



# **Net zero and sustainable procurement in the NHS**

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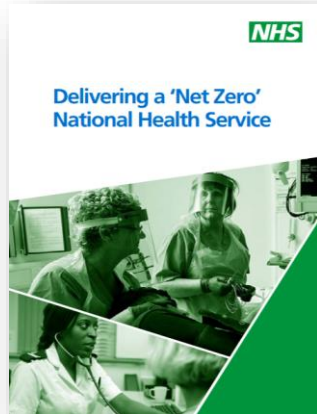
# Background: Strategic Objectives

With the publication of 'Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service', the NHS affirmed the need to act on climate change and committed to ambitious reduction targets. The NHS is also committed to transparency across the supply chain to eliminate Modern Slavery and facilitate local economic growth in-line with the Social Value Model.



## Net Zero

In October 2020, the Greener NHS published the NHS's Net Zero climate targets and ambition.



**Direct emissions: net zero by 2040**  
**Indirect (carbon footprint plus): net zero by 2045**



## Social Value

From 1 April 2022, the NHS adopted the Social Value Model and includes a 10% minimum weighting for net zero and social value in all procurements.

Policy paper  
**Procurement Policy Note 06/20 – taking account of social value in the award of central government contracts**

This note sets out how to take account of social value in the award of central government contracts by using the Social Value Model.



## Modern Slavery

The Health & Care Act has strengthened NHS obligations to eradicate Modern Slavery. No supply chains or country is immune, and targeted action is needed.

TACKLING MODERN SLAVERY IN GOVERNMENT SUPPLY CHAINS



# Strategic Framework for NHS Commercial

The commercial function of NHS England is responsible for around £35 billion of spend with over 80,000 suppliers. The strategic framework covers ambitions and objectives over the next 5 years.

1. **Our people** – we need to continue to attract the best and most diverse commercial talent to the NHS, and accredit, develop and connect this workforce.
2. **Digital and transparency** – we need to drive consistency in the systems that we deploy, so that quality data can be used as a strategic asset and support us to ensure greater transparency.
3. **How we work** – we need to remain agile but embed consistency in our processes to ensure best practice across the system.
4. **Influence and scale** – we need to leverage our influence and scale to strengthen partnerships, foster healthy supply markets, develop and shape the market, unlock benefits from innovation, and deliver wider social value and economic benefits through our procurement.

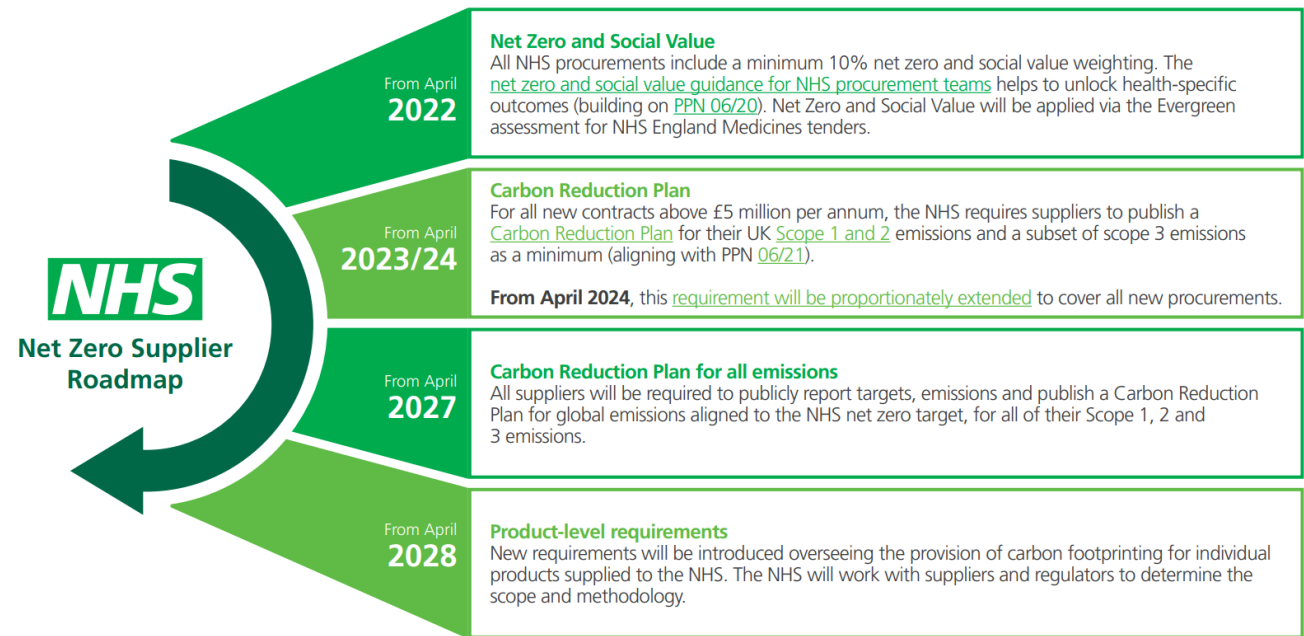
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/strategic-framework-for-nhs-commercial/>

