



A care system support organisation



# Carbon Reduction Plan 2024/25

**Supplier name:** NHS North of England Commissioning Support Unit

**Publication date:** 5th September 2025

**Commitment to achieving Net Zero:**

NHS North of England CSU is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2040.

## 1. Emissions Reporting

### 1.1 Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

#### Additional Details relating to the 2017/18 Baseline Emissions calculations.

We have used the Greening Government Commitment reporting guidelines to calculate the majority of these emissions.

#### Scopes 1&2

Emissions related to energy use (gas and electricity) across our corporate estate have been calculated using the best available usage data. Where information was not available, estimates have been made based on the information held.

Fleet transport includes vehicles that have been leased through our salary sacrifice scheme and now also include emissions from our ICT engineer van fleet.

#### Scope 3

Upstream transportation and distribution include gas and electricity well-to-tank (WTT) emissions and transportation and distribution (T&D) losses for electricity use. WTT figures associated with business travel, commuter travel and T&D losses for electric vehicle charging are also included here.

Business travel includes car/private vehicles, rail, and air travel. Information is not currently available to estimate business travel conducted by underground, bus, taxi, ferry, or other modes of public transport. Employee commuting has been estimated using the 2023 Office for National Statistics annual national travel survey (latest available as of June 2025) with an estimated 90% reduction applied to reflect changes in working arrangements.

As NECS is a largely service-based business, we do not sell physical products or goods. We therefore estimate our downstream transportation and distribution emissions to be zero.

Baseline year emissions: 2017/18			
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)		
Scope 1 - Direct impact e.g., gas consumption, transport fleet/leased vehicles	382		
Scope 2 - Direct impact e.g., electricity consumption	568		
Scope 3 - Indirect Impact (Included Sources)	1346	Upstream transportation and distribution	719
		Waste	4
		Business Travel	348
		Commuting	275
		Downstream transportation and distribution	0
Total Emissions	2,296 tCO <sub>2</sub> e		

Table 1: Baseline Emissions Data 2017/18

Current emissions reporting year 2024/25			
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)		
Scope 1 - Direct impact e.g., gas consumption, transport fleet/leased vehicles	89		
Scope 2 - Direct impact e.g., electricity consumption	21		
Scope 3 - Indirect Impact (Included Sources)	178	Upstream transportation and distribution	54
		Waste	0
		Business Travel	97
		Commuting	27
		Downstream transportation and distribution	0
Total Emissions	288 - tCO <sub>2</sub> e		

Table 2 Emissions Data 2024/25

## 2. Emissions reduction targets

2.1 As part of the Greener NHS commitment, NECS are working towards:

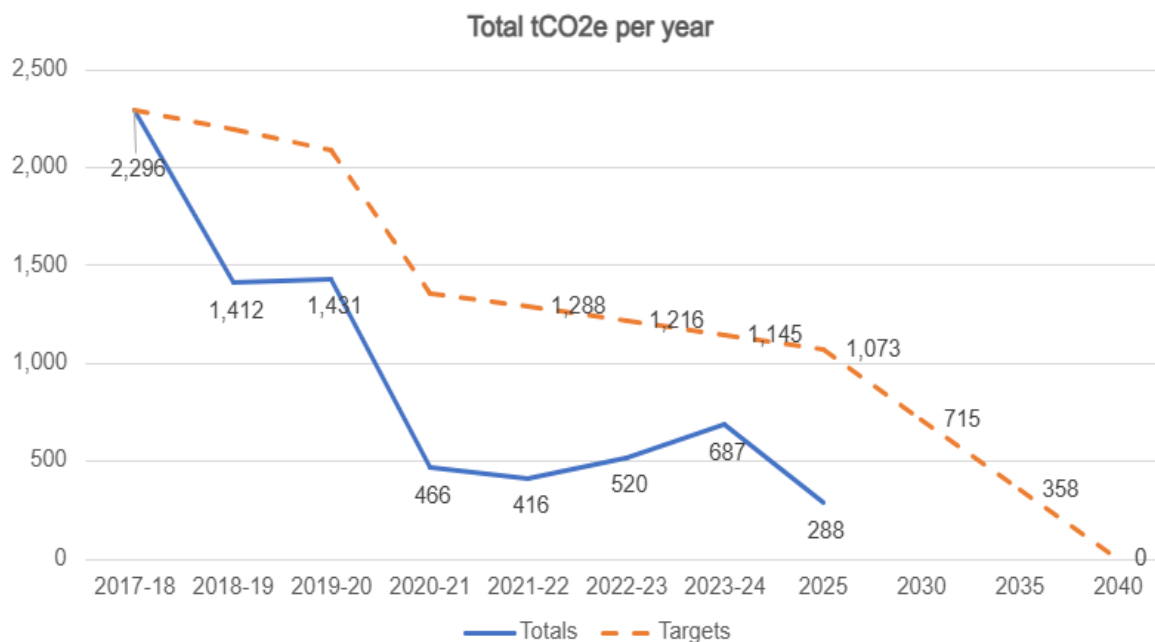
- Net Zero for the emissions NECS directly control by 2040.
- Net Zero for the emissions the NHS influences (the NHS Carbon Footprint Plus) by 2045.

2.2 In line with the NHS Net Zero and Greening Government Commitments, NECS is working towards meeting or exceeding relevant targets such as transition to NET Zero travel and transport, Net Zero supplier roadmap requirements in procurement processes, reductions in waste generation, paper and water use, and reducing our environmental impact from information communication technology (ICT) and digital.

To continue our progress to achieve Net Zero we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets. NECS' overall progress against targets is illustrated in the graph below:

2.3

*Figure 1 2024/25 NECS Carbon Footprint - Tonnage of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)*



2.4 During 2024/25, there has been a decrease in NECS' tCO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 687 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2023/24 to 288 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, this is a decrease of 58%. This reduction has been achieved through a reduction in the size of the estate, headcount of staff and a focus on reducing unnecessary business travel.

