



Environmental Policy Statement

As the **Chief Executive of NHS Education for Scotland (NES)** I am responsible for the planned formulation, development and implementation of the NES environmental management policies.

The **Executive Team** and I will define and authorise the organisation's environmental policies and they will be documented, implemented and maintained. We shall ensure that within the defined scope of our Environmental Management System (EMS) the policies and procedures are appropriate to the nature, scale and environmental impacts of our activities products and services.

The Executive Team and I fully accept that the effective environmental management is fundamental to enable us to minimise the impact of the organisation's activities and will assist us to meet our budget targets and the quality and efficiency of our performance.

NES is committed to continuous environmental improvement and also reducing the impact of our operations on the environment including the prevention of pollution. NES recognises and accepts its responsibility as a good employer for endeavouring to protect and improve our environment and to build sustainable development in everything we do. This is fully in keeping with the requirement of environmental legislation and other relevant requirements, e.g. "A Policy on Sustainable Development for NHSScotland-CEL 2(2012)".

To support this commitment, we will regard legal or statutory requirements as setting the minimum standard we must achieve and environmental needs will be given equal status to other operational activities. This will involve the implementation of arrangements for the effective planning, organisation, control, monitoring, auditing and reviewing of preventative and protective measures. In addition, we will undertake to ensure compliance with policy and guidance produced by the NHS.

The Head of Planning and Corporate Governance is our **Champion for Sustainability** and has responsibility for environmental management within NES including articulating and promoting our sustainability priorities, whilst the Chief Executive has overall responsibility to the Board for environmental management issues. The Head of Planning and Corporate Governance has been appointed to co-ordinate and ensure that the management of environmental objectives are an integral part of our activities and continuous improvement in environment management and performance programmes. This policy will provide the framework for the EMS and the setting and reviewing of environment objectives.

In meeting NES' responsibilities, the following specific objectives have been set relating to Environmental Management which are:

- a. To provide commitment and resources to implement environmental policy.
- b. To identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and monitor performance in accordance with NHSScotland mandatory requirements.
- c. To use energy efficiently and to be consistent with NHSScotland national targets.
- d. To minimise waste by reduction, reuse and recycling.
- e. To encourage use of suppliers who have an environmental management policy
- f. To provide full opportunities for employer/employee consultation on environmental management through local partnership arrangements as well as normal channels of communication.
- g. To assess activities, products and services to mitigate environmental impact.
- h. To monitor effectiveness of environmental management provisions within NES in consultation with site Environmental Management Groups.
- i. To achieve continual improvement and best practice.

We will ensure that a **NES Corporate Environmental Management Representative (CEMR)** is appointed with organisation wide responsibility for the implementation of an effective Environmental Management System to measure, and continually aim to improve environmental performance, consistent with the EU and Scottish Governments' commitment to sustainable development. We shall utilise a suitable tool to achieve these goals.



We will ensure that a senior member of staff is appointed as the **NES Waste Management Officer (WMO)** as a single point of contact with responsibility for all aspects of waste management within NES consistent with the Scottish Government's commitments towards zero waste and CEL 8(2007) "Waste Management in NHS Scotland Action plan :2007".

We shall appoint an **Environmental Management Representative (EMR)** to act as the environmental focal point for each of our sites.

Employees are required to co-operate with this policy and the requirements of environmental legislation. NES expects everyone to be environmentally aware and contribute to NES environmental initiatives. The successful implementation of this policy is dependent upon the wholehearted co-operation of all employees.

NES recognises that the standards for environmental management would be best maintained, developed and improved in consultation with persons providing professional and technical advice at national and regional level. Every encouragement and support will be given to NES sites to produce and implement local environmental arrangements specific to their needs and in line with the NES policy.

NES will produce a **Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP)** which will set out the organisation's contribution to the Scottish Government's sustainable development aims and objectives.

The SDAP will be consistent with, and supportive of, the organisation wide strategic Sustainable Development Policy Statement and will undergo a review process using the GCCAM toolkit with actions monitored, evaluated and updated. It will include an assessment of the impacts of climate change and a suitable adaptation strategy in compliance with public sector duties.

It will also contain appropriate actions to contribute to the overall NHSScotland H.E.A.T. Targets.

It will be signed off annually by the NES Chief Executive and/or the Sustainable Development Champion.

It will be submitted annually to the SGHSC Capital and Facilities Division with other data as required under CEL 14 (2010).

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Executive Team and revised where necessary to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate.

It will be communicated to all employees to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities and will be made available to all other stakeholders through the organisations' website.

Date: 1st of March 2018

Caroline Lamb
Chief Executive