# Influence and Scale

## NHS commercial commitment

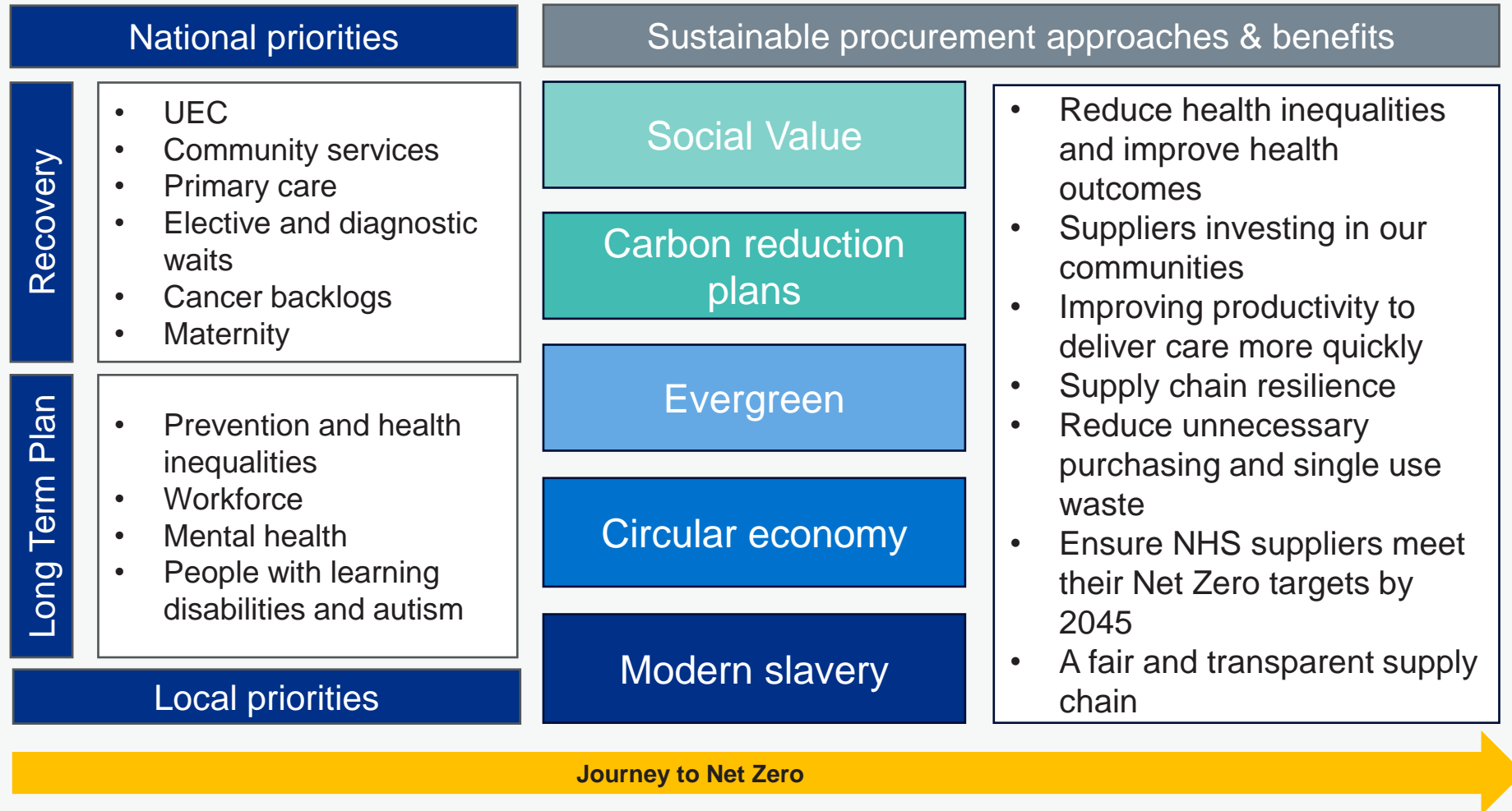
- We will embed the [NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap](#) and modern slavery policies into all commercial practices.
- We will use the NHS Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment on Atamis to measure and track supplier performance against the roadmap.
- The roadmap sets the expectation for all suppliers to join the NHS in its ambition to be net zero by 2045.

## NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap



# NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap crosscuts NHS priorities

Procurement, commercial and supply chain teams, as well as our suppliers, are integral to the running of the health service, ensuring frontline staff have what they need, in the right place, at the right time, and at the right cost.



# Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment

The Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment is an online tool for suppliers to engage with the NHS on their sustainability journey and understand how to align with the NHS net zero and sustainability ambitions, including those set out in the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap.



The graphic features a green background on the left with a dark green banner containing the title 'EVERGREEN SUSTAINABLE SUPPLIER ASSESSMENT' in white and light green text. Below the banner, it says 'An online self-assessment and reporting tool for NHS suppliers.' To the right, there is a white background with the NHS logo, a laptop displaying the URL 'Find out more england.nhs.uk/evergreen', and a light green circular shape behind the laptop.

**EVERGREEN SUSTAINABLE  
SUPPLIER ASSESSMENT**

An online self-assessment  
and reporting tool for  
NHS suppliers.

**NHS**

Find out more  
[england.nhs.uk/evergreen](https://england.nhs.uk/evergreen)

# Benefits of Evergreen

## For Suppliers

### Benchmark against current and future NHS priorities

Suppliers can see how they align to the NHS's long-term sustainability priorities

### One conversation with the NHS

Suppliers have a standardised way of communicating their sustainability information to all NHS buyers

### Supports sustainability ambitions

Suppliers can use the Assessment to help inform internal planning and decision-making, such as for developing business cases for sustainable investment or global target setting



## For NHS Organisations

### Improved understanding of supply chain

Provides information that can improve Trust/ICB understanding of their supply chain's progress towards sustainability targets

