Report author: Alexis Percival

Report of: LAST (Leeds Anchors for Sustainability Taskforce)

Report to: Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: September 2022

Subject: Net Zero Targets for 2022

Strapline: We have 10 years to stop and limit the worst impacts of Climate Change. How we respond in the next few years will shape our society, our economy, and our health care system for the rest of the century. The Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment strives to develop the commitment for Leeds to work towards eliminating carbon emissions.

Are specific geographical areas affected?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
If relevant, name(s) of area(s):		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	⊠ Yes	☐ No
Is the decision eligible for call-In?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

The main issues are:

- Commitment to reducing carbon emissions while there is a legislative carbon neutral obligatory commitment (2050) and a national Greener NHS target (2045) to respond to climate change, local health and care organisations have not yet formally made their own commitments on the environment. This paper seeks to secure a commitment from members of the Board to commit to rapid carbon reduction within their respective organisations and identify sufficient resources and finance to delivering these commitments. This follows the Health and Wellbeing Board's commitment agreed in 2020.
- Delivering carbon reductions local health and care organisations will need to reduce or (where this is not possible) capture/sequester around 125,000 tonnes of

- carbon per year to meet the carbon neutrality targets set out by the Greener NHS policies and legally mandated within the Health and Care Act 2022.
- Measuring and evaluating carbon reduction across Leeds health care systems as a result of the above two commitments.
- Recognising the risks of failing to reduce our emissions, which is now a legal requirement.

The Leeds Climate Commission was established in 2017 to help Leeds make positive choices on issues relating to energy, carbon and climate. It brings together key organisations and actors from across the city from the public, private and third sectors. Chaired by the University of Leeds, it is informed by the work of the UK Committee on Climate Change and provides an independent voice in the city.

Leeds City Council declared a climate emergency in March 2019 and set out a commitment to make Leeds carbon neutral by 2030. This decision was informed by evidence produced and presented by the Leeds Climate Commission. Following this, the city's senior health and care leaders commissioned a piece of work to consider "What can Leeds health and care organisations do (individually and collectively) to tackle the effects of climate change and respond to the climate emergency?".

The Greener NHS was formed in October 2020 with the intention of driving the carbon footprint down to Net Zero for the whole of the NHS as well as health and care system by 2045.

Recommendations

Health and Wellbeing Board should:

- Acknowledge the legal requirement to deliver net zero within the local health and care sector as set out within the Climate Change Act (2008) and clarified within the Health and Care Act (2022).
- Recognise the role of local health and care sector organisations to support national and local climate policy including, but not limited to, the Net Zero Strategy, Greener NHS vision, National Adaptation Programme, and Leeds' local climate emergency declaration.
- Commit to reviewing the progress of the local health and care sector towards the
 delivery of its stated net zero and climate adaptation ambitions on an annual basis
 and to create further opportunities at HWB level to further engage on this work.
- Identify areas for cross-sector collaboration to accelerate the delivery of climate mitigation (achieving net zero) and adaptation (mitigating impacts of future climate hazards).

Board members should also action within their own organisations:

 Reflect the risks of failing to mitigate and failing to adapt to climate change, as identified by the national Committee on Climate Change and regional Climate

- Commissions, as part of organisational corporate risk registers and business continuity planning.
- Commit to developing, delivering, and regularly reviewing at board level costed organisational action plans for climate mitigation (achieving net zero) and climate adaptation (mitigating impacts of future climate hazards) if not already doing so.
- Commit to incorporate a requirement to consider the impact of all major decisions on organisational environmental/climate targets as part of the formal decision making/business case process.
- Commit to providing Carbon Literacy training (or equivalent) for all organisational Board members/non-executive directors and to undertake engagement with every healthcare team to ensure understanding of organisational climate plans.

1.0 Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment

1.1 **Aim**

The aim of this paper is to cement the thinking of the climate emergency as a health and wellbeing issue including wider determinants. This paper will reinforce, update and further develop the Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment as a priority to the board. The agreed commitment is presented in the Appendix. This paper will also provide an update as to the commitments and our plan for Net Zero.

1.2 **Background**

The Leeds Climate Commission was established in 2017 to help Leeds to make positive choices on issues relating to energy, carbon and climate. It brings together key organisations and actors from across the city from the public, private and third sectors. Chaired by the University of Leeds, it is informed by the work of the UK Committee on Climate Change and provides an independent voice in the city.

