

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP NHS TRUST

TRUST ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

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APPENDIX I CHECKLIST OF SHORT TERM MEASURES TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

APPENDIX II CHECKLIST OF LONG TERM MEASURES TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

It is the policy of the Gloucestershire Partnership NHS Trust to consider the environmental effect of all of its activities, and take them into account in preparing or reviewing strategies.

As a major consumer of products and services, the Trust recognises that its actions can have considerable impact on the environment. The Trust aims to ensure that its activities benefit the environment whenever this is possible. When this is not possible the Trust will aim to ensure that its activities cause no or minimal harm to the environment.

The Trust also recognises the expectations of stakeholders, and in particular the need to contribute to the "Greening Government" and "Greening the NHS" initiatives, the UK's wider commitment to sustainable development and the Local Agenda 21 plan.

The Trust has great potential to make a positive contribution to improving the quality of the environment. In particular it will look to achieve improvements through its purchasing policies and operational procedures.

The strategy concentrates on key areas for action in order to minimise the harmful effects and maximise the beneficial effects of the Trust's activities on the environment. The key areas are:-

- Energy
 - Heating and hot water systems
 - Atmospheric emissions
 - Air-conditioning and ventilation
 - Electricity usage

- Waste
 - Waste handling and disposal
 - Re-use and recycling

- Water
 - Water consumption
 - Water waste and effluents
 - Groundwater and streams

- Transport
 - Green transport plans
 - Fleet management
 - Logistics

- Procurement
 - Consumption of resources and manufactured goods
 - Handling and storage of raw materials

The following sections set out the Trust's general aims in meeting its environmental policy objectives.

2***PURCHASING POLICY***

The Trust intends to exercise its purchasing power, in co-operation with the NHS Purchasing And Supplies Agency (PASA) as an effective means of protecting and improving the environment by targeting the use of products that:-

- are made from recycled materials and/or are themselves recyclable
- use a minimum of packaging and/or use biodegradable packaging
- avoid the use of toxic substances (e.g. CFCs) in their manufacture
- are uncontaminated by toxic substances (e.g. dioxins)
- are manufactured from materials from a sustainable source
- are energy conscious in their production
- are of maximum life usage to cost ratio

3***WASTE MANAGEMENT***

As a significant consumer of goods, the Trust is consequently a significant producer of waste. The Trust aims to ensure effective waste management by:-

- minimising waste in the first place
- establishing systems of segregation to ensure the most environmentally appropriate method of disposal is used
- eliminating risk to staff and public from exposure to potentially dangerous waste
- re-using and/or recycling waste whenever appropriate
- disposing of waste in an environmentally sound and energy conscious manner which meets all requirements of Health & Safety and other statutory standards
- eliminating risk to staff transporting waste
- eliminating the risk of waste being disposed of by an inappropriate means
- maintaining appropriate control of waste from point of generation to point of disposal

4***ENERGY MANAGEMENT***

The Trust will continually monitor and target energy usage across all sites and services to identify and rectify areas of wastage, aiming to progressively lower energy consumption levels by:-

- Promptly dealing with identified wastage from plant or equipment failure
- Encouraging efficient use of equipment
- Monitoring and reporting on energy use in buildings and departments
- Using fuels with the least environmental impact, subject to cost and feasibility
- Maintaining combustion plant at optimum efficiency

The motor vehicle is a major contributor to atmospheric pollution, noise pollution and a large consumer of non-renewable resources. Exhaust fumes contribute to national and global environmental problems such as photochemical smog and global warming. As a consequence the Trust will aim to develop and introduce policies which:-

- reduce the need to travel by the use of communication and other new technologies
- encourage a reduction in the use of motor vehicles
- ensure that if motor vehicles have to be used they have the least possible damaging effect on the environment. Car sharing where appropriate
- ensure appropriate car park management systems are in place
- encourage the use of other more environmentally friendly means of transport eg public transport, cycling and walking as appropriate
- ensure that the Trusts fleet vehicles are appropriate to needs and are modern, fuel efficient and properly maintained

Where appropriate, Green Transport Plans will be prepared to bring these issues together for individual sites.