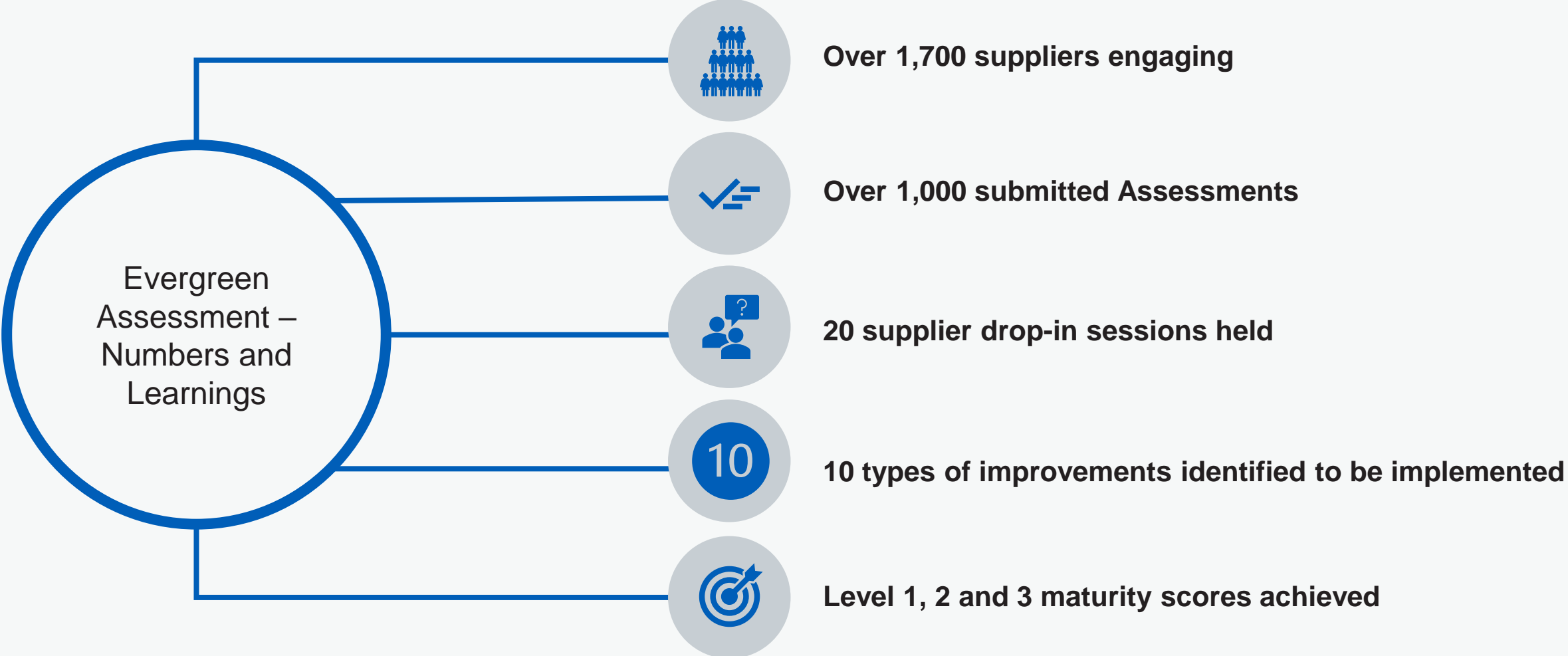
### One conversation with suppliers

Provides a central source for supplier sustainability information with maturity scoring aligned to the NHS Net Zero and wider sustainability priorities

### Supports contract management

Provides information to inform contract management conversations with suppliers to promote alignment with the NHS sustainability priorities, in particular where emissions reductions form part of key performance indicators (KPIs)