Leeds City Council declared a climate emergency in March 2019 and set out a commitment to work towards achieving carbon neutrality across the district by 2030 (informed by evidence produced by the Leeds Climate Commission). Following this, the city's senior health and care leaders commissioned a piece of work to consider "What can Leeds health and care organisations do (individually and collectively) to tackle the effects of climate change and respond to the climate emergency?".

Workshops, a series of one-to-one conversations and a task and finish group were conducted across Leeds. A draft Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment was developed with a set of principles and actions to work towards as a system to not only tackle climate change but changes the way health and care services are delivered to be sustainable to make a difference for the people of Leeds. The Leeds Anchors for Sustainability Taskforce (LAST) was formed in order to partner with all of the healthcare organisations across Leeds.

As highlighted in the 2020 report to the board, the work of LAST sits within the wider context of the global, national, regional and local approaches to climate change. Locally, as part of the Zero Carbon pillar of the Best City Ambition, there is a range of cross-sector activity happening within the city. Of particular relevance to health are some of the public health activities which generate benefits for both health and the climate. Examples include the ongoing work around air quality and active travel. Additionally at a regional level, the Leeds director of public health is leading the approach to climate change on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH). The formation of the Integrated Care Systems (ICS) and Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) has helped to facilitate more regional and place based carbon reduction programmes.

1.2.1 **LAST**

To progress the draft Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment, the Leeds Anchors for Sustainability Taskforce (LAST) was established reporting to the Leeds Health and Care Partnership Executive Group (PEG) on progress. LAST was set up in 2019 to work collaboratively across the city to create a joint working partnership to drive forwards work to reduce carbon emissions across the city.

The members consist of:

- Forum Central
- Healthwatch Leeds
- Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust
- Leeds Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust
- Leeds and York Partnership NHS Trust
- Leeds GP confederation
- NHS Digital
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust
- UKHSA (formerly PHE)
- West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership (WYHCP)

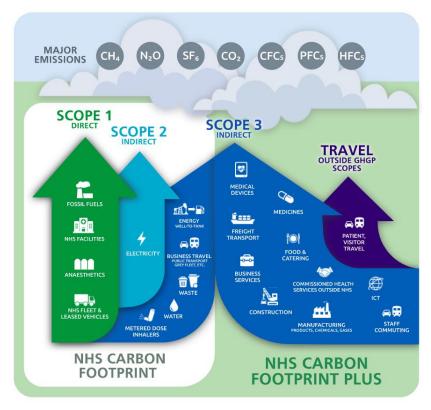
This list of partners working together is not limited and if there are others who wish to join they would be welcomed into the network.

1.3 National and regional requirements

The Climate Change Act (2008) legally obliges the UK to cut its carbon emissions by 80% by 2050 and sets in place a legally binding framework allowing the government to introduce measures to achieve carbon reduction and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

In May 2019, the UK became the first country to declare an 'environment and climate emergency', recognising the need to increase the ambitions of the UK's current carbon emission target and to put in place short term measures to create a zero-waste economy. This amends the Climate Change Act to increase the legislated requirement from an 80% reduction to a 100% reduction in the UK's net carbon emissions. Emissions from the health system are included within the scope of this requirement.

1.3.1 Greener NHS



Greener NHS (Greener NHS (england.nhs.uk)) was formed in October 2020 with the intention of driving the carbon footprint down to Net Zero for the whole of the NHS as well as the health and care system by 2045.

A requirement of this was that all NHS Trusts have a Green Plan in place to support their strategy to reaching net zero.

The Greener NHS have set two targets:

- For the emissions we control directly (the NHS Carbon Footprint), we will reach net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032;
- For the emissions we can influence (our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus), we will reach net zero by 2045, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039.

1.3.2 Health and Care Act 2022

Under section 9, 53 and 68 of the <u>Health and Care Act 2022 (legislation.gov.uk)</u>, NHS England, ICBs, NHS Trusts and NHS Foundation Trusts have an obligation to comply with the Climate Change Act and Environment Act as detailed below.

'After section 26A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (inserted by section 52 of this Act) insert—

"26B Duties in relation to climate change etc

- (1) An NHS trust established under section 25 must, in the exercise of its functions, have regard to the need to—
 - (a) contribute towards compliance with—
 - (i) section 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008 (UK net zero emissions target), and

- (ii) section 5 of the Environment Act 2021 (environmental targets), and
- (b) adapt to any current or predicted impacts of climate change identified in the most recent report under section 56 of the Climate Change Act 2008.
- (2) In discharging the duty under this section, NHS trusts must have regard to guidance published by NHS England under section 13ND."

