



HFMA briefing  
August 2019



# Environmental sustainability round-up

## August 2019



This briefing is intended to update HFMA members on developments in environmental sustainability both within the NHS and the wider finance profession. This first edition of our *Environmental sustainability round-up* is designed to introduce some of the organisations focused on developing environmentally sustainable healthcare, as well as keeping members up to date with what is going on. Future editions will aim go into more depth on current and upcoming initiatives.

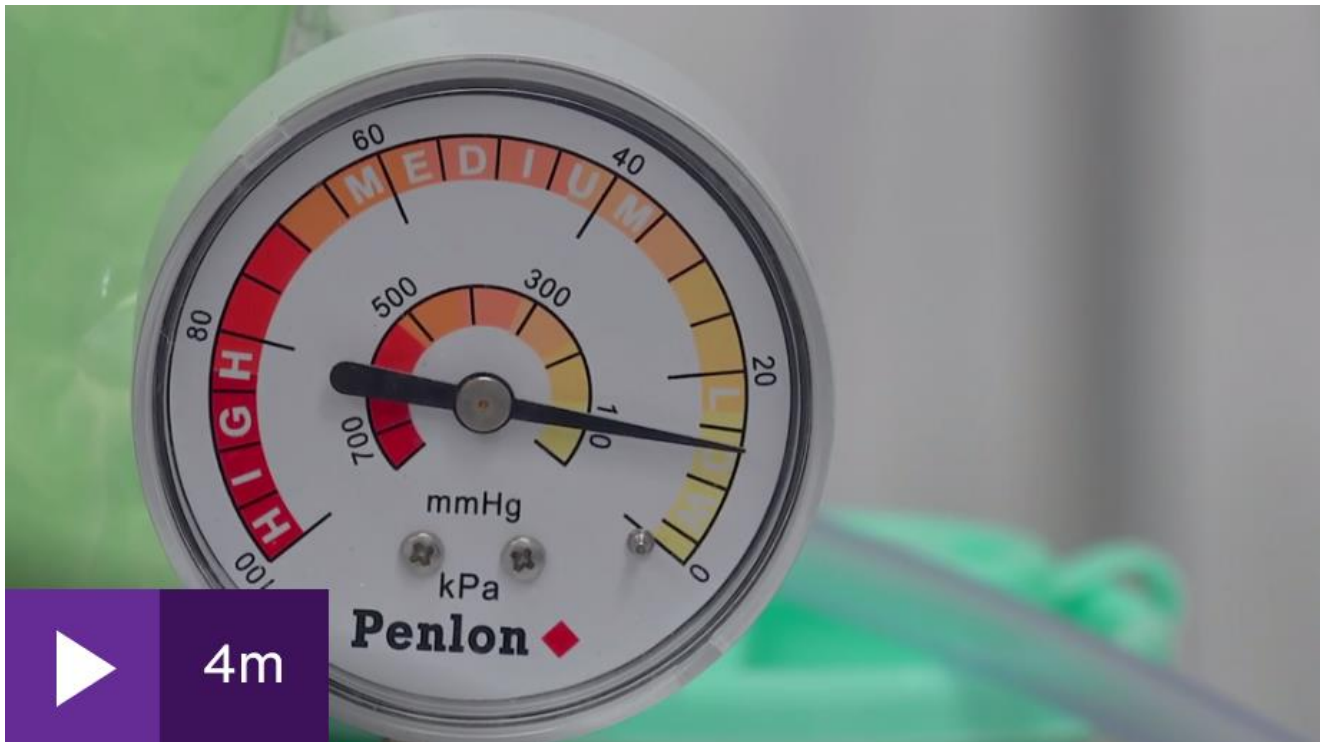
### In the news

#### Net zero emissions law

Just in case you've missed it, the UK has become the first major economy to pass a *net zero emissions law*. The new target will require the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

#### Climate change emergency

In June the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust became the first hospital to declare a climate emergency, and they are planning to be carbon neutral by 2040. Click the image below to find out more:



### New website from Deloitte

A new free-to-access website has been launched by Deloitte, [www.deloitte.co.uk/climatechange](http://www.deloitte.co.uk/climatechange), in collaboration with the ICAEW. The new website provides learning on the business context of climate change, as well as how boards can implement change through their governance, strategy and reporting.

### Sustainability School

Join the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare in their Autumn Sustainability School, 1-2 October 2019. Based in Oxford, the training will cover specific aspects of sustainability, health and healthcare. [Click here](#) for more details.