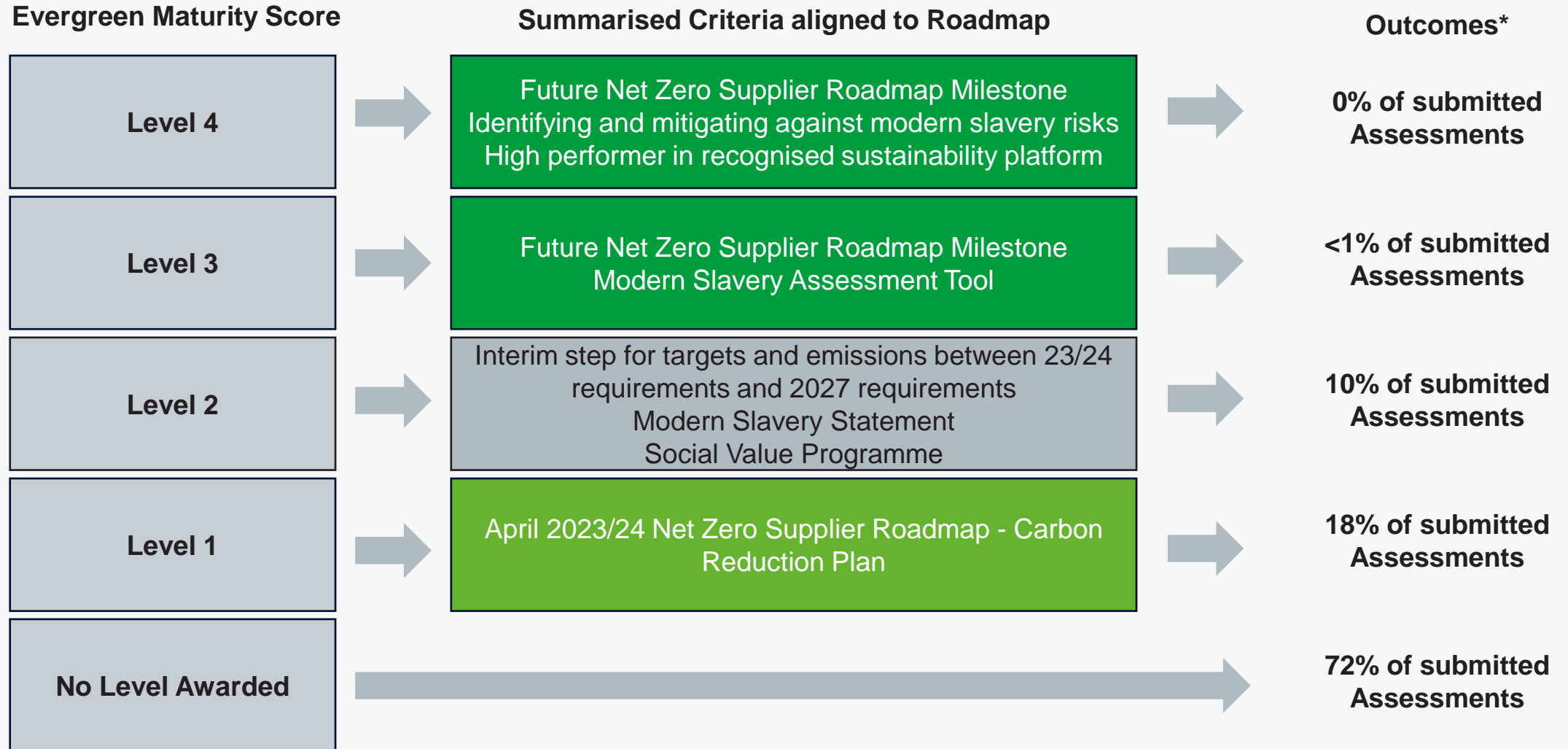
# Evergreen Assessment – 9 months since launch





# Evergreen Assessment – Focus

Over 1,700 suppliers are engaging with the Evergreen Assessment and there have been over 1,000 submitted Assessments – this is data retrieved since launch in June 2023 up to mid March 2024\*.



# Key resources & Future NHS

- [Our Future NHS page](#)
- [Product How to Guides](#)
- [Tacking action and measuring progress](#)
- [Net Zero Supplier Roadmap](#)
- [Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment](#)

**NHS England**

Greener NHS National ambition Net Zero Take action System progress

Home > Greener NHS > Take action > Suppliers

## Suppliers

The NHS has committed to reaching net zero by 2040 for the emissions we control directly, and by 2045 for the emissions we influence, through the goods and services we buy from our partners and suppliers. To achieve this goal, we will require the support of all our suppliers.

In September 2021, one year on from the publication of the [Delivering a net zero NHS report](#), the NHS England Public Board approved a roadmap to help suppliers align with our net zero ambition between now and 2030. This approach builds on UK Government procurement policy ([EPN 06/20](#) and [PPN 05/21](#)).

