



# Environmental sustainability round-up

This round-up is a brief update on the latest developments in environmental sustainability in the NHS and wider finance profession. It includes signposts to further information that may be of interest.

## Congratulations to HFMA's award winners

East of England productivity and efficiency group and PrecsQIPP Community Interest Company are the winners of this year's inaugural HFMA Environmental Sustainability Award. Their inhaler carbon awareness campaign represents a single initiative over a large system-wide footprint, with the opportunity to be replicated nationwide.

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was highly commended for their ground-breaking program on measuring and reducing the carbon footprint of their supply chain. Also shortlisted, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust has several projects and initiatives to deliver positive environmental and social impacts alongside financial savings, the 'triple bottom line'.

The judges commented on the high standard of all submissions in this category. See the [HFMA awards summary](#) for further details and watch out for 2023 HFMA activities sharing lessons learnt.

### Register now....

**13 – 15 December 2022**

(on-demand for registered)

[A4S virtual summit 2022](#)

brings together finance leaders

**13 January 2023**

[HFMA: Towards net zero](#)

[series: developing the](#)

[greenest hospital in](#)

[Britain](#). Webinar from

Velindre University NHS

Trust

**2 February 2023**

[South East Greener NHS:](#)

[How biodiversity benefits](#)

[mental health and the](#)

[planet](#). Lunch and learn

session.

## In the news...

### COP27

At the [United Nation's COP27 summit](#) in Egypt this November, a historic deal was struck to establish a loss and damage fund. In other areas there was disappointment, particularly over progress on cutting fossil fuels.

### Earthshot prize

The Earthshot prize aims to discover and help scale innovative solutions that put the world firmly on a trajectory toward a stable climate by 2030. On 2 December 2022, Prince William revealed the 2022 winners: [Protect and Restore Nature](#); [Clean our Air](#); [Revive our Oceans](#); [Build a Waste-free World](#); and [Fix our Climate](#).

### Health and Care Act 2022 (the Act)

The Act embeds net zero into legislation, placing new requirements on all NHS trusts, foundation trusts, and integrated care boards and granting new statutory guidance powers to NHS England to support the fulfilment of these new duties. Find out more [here](#).

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# National reports and guidance

## Emissions gap report 2022

The UN emissions gap report 2022, [The closing window – climate crisis calls for rapid transformation of societies](#) is the 13<sup>th</sup> edition in the annual series. The report finds that ‘the international community is falling far short of the Paris goals, with no credible pathway to 1.5°C in place. Only an urgent system-wide transformation can avoid climate disaster.’ The report explores how to deliver this transformation across electricity supplies, transport, buildings, food and financial systems.

## The Lancet countdown on health and climate change

The [2022 report of the Lancet countdown on health and climate change](#) tracks the links between health and climate change – shining a light on the growing and profound threat to health presented by climate change and air pollution.

The latest evidence reaffirms that climate change is exacerbating food insecurity, health impacts from extreme heat, the risk of infectious disease outbreaks, and life-threatening extreme weather events. The authors indicate that a delay in the adoption of clean energies has left households vulnerable to energy poverty and exposed to dangerous levels of fuel-derived air pollution.

The report concludes that through the introduction of more resilient energy systems, there is a global opportunity to save at least 1.2 million lives from cleaner air and 11.5 million lives from healthier diets, while reducing energy poverty, and delivering healthier, more liveable cities.

## NHS Scotland sustainability strategy

NHS Scotland has set out its [sustainability strategy](#) for the next five years, as part of the longer term goal of being a net-zero health service by 2040. The strategy sets out actions and targets in five areas: buildings and land; travel; goods and services; care; and communities.

With estimates that 80% of Scotland’s global climate emissions are linked to the production, consumption and waste of products and resources, the strategy sets out plans to create a circular economy – extracting less from the planet and re-using more of what has already been taken. Proposed actions in the goods and services theme include: classifying suppliers based on climate change and circular supply systems; taking into account whole life costs when assessing tenders; and phasing out plastics that cause the most damage to the environment.

## Green theatre initiative

The Royal College of Surgeons of England, The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, have declared their commitment to the [green theatre initiative](#) to protect patient health and wellbeing and tackle the environmental impact of surgical care. Resources include a [green theatre checklist poster](#) and [compendium of evidence](#).

## National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance on inhalers

[NICE patient decision aid](#) provides information for patients to enable informed decisions about their choice of inhaler in relation to its contribution to climate change and aid discussions with healthcare professionals

## Estates net zero carbon delivery plan

The [Estates net zero carbon delivery plan](#) and [Technical annex](#) are both available on the [Greener NHS Knowledge Hub](#). The plan includes a four step approach to decarbonise the NHS estate and references a range of actions to tackle climate change in other areas such as driving forward a circular economy; the electrification of the NHS fleet; engaging the supply chain; preparing the estate for severe weather; and committing to active travel.

