



<b>Organisation</b>	South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
<b>Category</b>	Transport
<b>Please detail your project below</b>	<p>We are recognised as a leading and innovative NHS Ambulance Service Trust in being the first public sector organisation in Europe to install solar panels on the roof of our Rapid Response Vehicles. The dedication of our Vehicle Commissioning Unit department in this field has attracted many requests for advice, not only from other UK NHS Trusts but from other countries. The introduction of solar panels means that frontline vehicles no longer need to standby with engines running to recharge essential battery systems or to return to base to recharge vehicle battery system using shoreline systems which mean that the vehicles are unable to respond to emergencies whilst batteries are being charged or changed.</p> <p>The use of solar panels means that the Trusts fleet of RRVs spend less time off road for battery replacement and maintenance and can be fully mobile at all times to provide the best in mobile healthcare services to patients suffering life threatening injury or illness across our four counties of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire.</p> <p>Savings over the 5 year life of the vehicles:</p> <p>Fuel and equipment £174,204</p> <p>Carbon reduction 333t</p> <p>Further breakdown is available....</p>
<b>How has your project improved sustainable development within your organisation or community setting?</b>	<p>Installation of these solar panels on 97 rapid response vehicles have reduced running costs and carbon creation, highlighting within the communities we operate, our commitment not only to respond urgently to 999 emergencies but also to undertake this in an environmentally friendly way.</p>
<b>What role does sustainable development play within patient and staff services within your organisation?</b>	<p>As an Ambulance Service we are fully committed to reducing the environmental impact we have on the areas and communities we serve. Cleaning up our operations by reducing our transport carbon emissions impact into the atmosphere also helps in reducing respiratory incidents. We have, by engaging with modern transport technology, renewable energy commitment and engaging with staff through 'Environmental Awareness' programmes, such as eLearning, Induction course training and the development of a Green Team of Champions dedicated in helping to raise the awareness, that as individuals we have a responsibility in looking after the community we serve and wellbeing of staff.</p>
<b>Who has led the way on sustainable development within your organisation?</b>	<p>The Green lead in our organisation is at board level, finance director Charles Porter, flowed by His deputy Nick Dolden and myself Brian Miller.</p> <p>Our first SDMP was adopted by our board in September 2009 and has since been updated for 2015/16.</p>
<b>First Image</b>	<a href="http://nhssustainabilityawards.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/formidable/Second-Round.pdf">http://nhssustainabilityawards.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/formidable/Second-Round.pdf</a>



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