improvement.
- Communicate the policy internally to employees and externally to stakeholders and the public encouraging feedback. The policy is available to view on the Trust's intranet.
- Renew our policy on a regular basis and seek continual improvement on our targets.

The implementation of this policy will be overseen by Chief Executive Helen Ray