### Net zero supplier roadmap

- **From April 2022:** all NHS procurements will include a minimum 10% net zero and social value weighting. The [net zero and social value guidance for NHS procurement teams](#) will help unlock health-specific outcomes (building on [PPN 06/20](#)).
- **From April 2023:** for all contracts above £5 million per annum, the NHS will require suppliers to publish a Carbon Reduction Plan for their UK [Scope 1 and 2](#) emissions and a subset of scope 3 emissions as a minimum (aligning with [PPN 06/21](#)). The [Carbon Reduction Plan \(CRP\) requirements for the procurement of NHS goods, services and works guidance](#) outlines what will be required of suppliers and how it will be implemented.
- **From April 2024:** the NHS will extend the requirement for a Carbon Reduction Plan to cover all procurements.
- **From April 2027:** all suppliers will be required to publicly report targets, emissions and publish a Carbon Reduction Plan for global emissions aligned to the NHS net zero target, for

## Sustainability

### Welcome to the CCF Sustainable Procurement pages

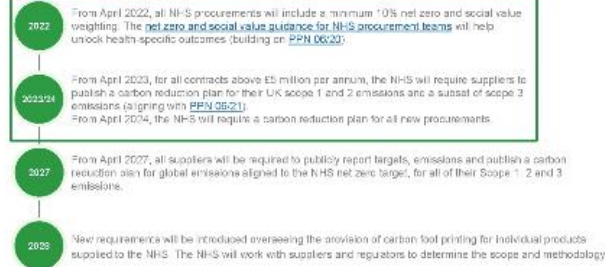
On this space you can access key resources related to the Sustainable Procurement programme including our operational how-to guides, upcoming social value guidance and supplier engagement roadmap.

For more information on what the team does, please click here.

enland.ccf-sustainability@nhs.net

For the latest news, training and events, please go to our news pages

### Net Zero Supplier Roadmap



### Delivering Net Zero Carbon

In October 2020, the NHS published the 'Delivering a Net Zero National Health Service' report in which it identified that **62% of all NHS carbon emissions are generated in the supply chain**. The report recognised 13 intervention categories where significant carbon savings could be made and this formed the foundation of the sustainable procurement and supply chain programme.

### Net Zero and Social Value in Procurement



### Product Interventions - How to Guides



### Carbon Reduction Plans (CRP)



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## Thank You



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[england.nhs.uk](https://www.england.nhs.uk)

# Support and Resources Available

A broad engagement programme has been established to support suppliers meet the requirements and internal teams understand and apply the requirements.

## General Resources

### NHS Specific:

- [NHS CRP and NZC Guidance](#)

### Central Government:

- [PPN 06/21: Taking account of Carbon Reduction Plans in the procurement of major government contracts](#)
- [Carbon Reduction Plan Template](#)
- [Guidance on adopting and applying PPN 06/21: Selection criteria](#)
- [Technical standard for completion of Carbon Reduction Plans](#)
- [PPN 06/21: Frequently asked questions](#)
- [Crown Commercial Service](#) runs regular Q&A sessions for suppliers on CRPs and PPN 06/21.