## The HFMA’s recent outputs

[NHS environmental sustainability guidance map](#) brings together key guidance, tools and examples

[HFMA Environmental sustainability conference](#), included sessions on challenges, finance role, value-based decision-making, air pollution and NHS England panel – available on demand to HFMA Hub members

[Towards net zero: embedding sustainability at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust](#) webinar available on-demand

[HFMA talk episode 42: Integrated care systems and improving environmental sustainability](#) podcast with Alexis Percival and Dr Aarti Bansal

## Greener NHS blogs and case studies

[Greener NHS and School for Change Agents join forces to create change in health and care](#)

[Drive for energy efficient healthcare is delivering for patients and planet](#)

[Improving health outcomes for respiratory patients while reducing carbon emissions](#)

[University Hospitals Birmingham: A world first in carbon net zero surgery](#)

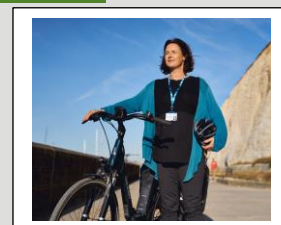
[Electric vehicles drive down carbon emissions in and around Greater Manchester](#)

[Drone deliveries of vital chemotherapy to the Isle of Wight](#)

[NHS organisations cut desflurane in drive for greener surgery](#)

[Pedal power for cleaner healthcare delivery](#)

[Two years on – some words of hope for a healthier future](#)



## Training

### Environmentally sustainable healthcare programme

This environmentally sustainable healthcare e-learning programme was developed with the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare and the Health Education England Northeast Faculty of Sustainable Healthcare. It aims to provide the healthcare workforce with the knowledge and skills to deliver healthcare for financial, social and environmental sustainability. The new training module, *Building a net zero NHS*, available [here](#) and free to undertake, has been endorsed by Greener NHS.

### Carbon Literacy project

The Carbon Literacy project launched a single day leadership module this year. The training content has been quality assured and approved by the Greener NHS programme and is appropriate for those at any leadership level/specialty. Contact Carbon Literacy to discuss delivery costs and options.

### ICAEW sustainability certificate

The [ICAEW sustainability certificate](#) aims to equip accountants and other finance professionals with the practical knowledge and skills to integrate sustainability reporting into their organisations. The certificate supports finance professionals to confidently partner with sustainability experts to identify climate-related risks and incorporate performance and financial metrics into their risk management, financial planning and analysis, and environmental, social and governance (ESG) reporting.

### ACCA certificate in sustainability for finance

The ACCA has a [Certificate in sustainability for finance](#), recognising that finance professionals have an important part to play in helping organisations adapt to the sustainable practices required to prevent resource depletion, facilitating long term success, and building a more sustainable future.

### Environmental, social and governance (ESG) courses

AICPA and CIMA have launched a new certificate, [Fundamentals of ESG certificate](#), to help accounting and finance professionals embrace ESG. From January 2023, CIMA is running a half day programme, [ESG - an awareness](#), to provide an introductory understanding of key ESG issues.

### The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH)

CSH works with NHS trusts to integrate sustainability into quality improvement. CSH has freely available resources, developed with support from Health Education England and The Health Foundation - *step-by-step project resources* (at [SusQI.org](#)); *educator pack* (at [SusQI.org](#)); and a *30-minute introductory e-learning session* (on [e-LfH](#))

### Greener NHS knowledge hub

The [Greener NHS knowledge hub](#) now includes a training hub that brings together a variety of training and educational offers at the intersection of climate and health. The aim is to ensure that there is training available for all, whatever your role and wherever you may be on your sustainability journey.

### Want to know more? Try these resources:

- [BBC News: \*What is climate change? A really simple guide\*](#) covers key facts and actions
- [CIPD: \*Embedding environmental sustainability in your organisation\*](#) a guide for human resource professionals
- [Sustainable Healthcare Coalition: \*Care pathway carbon calculator\*](#) aims to provide a simple means to indicative numbers on carbon emissions for care pathways
- [The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment: \*Guidance on sustainability for NHS NEDs\*](#) risks, challenges and guidance for non-executive directors
- [National Health Executive: \*Greening the NHS through the ICS\*](#) views from Alexis Percival, net zero lead, Humber and North Yorkshire ICS
- [National Health Executive: \*How the NHS can achieve its net zero strategy\*](#) views from Matthew Bell, economist and former CEO of the Committee for Climate Change
- [NHS Confederation: \*Net zero green plans – how do we do governance?\*](#) on-demand webinar
- [Elemental: \*Retrofit strategies for reducing energy use in healthcare buildings\*](#) on-demand webinar
- [UK FIRES: \*Absolute zero\*](#) sets out changes required to reduce UK emissions
- [The Use Less Group: \*website\*](#) includes links to various impact projects
- [Net zero and University of Oxford: \*Healthcare progress towards net zero\*](#) includes various articles and case studies
- [Church Times: \*Real zero emissions\*](#) talk from Professor Julian Allwood
- NHS England: [Medical device remanufacture how-to guide](#) and [Device remanufacturing 10 reasons why guide](#) practical steps to set up a remanufactured device scheme for theatre and Cath lab teams. (accessible to NHS staff only)

Previous editions of the HFMA's *Environmental sustainability round-up* are available from the [HFMA website publications page](#).

If you have any references or updates you think should be included in the next round-up, please contact [lisa.robertson@hfma.org.uk](mailto:lisa.robertson@hfma.org.uk).

## About the HFMA

The Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) is the professional body for finance staff in healthcare. For over 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.

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