### The NHS as anchor institutions

The *NHS long-term plan* commented on the role of the NHS as an anchor institution<sup>1</sup>. Anchor Institutions are large, typically non-profit organisations, that are able to influence the health and prosperity of their local populations through the way they operate. NHS England and NHS Improvement, together with the Health Foundation, are researching *anchor institutions*. They are currently determining whether their involvement goes further than showcasing best practice to potentially outlining an approach, or even an expectation, of how all NHS bodies should operate within their local communities.

### Sustainable Development Unit (SDU)

The SDU is funded by, and accountable to, NHS England and Public Health England to work across the NHS, public health and social care system to embed and promote the three elements of sustainable development – environmental, social and financial.

They are currently finalising development of a *Sustainable healthcare dashboard* which will highlight key opportunities for change within the NHS, contributing to the sustainability targets of the *NHS long-term plan*.

<sup>1</sup> NHS Improvement, *NHS long-term plan*, January 2019

## Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH)

The CSH provides strategic input and consultancy to national and local programmes including:

- *sustainable specialities*, designed to make clinical sustainability integral to the planning of health systems
- greenspace projects, such as their *green ward competition* which is designed to empower clinicians to make their daily practice more sustainable, and the *NHS Forest* focusing on the benefits of green space on or near to healthcare estates
- recent case studies - [click here](#) to read about how Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust utilised a new innovative platform to run their annual energy campaign.

## The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability (A4S)

The *A4S* project was established by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2004. Its aim is to inspire action by finance leaders to drive a fundamental shift towards resilient business models and a sustainable economy. To do this, A4S has three core aims that underpin everything they do:

- inspire finance leaders to adopt sustainable and resilient business models
- transform financial decision making to enable an integrated approach, reflective of the opportunities and risks posed by environmental and social issues
- scale up action across the global finance and accounting community.

## The HFMA's Environmental Sustainability Special Interest Group

The HFMA's Environmental Sustainability Special Interest Group works to highlight good practice in embedding environmental and social sustainability in the NHS and the wide range of benefits this offers, including operating within safe financial and environmental limits, developing robust, resilient and future proof models of prevention and care.

The Group's membership includes representatives from provider and commissioner bodies in the NHS, as well as the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU), NHS England and NHS Improvement, the Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project (A4S), the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC), and independent consultants.

## How to get involved

The HFMA would like to hear any good examples of how your organisation is acting in an environmentally sustainable way.

We are particularly interested in:

- how your organisation is being an anchor institution
- the simple but effective projects organisations can implement in order to improve their impact on the environment.

If you are willing to share your good practice please email Andrew Monahan, HFMA policy and research manager ([andrew.monahan@hfma.org.uk](mailto:andrew.monahan@hfma.org.uk)) with a brief description of your example(s).

**Additionally, if you are a member of the NHS finance community, and interested in contributing to the group more regularly, please also get in touch with Andrew to find out more.**

## About the HFMA

The Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) is the professional body for finance staff in healthcare. For nearly 70 years, it has provided independent and objective advice to its members and the wider healthcare community. It is a charitable organisation that promotes best practice and innovation in financial management and governance across the UK health economy through its local and national networks.

The association also analyses and responds to national policy and aims to exert influence in shaping the wider healthcare agenda. It has particular interest in promoting the highest professional standards in financial management and governance and is keen to work with other organisations to promote approaches that really are 'fit for purpose' and effective.

The HFMA offers a range of qualifications in healthcare business and finance at undergraduate and postgraduate level and can provide a route to an MBA in healthcare finance. The qualifications are delivered through HFMA's Academy which was launched in 2017 and has already established strong learner and alumni networks.

© Healthcare Financial Management Association 2019. All rights reserved.

While every care had been taken in the preparation of this briefing, the HFMA cannot in any circumstances accept responsibility for errors or omissions, and is not responsible for any loss occasioned to any person or organisation acting or refraining from action as a result of any material in it.

### HFMA

1 Temple Way, Bristol BS2 0BU

T 0117 929 4789

F 0117 929 4844

E [info@hfma.org.uk](mailto:info@hfma.org.uk)

Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) is a registered charity in England and Wales, no 1114463 and Scotland, no SCO41994.

HFMA is also a limited company registered in England and Wales, no 5787972. Registered office: 110 Rochester Row, Victoria, London SW1P 1JP

[www.hfma.org.uk](http://www.hfma.org.uk)