

September 2025 Edition

Environmental Sustainability is our shared responsibility and a core value of the NHS

Save Money: Save Lives: Save Our Planet



1.1 HEADLINE

[NHS England](#) refreshed Green Plan guidance in February 2025, requiring all ICBs and Trusts to update their green plans. The [ICB Green Plan 2025-30](#) published in July, highlights progress made between 2022 and 2025, and lays out our vision for the next 5 years.

1.2 REASONS TO CELEBRATE

- We are thrilled to announce that our **Clinical lead for Environmental Sustainability**, Dr Sarah Hopkins, was a finalist for the Health Innovation Northwest Coast Sustainability Award for developing an education programme for trainee GPs. →

In Primary Care, 15%+ of our GP practices have introduced carbon reduction plans and 30% have a Green Lead. Are you one of the 42 LSC practices signed up to the RCGP [Green Impact for Health toolkit](#)? 32% of ICB staff have received the presentation 'Introduction to Sustainability'.

- Tree planting:** Thanks to the dedication of our staff and volunteers, 1090 trees were planted across our healthcare sites in 2024-25. Contact [NHSForest](#) if you want to plant more! ↓



- We are proud to announce that the ICB and [NuGreen's waste project](#) has been shortlisted for the **Awards for Excellence in Waste Management**. Through reducing waste and consumption, improving waste segregation accuracy and alignment to the 20:20:60 national clinical waste segregation targets, GP surgeries involved saved, on average, **£529 and 519kg CO2e/ tonne of clinical waste**.



1.3 RESOURCES/ OPPORTUNITIES TO HIGHLIGHTS

Progress made in the year 2024-2025 against our Green Plan 2022-25 can be found in the Environmental Matters & Sustainability section of the ICB's [Annual Report](#), on p83-89. This includes, for the first time, some high-level carbon metrics.

Sustainable Travel

Use this simple, 3 step [Healthier Greener Travel Toolkit](#) to produce a travel plan for your workplace with top tips on how to encourage staff and patients to travel by public transport or bike, walk or wheel. **Active employees are happier and healthier** and on average have 28% fewer sick days. We need to reduce single occupancy car use, **poor air quality contributes to around 4% of all deaths in Lancashire and South Cumbria.**

[BetterPoints Lancashire](#) is an App funded by Lancashire County Council and supported by the NHS. It enables anyone living or working in Lancashire to earn rewards for using public transport and/or choosing active travel such as cycling, walking or wheeling. Scan this QR code with your phone to download the App today!



BetterPoints



- [Electric vehicle infrastructure grant for staff and fleets - GOV-UK Find a grant](#) has been extended to the end of March 2026. Primary Care, get your application in today!



Sustainable Medicine

Have you introduced [Kidzmed](#)? This initiative supports children to use tablets instead of liquid medication. The Over-Wyre Medical Centre switched some of their children, from liquid omeprazole to tablets/ granules. An initial trial resulted in annual cost savings of **c£14k for just 3 patients!**

- The new [Greener NHS – Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB colleague intranet](#) page for ICB staff pulls together useful resources including links to the ICB apprenticeship catalogue, promoting sustainability-related courses and the Sustainability Impact Assessment to consider the environmental impact of any project.

1.4 HEADLINES FROM OUR TRUSTS



Funding for **LED lighting**: £6.46m of national funding will save Trusts an estimated £3.2m+ annually.
Funding for **solar panels**: £7.75m of national funding will save Trusts an estimated £1m+ annually.
Funding for **sub-metering**: £96k awarded to Morecombe Bay Hospital Trust.
Funding for **EV charging infrastructure** awarded to NWAS, LSCFT and BTH totaling c£539k.

1.5 CHALLENGES & RISKS

- Government has paused public sector decarbonisation funding.
- Resource uncertainty during OneLSC and ICB restructure.

1.6 WHAT'S NEXT

- Space Utilisation: the ICB has a target to reach 85% utilisation of healthcare buildings across LSC. Efficiencies will be achieved by implementing a Terrier system (database to hold the details of all buildings) and Universal Booking System.
- Sustainability and social value will be fully integrated into the commissioning process - the recent ICB report by PA Consulting includes recommendations around staff training and use of the Sustainability Impact Assessment.

Thank you for your continued commitment to sustainability. 😊