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## Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust -

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### Overview of the Project

Our Trust is fully committed to continuously improving environmental performance and energy efficiency. We have a robust governance structure for Sustainability with a well-established Sustainability Action Plan, Environment and Sustainability Policy, and Carbon Management Plan in place. The Trust also has a Sustainability Working Group with key managers across the Trust that meet to discuss energy efficiency and wider sustainability issues, monitoring progress towards the Sustainability Action Plan. We have a Public Health Plan which is driven by our Chief Exec with targets around energy efficiency, waste and wider sustainability measures.

The Trust has taken a number of significant steps forward in terms of improving our energy efficiency over the last few years and implemented the following key projects:

- Installing LED lighting and controls in most areas across the Trust
- Replacing gas boilers with more energy efficient models to reduce gas consumption
- An estates rationalisation programme has been completed to reduce energy and water consumption, costs and cut carbon emissions
- Photovoltaic solar panels have been installed on the roof of the Birmingham Eye Centre at City Hospital in May 2013 and on the roof of Rowley Regis Hospital in March 2014
- PC powersave software implemented to shut down non-essential computers at the end of the day to reduce electricity wastage
- Repair work on failed, closed or blocked steam traps to prevent energy losses has commenced.
- Food waste digesters installed at Sandwell Hospital to save energy, water, and waste.

The Trust signed up to the NHS Good Corporate Citizenship assessment in 2012. This self-assessment tool allows us to assess how we are performing against key sustainability themes and then benchmark performance against others.

The Trust is in the process of installing electric vehicle charge points across all of our sites for staff, patients and visitors. We hope to incentivise people to travel to site using public transport, walking, cycling or more sustainable modes of travel. Through working with our waste contractor, we now send zero general waste to landfill. This is recycled off site at a local municipal recycling facility. We also have set

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up an ink cartridge recycling scheme where money generated goes into our Sustainability Trust Fund, funding small-scale local Sustainability Champion energy efficiency project initiatives

In addition to the above projects, we have been working to engage our staff on the importance of energy efficiency. We have built a network of over 120 Sustainability Champions across the Trust to help with campaigns, events, sharing of information and feeding back to us on how we can make their areas more energy efficient. We also run an annual 'Sustainability Garden Party' to promote sustainability and energy efficiency, showcase what has been done and ask staff to 'do their bit' to help.

To further drive engagement, we have also launched a staff pledge campaign called 'Leave your Footprint' which asks staff to commit to taking one pledge to be more sustainable. These actions will save energy consumption and therefore costs.

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### **Economic, Health and Carbon Impact of the project**

For many of the projects, capturing the real energy savings and impact has proved difficult. Where we have data, we have calculated the estimated energy savings below:

- LED lighting project (done across the whole Trust), however we only have data for the smaller project at Birmingham Treatment Centre at City Hospital: Over 652,000 KW (342 tonnes of carbon) and £59,000 per annum. We have reduced our electricity consumption by 5.4% between 2012/13 and 2016/17, despite an increase in services
- Replacing gas boilers has reduced our gas consumption by around 12% between 2012/13 and 2016/17
- Replacing boilers for more energy efficient models, saving circa £86,000 and 694 tonnes of carbon per annum after the initial payback period
- Photovoltaic solar panels at the Birmingham Eye Centre at City Hospital and Rowley Regis Hospital in March are saving around 43,000 kWh of electricity each year (around £8,000 and 23 tonnes of carbon each year)
- PC powersave software saving £29,000 and 326 tonnes of carbon per annum
- Repair work on failed, closed or blocked steam traps to prevent energy losses has commenced. Efficiency work is estimated to save circa £45,000 per annum and 400 tonnes of carbon.
- Estates rationalisation work to reduce energy and water consumption and costs. Significant savings have been made but unfortunately we don't have the exact data to report

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- Food waste digesters at Sandwell site are estimated to save circa £16,000 per annum in direct energy and water savings and 29.4 tonnes of carbon.
  - In the NHS Good Corporate Citizenship assessment we have improved our score year-on-year (12% between 2014-2016)
  - It is difficult to calculate the impact our Sustainability Champions have made on improving energy efficiency across the Trust but we estimate this to be significant.

In the recent 'leave your footprint' pledge campaign we ran in April and May, we had 57 members of staff pledge to 'turn it off'. Just this pledge alone if continued throughout the year would save over £4,800 and 46,051 kwh in energy. We are aiming to expand this scheme so that all staff are involved – the energy and costs savings should be significant.

We have seen some large changes across the organisation as a result of the policies, governance, engagement and projects we have completed over recent years.

The LED lighting and sensors projects have been very visible to our staff, patients and visitors. They have improved the energy efficiency of buildings, saved money and also improved the aesthetics. The solar PV panels at City Hospital and Rowley Regis Hospital are also very visible and demonstrate that we are committed to using on-site renewable power sources.

Our PC shutdown software has helped engage staff in the importance of shutting down non-critical PC's overnight. When staff leave work before the software shuts the PC down, we remind staff to power down the PC manually so that further energy savings can be made.

The 'leave your footprint' staff pledge campaign is in its infancy but is already making tracks with engaging staff and saving energy. We plan on rolling this out to all staff so that we can change behaviour and create an environment where energy efficiency is embedded throughout the Trust and common practice.

We also offer our Sustainability Champions support in the way of internal and external training on environmental management so that they can help deliver energy efficiency savings in their area.

The new Midland Metropolitan Hospital will be sustainable, both in the building of the hospital and in the running. This sends a powerful message to our hospital users that

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we are taking energy efficiency seriously so that we are able to protect future generations, improve the environment and use tax payer's money wisely.

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### **Partners, supporters involved in the Project**

We regularly contact staff via a number of means, including our daily communications messages, Sustainability Newsletter which is sent out quarterly, through our Chief Exec in his Chief Executive's Bulletin, and the Trust intranet for staff. We also communicate regularly with our network of Sustainability Champions via email, one-to-one meetings and group meetings, and use Trust notice boards around the sites.

We also hold the Trust annual Sustainability Garden Party in the Summer where we invite staff, patients and visitors to join us in celebrating successes and giving advice on how they can change behaviour and 'do their bit' to help. This is very successful and reaches a wide range of staff, clinical and non-clinical.

To engage external stakeholders, we have a sustainability section on our Trust website that includes information about how we are working to be more sustainable and energy efficient. The Trust also communicates sustainability performance (including energy consumption and costs trends) via our Trust Annual Report.

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### **Future plans for the project**

We are focusing on our retained estate and the new Midland Metropolitan Hospital (MMH) which is currently being built. MMH will be built to BREEAM Excellent standards, with a very efficient Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plant. The site will also have LED lighting with motion and daylight sensors.

We are in the process of installing electric vehicle charge points across all of our sites for staff, patients and visitors to incentivise low emission vehicles and we are rolling out our 'leave your footprint' staff pledge campaign to all staff to increase the impact and energy savings.

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