1.3.3 Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment

The Leeds Health and Care Climate Commitment was derived by the Anchor institutes across Leeds to commit to meaningful action to address climate change. The Leeds Health and Care Climate commitment was signed off by PEG in September 2020. With COVID-19, some progress has been stifled but the member of LAST are committed to driving forwards the agenda. A copy is provided as Appendix A.

2 Key Actions to date

The key actions to date for the Leeds healthcare organisations as reported to LAST are detailed below.

2.1 Green Plans

It is a national obligation for Green Plans to be in place as of March 2022 for every NHS Trust and ICB across the UK in line with the Greener NHS Net Zero targets.

2.1.1 Green Plans for Leeds Healthcare organisations

The Green Plans for the NHS Trust healthcare organisations can be found below:

- Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust For full document please contact the LCH sustainability department at lcht.sustainability@nhs.net. Will be online in September 2022.
- Leeds Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust <u>Green Plan (leedsth.nhs.uk)</u>
- Leeds and York Partnership NHS Trust <u>Leeds and York Partnership NHS</u>
 Foundation Trust -Our Green Plan (<u>leedsandyorkpft.nhs.uk</u>)
- NHS Digital <u>Sustainable development management plan summary report 2017-</u> 2022 - NHS Digital
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust <u>Green Plan for Yorkshire Ambulance</u> <u>Service (yas.nhs.uk)</u>
- West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership (WYHCP) https://www.wypartnership.co.uk/application/files/9316/4863/2676/Green_Plan_20

 22 2025.pdf

2.2 Actions between 2020 and 2022 for LAST

2.2.1 Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Leeds Teaching hospitals have implemented the following:

- Green Plan updated and will go to board in September
- Green Spaces LTHT have run a horticultural therapy garden programme for staff at St James; 9 weeks of three hourly sessions where staff struggling mentally can staff take time out to attend workshops on sustainable planting, growing food, mindfulness and meditation.
- Energy Efficiency £20+ million on PSDS energy efficiency measures including connection to low carbon heat network
- Completion of a net zero decarbonisation strategy with site decarbonisation plans due board approval September

2.2.2 Forum Central

Forum Central have been instrumental in establishing the Leeds Green Active Provider network, a third sector led network of organisations whose work is focused on outdoor spaces and outdoor activities. The network has helped raise the profile of organisations delivering green activities within health and care, and successfully drawn in investment for the delivery of outdoor interventions.

2.2.3 **Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust**

Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust have carried out the following:

- LCH Board and senior management team declared a climate emergency on November the 5th 2021 and committed to becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2045 in alignment with the wider Greener NHS commitment.
- The Trust's first Green Plan was written and Board approved in March 2022
- A LCH Sustainability 3-year road map has been created which clearly outlines the strategy required to maintain our carbon reduction targets up to the point of 2025
- Preliminary work has begun in our highest emitting areas: procurement, estates, and travel. Option appraisals and subsequent business cases are in the process of being reviewed to embark on specific carbon reducing projects which we aim will take place throughout the next 2-3 years
- LCH has opportunistically improved our estate efficiency when renovation has
 occurred, such as improved heating systems and roof replacements. We plan to
 have a more structured approach moving into 2023 when the sustainability and
 estates departments are due to complete a specific sustainability feasibility study
 to review the carbon profile and longevity of all our retained estate
- LCH has committed to regreening part of our retained estate by encouraging natural meadow areas which will begin this autumn
- We have carried out a great deal of promotional work around electric vehicles and ULEV through our in-house salary sacrifice and business lease schemes, such as EV roadshows

2.2.4 Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Leeds and York Partnership NHS Trust have implemented the following:

- Green Plan Board Approved March 2022
- Trust wide Hybrid Working Policy Approved May 2022

- 15 Electric Vans purchased for Estates/Domestic/Catering Fleet 78% Zero Emission Fleet
- Cycle to Work scheme increased to include Electric Bikes
- Expanding Sustainability Team (New Head of Sustainability and Sustainability Project Manager)
- BREEAM Excellent Red Kite View CAMHS: Constructing Excellence in Yorkshire and Humber Awards <u>double winner</u>
 - o Integration & Collaborative Working
 - Project of the Year
- BREEAM Excellent Red Kite View CAMHS: Design in Mental Health Awards
 - Project of the Year
- Digital Bus Timetables in new Red Kite View
- Healthier Futures Action Fund applications for Wiggly Warriors and Avoiding Service User Travel App
- Land at St Mary's Hospital sown as Wildflower Meadow until future planning permission agreed
- Estates Focused Carbon Literacy Training

2.2.5 Leeds GP confederation

The Leeds GP confederation have put together a Primary Care Green Plan and have developed an associated toolkit.