2.5 NECS continues to be on trajectory to meet the national 2040 net zero target. Since the 2017/2018 baseline figure NECS 2024/25 tCO<sub>2</sub>e carbon footprint has reduced by 87%.

2.6 During 2024/25 there has been a decrease in 'scope 3' tCO<sub>2</sub>e, compared to the previous year emissions (2023/24 421 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This decrease

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relates predominately to a 71% decrease in staff business travel due to hybrid ways of working, a focus on stopping any unnecessary travel, and a reduction in waste. We are on track to meet our target of 80% reduction in business travel from 2017/18 baseline, with a current 72% reduction overall.

- 2.7 It is also noted that there is a decrease in 'scope 2' emissions during 2024/25 (21 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) compared to 2023/24 (183 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) a decrease of 88%. This decrease can be attributed to a significant reduction in the size of NECS' estate and in headcount of employed staff.

### **3. Carbon Reduction Projects**

- 3.1 We have developed a Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy which outlines our high-level strategy towards achieving net zero and covers six key areas including carbon reduction (travel and transport, estates and facilities), digital transformation, social value, supply chain and procurement, workforce and leadership, adaptation, and communication and engagement.
- 3.2 We have collated our carbon footprint data as an organisation and report this to NHS England on a quarterly basis. We also report our ICT carbon footprint data to NHS England on an annual basis.
- 3.3 In NECS the following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2017/18 baseline.
- ✓ Rolled out Microsoft Teams meeting technology to all NECS employees, to allow staff and customers to work in a productive, effective, agile, and safe environment, significantly reducing the need to travel between sites.
  - ✓ Promoted our Ways of Working Framework with full staff engagement.
  - ✓ We operate a cycle to work scheme to ensure teams can take advantage of tax savings when buying a bicycle.
  - ✓ We have a car lease scheme with a wide range of zero and low emission vehicles on offer.
  - ✓ NHS Property Services manages most of our estate on our behalf and has a comprehensive Green Plan -[nhsps-green-plan-2025-28.pdf](#)
  - ✓ Developed our Estates Strategy which has a focus on sustainability, to ensure a positive impact on the environment including recycling facilities on site.
  - ✓ We have collaborated with ethical clearing companies to reuse and redistribute surplus office equipment.
  - ✓ We have reduced our overall number of sites and office space and have moved to a hybrid working model.
  - ✓ We have introduced a digital booking system across our sites to support optimum utilisation.

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- ✓ Promoted staff awareness campaigns to reduce energy consumption and minimize our carbon footprint.
- ✓ Encouraging all staff to complete the Net Zero NHS training module.
- ✓ Removed single use plastics from all NECS estates, removed all bottles /water facilities where alternative fresh water sources are available and ensured waste hierarchy is implemented across all our sites (reduce, reuse, recycle, create energy, dispose).
- ✓ Developed a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Strategy which outlines our high-level strategy towards net zero.
- ✓ Established a CSR staff champions network.
- ✓ Worked to reduce the impact of the data centres we use by moving to more cloud-based solutions where possible.
- ✓ Worked with our ICT waste disposal partner to recycle our ICT equipment.
- ✓ Our digital transformation programmes actively contribute to a paperless NHS.
- ✓ Embedded Social Value throughout NECS procurement documents.
- ✓ Included a minimum 10% weighting on social value on all procurement evaluations.
- ✓ Ensured all procurements comply 100% with the Modern Slavery Act (MSA) 2015 for all relevant organisations under section 54 (MSA) and their compliance with the annual report requirement on Modern Slavery.
- ✓ Ensured providers that our customer contracts are compliant and have not been excluded or excludable under the Public Contract Regulation 57 for things such as corruption, bribery, terrorism, money laundering etc.

**3.4 In the future NECS will:**

- Continue to promote active and sustainable travel options for staff commutes and business travel as well as offering electric vehicles via the Lease Car Scheme provider.
- Continue to use technology to support a hybrid model of working to reduce business travel where appropriate.

**3.5 Where possible, collaborating with our landlords, facilities management providers and other partners, NECS will:**

- Replace lighting to LED as and when bulbs stop working to achieve 100% usage by 2040.
- Review our estates strategy to continue to reduce the size of our estate in line with our organisation's business planning objectives.
- Ensure surplus office furniture is redistributed and reused or recycled.
- Identify efficiencies in the use and ordering of single use plastics.
- Increase the use of on-site dry mix recycling bins.
- Increase digitisation and reduction of paper use by reducing the number of available printers.
- Ensure compliance with the Department of Environment, Food and

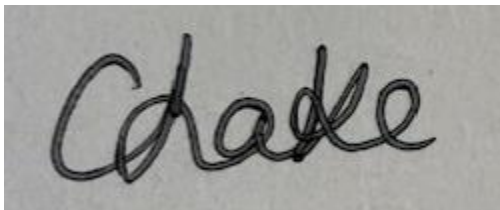
Rural Affairs 'Simpler Recycling' legislation by the provision of food waste bins.

- Ensure all NECS' suppliers with contracts for goods, services, or works for any value, publish a carbon reduction plan from April 2027.

#### **4. Declaration and Sign Off**

- 4.1 This Carbon Reduction Plan was completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standards for Carbon Reduction Plans.
- 4.2 Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard<sup>1</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.
- 4.3 Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard<sup>3</sup>.
- 4.4 This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the NECS Formal Executive Group.

#### **Signed on behalf of the Supplier:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire', on a light-colored background.

**Claire Lake**

**Director of Organisation Development and Corporate Services.**

**Date Approved: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

<sup>1</sup> <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>