The Trust will manage its estate to ensure that adverse effects on the environment are minimised and as a consequence will aim to ensure that:

- Substances hazardous to health or the environment are controlled properly in use and in their disposal
- Internal and external air quality standards are maintained, and air is as far as possible free of pollutants
- Water usage is monitored, leaks are dealt with promptly and appropriate water qualities are used for processes
- Clean and foul drainage systems are adequately segregated, and clean systems are used only for uncontaminated water
- Foul drainage systems are used within the consent limits for the system, where this is applicable
- Noise levels are contained to acceptable standards, particularly at night
- Land is not contaminated by pollutants arising from Trust activities
- Where appropriate the Trust will ensure that horticultural practices are employed on its land which enhance the quality of the land and increase the diversity of plants and wildlife

7***CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT***

In providing new, or improving existing, facilities, the Trust will have due regard for the environmental impact of the development, and will:-

- Adopt sustainability principles in all aspects of the development
- Consider whole-life cost issues in specifying heat sources, major plant and insulation standards
- Provide a safe and healthy working environment by good building design, good ventilation and good internal design

8***PEOPLE***

The Trust's major asset in seeking improvements in its performance in respect to environmental issues is its staff. The Trust will encourage its entire staff to act in an environmentally responsible way within the constraints of delivering effective health care and will actively promote education in environmental issues.

CHECKLIST OF SHORT TERM MEASURES TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

PURCHASING POLICY

purchase of recycled and non-bleached paper or paper bleached with oxygen for all office stationery

provision of less processed food and more fresh produce

phasing out of inappropriate use of aerosols

use only of fully biodegradable cleaning agents

use only CFC free refrigerators

minimising the use of phosphates, brightening agents and chlorine based bleaches

reduction in the use of foam blown/polystyrene products

use of toiletry products made from 100% low grade recycled paper

purchase of furniture made from temperate hardwoods not tropical hardwoods

purchasing goods with minimal packaging

reducing use of disposable products

avoidance of the use of disposable crockery

review use of disposable clinical products

use of energy-efficient electrical equipment where this is appropriate and possible

WASTE MANAGEMENT

recycle all items of waste which can be safely and economically segregated for disposal

maximise use of office stationery eg using scrap pads made from waste paper and double sided typing and photocopying.

avoid dumping of obsolete equipment by seeking alternative outlets

systematically introduce systems of recycling paper and cardboard at all sites

introduce recycling points for bottles, cans, used print/copier cartridges, batteries, plastic cups and batteries at major sites

ensure valuable metals eg brass, copper, lead are collected for recycling

reclaim silver nitrate from X-ray processing

incinerate all clinical and special waste at locations properly licensed for this purpose

landfill domestic waste which cannot reasonably be separated and recycled

produce guidelines for the safe disposal of effluent and ensure that they are followed

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

education and training of staff in energy saving practices
introduction of energy policy based on ENCODE
efficient operation of equipment
regular audit of activities and monitoring of performance
installation of low energy and high efficiency lighting
installation of "soft start" and variable speed motor controllers
regular maintenance of buildings and plants
thermostatic controls on radiators
control of heating and cooling appliances and systems to maximise efficiency

TRANSPORT

introduce transport policy to encourage the reduction in toxic vehicle emissions and a reduction in the use of motor vehicles
address the implications for transport use when planning the location of new service
introduce car parking and access management policy to control and manage site vehicle movements
review alternative modes of transport
seek to change the Trust culture to suit more environmentally friendly transport policies
encourage use of bicycles and walking (as appropriate) for short journeys.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT

carry out an environmental audit of the Trust estate
establishment of tree management and replacement standards
use of environmentally harmless weed and pest control techniques wherever possible
use of extensive internal planting arrangements

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

establishment of an energy standards brief for all new design work
the use of energy modelling techniques in the design process
post project evaluation of energy consumption standards

PEOPLE

ensure that relevant environmental issues are covered in staff induction courses and in the office manuals
organising training programmes on particular issues and targeted at specific groups as appropriate

CHECKLIST OF LONG TERM MEASURES TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

PURCHASING POLICY

ensure that all paper used has a content of at least 75% recycled paper
use office products that do not contain toxins
use office products that are refillable and reusable rather than disposable
use locally produced food
use organically grown food free from pesticides and herbicides
pursue contracts supplies who use recycled and recyclable packaging

WASTE MANAGEMENT

review new technologies for the disposal of hazardous wastes

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

making energy efficiency integral to the design of all new and upgraded buildings
use of cleaner, more energy efficient fuel and/or fuel from a sustainable source
installation of modern control systems to maximise the efficient use of energy.
appraisal of joint ownership viability of large scale plant with other organisations

TRANSPORT

continually monitor and manage staff vehicle usage
Discourage on site movements of lorries
encourage alternative transport use for visitors

ESTATE MANAGEMENT

leading from the environmental review set objectives and targets for improvement

in conjunction with the Trust corporate management to develop and introduce an appropriate environmental management system (ISO 14001)

purchase goods with minimal adverse environmental impact

planting of indigenous trees and plants

working with wildlife and conservation groups in the management of land and the development of wildlife areas