2.2.6 Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Yorkshire Ambulance Service has:

- A Board Approved Green Plan in place <u>Green Plan for Yorkshire Ambulance</u> <u>Service (yas.nhs.uk)</u>
- Installed EV charging points across the region to transition our sub 3.5 tonne vehicles to zero emissions and identifying plans to transition our ambulance service fleet to net zero
- An Analgesic plan to phase out the use of Entonox
- Developing a Climate Adaptation plan to identify the risks to the Trust from Climate Change
- Started to carry out Carbon Literacy training for all management

2.2.7 West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership (WYHCP)

The West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership (WYHCP) was formed in April 2022 and serves a population of 2.3 million people in West Yorkshire and surrounding areas. The footprint is very similar to that of the Leeds City Region and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority who have committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2038. The Integrated care system (ICS) or WYHCP works collaboratively with healthcare organisations and councils across the region to work towards Net Zero. The ICS was mandated to create a Green Plan for the region.

The WHCP works closely with the other ICSs across the northeast and Yorkshire region and have developed key areas of work to collaborate on. One key area for 2022/2023 is

addressing climate adaptation within Yorkshire. A summary of the key action points is identified in the Appendix.

Following the transition of Clinical Commissioning Groups across West Yorkshire into the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (WY ICB), the ICB in Leeds is looking at how sustainability alignment works between the ICB in Leeds and the wider WY ICB, and there are opportunities to build upon this in terms of; the integrator functions the ICB provides at place, the support for integrated population and care delivery boards to commission, as well as for the employees and resources we consume as an organisation.

2.2.8 Other LAST partners

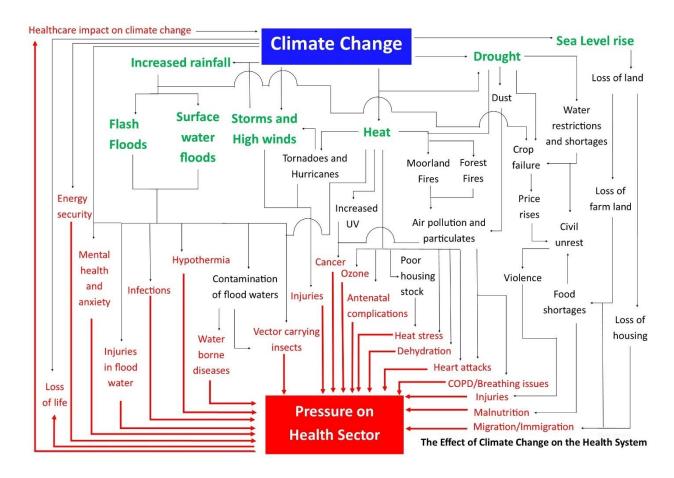
Further engagement to ensure plans are underway and in place will continue with relevant partners who are obligated to comply with the carbon reduction strategy as laid out by the government. NHS Digital is currently undergoing a review of their Green Plan.

3 Risks

3.1 Risks from Climate Change

Climate Change is intrinsically linked to health. The Climate Emergency is also a Health Emergency.

A report by 'The Institute of Health Equity on behalf of the Committee on Climate Change (CCC)' (Health inequalities & climate change assessed together to inform sixth carbon budget - IHE (instituteofhealthequity.org) has highlighted how the effects of continued climate change will likely widen existing health inequalities. The report highlights four priority areas for action including air quality, energy efficient housing, sustainable and healthy food, and active and safe transport.