## Resources for Internal Teams

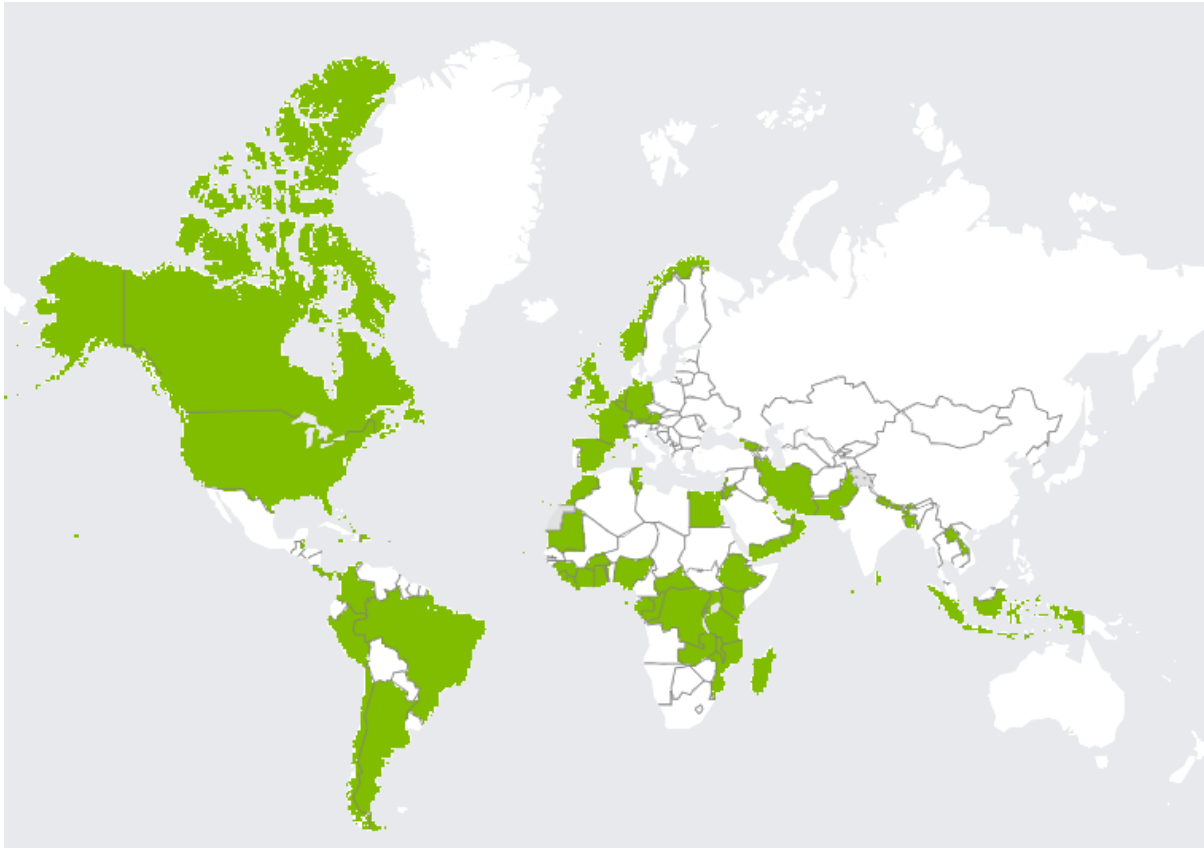
- [Webinars](#)
- [Procurement process one pager](#)
- [CRP/NZC Check List](#)
- [Internal FAQ](#)
- [Standard Slide deck for engagement](#)
- SQ Questions Built into Atamis standard SQ template.
- GNHS quarterly data collection helps tracking progress across the system at trust and ICB level.
- Additional resources are being considered and developed to support internal teams.

## Resources for Suppliers

- [Webinars](#)
- CRP Checking Service - [england.crp-check@nhs.net](mailto:england.crp-check@nhs.net)
- [SME Climate Hub](#)

# International Collaboration

Over 70 countries already committed to more sustainable healthcare systems



- [Climate Resilient Health System \(CRHS-WG\)](#)
- [Low Carbon Sustainable Health Systems \(LCSHS-WG\)](#)
- [Financing \(FIN-WG\)](#)
- [Supply Chains \(SC-WG\)](#)

*ATACH working groups*

## HHS Shares Health Sector Emissions Reduction and Climate Resilience Announcements at COP27

*Highlights include updates to the White House/HHS Health Sector Climate Pledge and bilateral collaboration on developing procurement guidance*

(Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt) – A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) delegation to the United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) announced that more than 100 health care organizations have signed the [White House/HHS Health Sector Climate Pledge](#) to meet bold targets for emissions reduction and climate resilience. The delegation also described plans to collaborate with the National Health Service (NHS) of England on developing proposals for aligned procurement requirements as part of a larger update on progress and future plans.