3.3 Risks within Healthcare organisations

There are several risks that have been identified as risks within healthcare organisations to achieving net zero as well as achieving a:

- Lack of support and commitment to the agenda
- Lack of staff to resource and action the work required. There are only 6 sustainability leads for NHS Trusts in Leeds for 57,000 members of staff
- Lack of Climate Change Training
- Lack of action
- Lack of financial vision to invest in zero emission technology
- · Lack of ring-fenced funding to achieve net zero

3.3 Risks of not acting

Climate change is likely to present many shocks to the healthcare system in the coming years. By understanding the challenges we face, we can prepare for a variety of risks that will impact our health and that of our patients. These risks include many that we have already experienced in past few years:

- Cost increases of all services electricity, gas, water
- Energy shocks including power outages and price increases

- Food crisis
- Water supply issues
- Increase in heatwaves with the impact on our patients, staff, demands for our services as well as increase in deaths
- Increase in flooding
- Increase in moorland fires, wildfires and woodland fires
- Increase in breathing problems associated with air quality issues
- Increase in water borne diseases and infectious diseases
- Rising sea level leading to the movement of the coastal community
- Increase in demands for mental health services from climatic incidents
- Increase in deaths due to climate incidents
- Movement of people around the UK and from abroad
- Impacts on the supply chain including products, drugs and delivery times
- Increase in demands for the health services through climatic issues
- Impacts on staff

By preparing for these events, we can start to understand the scale of what we need to do and adapt our organisations as well as work with partner organisations to decrease the shock to our community and our health system.

4 Benefits of acting

The key benefits of acting to mitigate the impacts of climate change are:

Direct impacts on physical and mental health of climate change are created by changing exposure to heat and cold, increased exposure to UV radiation, air pollution, pollen, emerging infections, flooding and associated water-borne diseases, and the impacts of extreme weather events such as storms and floods.

Indirect impacts occur as a result of climate change's impacts on the livelihoods of individuals, on prices of food, water and domestic energy; on utilities and supply chains that are at risk from extreme weather conditions; on global security – and on the increasingly complex interactions between these factors.

Four key areas for action are:

Minimising air pollution

- Reduce dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate transition to clean energy
- Set target date to eliminate home installation of wood burning and gas stoves in urban areas
- Upgrade domestic heating systems to electric and/or heat pump technology
- Invest in re-training and diversify affected economies as fossil fuel industry sites are closed

Support the city in building energy efficient homes

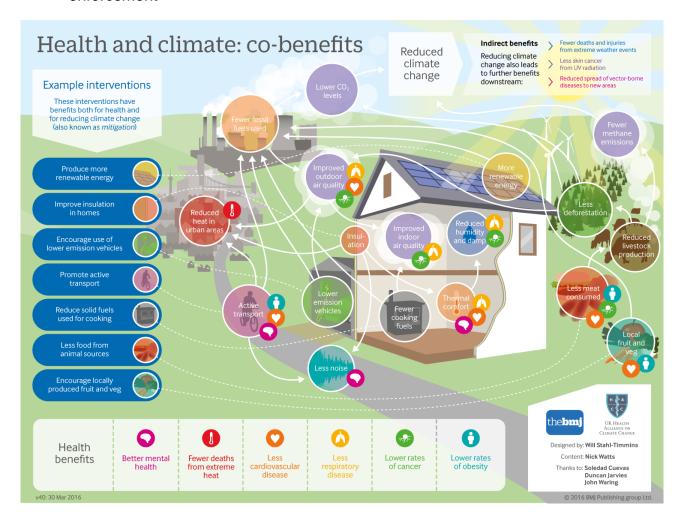
- Establish target within the city to retrofit and upgrade existing homes to be energy efficient
- Revise building standards to become near-zero or zero-carbon with flexibility to adapt to local environment needs
- Ensure all homes are designed to reduce exposure to extreme heat without using refrigerants

Promoting sustainable and healthy food

- Enable powers to transition to healthier and more sustainable diets, to be reflected in UK dietary guidelines
- Develop labelling system to inform consumers about health and environmental impacts of purchases
- Support interventions such as changing marketing of food, VAT structures and waste reduction duties

Prioritising active and safe transport

- Support replacement of old polluting vehicles, expand electric charging network for vehicles and e-bikes and invest in walking/cycling infrastructure
- Increase availability of affordable and reliable public transport, promote ridesharing and e-delivery services
- Optimise flexible speed restrictions/traffic control measures to protect cyclists & pedestrians, reduce air pollution and GHGs, and increase monitoring & enforcement



5 Key priorities

5.1 The key priority for the LAST group is to identify areas in which we can make headway on our carbon reduction. These are identified as the top priorities for 2022/2023.

The key areas identified are:

- Climate Commitment from all LAST partners to achieve decarbonisation in line with the regional demands of WYHCP of 2038 at the latest but aim to work towards 2030 as laid out in the LAST Climate Commitment in 2022.
- Education on carbon literacy for all Board members
 - Mandate Carbon Literacy Training for all staff above Band 7. Mandatory staff training on ESR or staff training systems to ensure that all staff
- Phasing out of high carbon anaesthetic gases including Desflurane by 2023 in line with the #DesFree23 agenda
- Mandate Green Plan template be implemented for Leeds GPs and Primary care
- Establish Sustainability Management Groups across every organisation
- Create Climate Adaptation Plans for every organisation
- Implement the Clean Air Framework for the NHS
- Collaborate and input into consultations with WY Metro to look at active travel infrastructure
- Cycle to work scheme
- PPN 06/21 10% weighting for sustainability and Net Zero in all procurement
- Commit a NED in every organisation to be a sustainability specialist

6 Recommendations

Health and Wellbeing Board should:

- Acknowledge the legal requirement to deliver net zero within the local health and care sector as set out within the Climate Change Act (2008) and clarified within the Health and Care Act (2022).
- Recognise the role of local health and care sector organisations to support national and local climate policy including, but not limited to, the Net Zero Strategy, Greener NHS vision, National Adaptation Programme, and Leeds' local climate emergency declaration.
- Commit to reviewing the progress of the local health and care sector towards the
 delivery of its stated net zero and climate adaptation ambitions on an annual basis
 and to create further opportunities at HWB level to further engage on this work.

 Identify areas for cross-sector collaboration to accelerate the delivery of climate mitigation (achieving net zero) and adaptation (mitigating impacts of future climate hazards).

Board members should also action within their own organisations:

- Reflect the risks of failing to mitigate and failing to adapt to climate change, as identified by the national Committee on Climate Change and regional Climate Commissions, as part of organisational corporate risk registers and business continuity planning.
- Commit to developing, delivering, and regularly reviewing at board level costed organisational action plans for climate mitigation (achieving net zero) and climate adaptation (mitigating impacts of future climate hazards) if not already doing so.
- Commit to incorporate a requirement to consider the impact of all major decisions on organisational environmental/climate targets as part of the formal decision making/business case process.
- Commit to providing Carbon Literacy training (or equivalent) for all organisational Board members/non-executive directors and to undertake engagement with every healthcare team to ensure understanding of organisational climate plans.

Implementing the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21

How does this help reduce health inequalities in Leeds?

This will identify where we can reduce health inequalities by understanding the future impacts on our health system. It has been widely evidenced that the impact of future climate hazards will exacerbate existing health and socio-economic inequalities. Therefore, actions taken to limit the extent of future climate change (climate mitigation) and mitigate the impacts of climate change (climate adaptation) will help to reduce future health inequalities.

How does this help create a high quality health and care system?

By understanding the risks and the challenges we face through climate change we can ensure that we build a high quality health and care system for the future today.

How does this help to have a financially sustainable health and care system?

By understanding the impacts of longer-term climate change we can build resilience into new buildings, retrofits and energy security. By reducing our immediate impact on our local health system, we can reduce the impact on air quality, supply chain and ensure that our local community benefits from a more sustainable health and care system.

Future challenges or opportunities

The financial impact of not acting to reduce the impact of climate change will far outweigh the impact of acting now. We need to strive to build in energy resilience, vehicle decarbonisation, supply chain assessments,

We need to act now to build in:

- Resilience for our communities and supply chain
- Resilience to energy shortages and price shocks
- Local economy to support the transition to Net Zero and local circular economy
- Support the transition to net zero vehicles for our own vehicles and our supply chain
- Medicine optimisation
- Strategies to decarbonise our models of care
- Digital options available to patients

We need to act now to achieve a decarbonisation of our organisations aligned with the Leeds city's target of 2030 for at least our Scope 1 and 2 emissions. We will therefore be in with a chance of decarbonising our entire health and social care system in line with the NHS's 2045 Scope 3 target.

Priorities of the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21 (please tick all that apply to this report)	
A Child Friendly City and the best start in life	Х
An Age Friendly City where people age well	Х
Strong, engaged and well-connected communities	Х
Housing and the environment enable all people of Leeds to be healthy	
A strong economy with quality, local jobs	Х
Get more people, more physically active, more often	Х
Maximise the benefits of information and technology	
A stronger focus on prevention	
Support self-care, with more people managing their own conditions	
Promote mental and physical health equally	
A valued, well trained and supported workforce	Х
The best care, in the right place, at the right time	Х