Sustainable MFT

NHS
Manchester University
NHS Foundation Trust

Annual Sustainability Report *2024-2025*

HEALTHIER
PLANET
HEALTHIER
PEOPLE

MFT Sustainability Team V 1.0

Contents

Foreword

In my role as Trust Chairman, I have been delighted to advocate for sustainability within the Trust, and I am proud of the achievements that our organisation has made.

Staff across our hospitals and local care organisations are delivering world-class care to an increasing number of patients and are often working in difficult circumstances. Despite these pressures, I am delighted that the environmental impact of those interactions is reducing.

Since 2019/20, during our first Green Plan, we have seen a breadth of fantastic achievements:

- Through hard work led by anaesthetists and the pharmacy department, the carbon footprint of medical and anaesthetic gases has nearly halved
- On-site renewable electricity generation from solar panels has increased 6-fold, producing enough energy to power 200 homes for a year
- We have saved more than 18 million sheets of paper due to the rollout of HIVE
- There are more than 150 additional cycle parking spaces across the trust
- The bees in our hives on the roof of Manchester Royal Infirmary have produced around 90 kilograms of delicious honey
- We have sent zero waste to landfill, with over 5,500 tonnes of waste recycled
- We have secured over £30 million in grant funding for decarbonising the energy on our estate.

We now look ahead to the next five years and our new Green Plan 2 Net Zero, which I believe is a good plan for continuing this progress. By the end of the new Green Plan, we will be halfway to our 2038 target for net zero direct carbon emissions, whilst the impacts of climate change on our communities and the Trust will be more extreme. We need to ensure that we can continue to offer our world-class healthcare, whilst addressing new and emerging health conditions caused by climate change.

I hope that this report will inspire you to take positive action into your workplace, to deliver beneficial improvement and to inspire your colleagues to take part in this vital work.

Kathy Cowell OBE DL, MFT Group Chairman,
Board Net Zero Lead

Click on the picture link above to see Code Green – Delivering Net Zero Carbon at MFT.

The Green Plan

MFT's sustainability strategy 'The Green Plan' introduces our priorities across 10 key areas of focus to meet two important overarching ambitions for carbon reductions:

1. To achieve a net zero MFT Carbon Footprint by 2038 (those things we can directly control)
2. To achieve a net zero MFT Carbon Footprint Plus by 2045 (those things we can directly control and indirectly influence).

This annual report outlines the progress and achievements in each of these 10 areas of focus as well as an update on our transition to net zero carbon. For more information on why these areas have been selected and how our carbon budget has been calculated, view the **The Green Plan**.

Introduction

The final Annual Report of the first MFT Green Plan provides an opportunity to reflect on the huge strides our Trust has made. Each year colleagues from across MFT take important steps to reduce the environmental impact caused by our activity, and this has been reported and recorded by the Sustainability Team.

Since our baseline year 2019/20, we have reduced our Carbon Footprint (the emissions in our direct control) by 15%. We are delivering healthcare in a more sustainable way, even though patient contacts have continued to increase. Each patient contact now equates to an average of 22.6 $kgCO_2e$, down from 32.0 $kgCO_2e$ in 2019/20.

Within our annual report, we are delighted to showcase examples of teams and individuals who are striving to create a difference in their workplace, improve patient outcomes, and utilise Trust resources as effectively as possible.

We are also pleased that more colleagues than ever are learning about sustainability and taking part in training. The number of people participating in our Sustainability Advocate programme has continued to grow to 147 volunteers, demonstrating that this topic aligns with people's personal ethics and interests.

Although we have witnessed many successes, there is a need to go further and increase the speed of our work.

Our carbon budget has been exceeded each year, reflecting the experience of many of our peers and neighbours. The new Green Plan 2 Net Zero will seek to ensure that sustainability is considered more broadly across the Trust, embedding sustainable healthcare practices in all pathways, and delivering more decarbonisation.

We have recently strengthened the governance and oversight of Sustainability. A new Green Plan Oversight Group chair has been appointed, and each of the ten areas of focus has an executive sponsor, who will review progress and promote the activities within their areas.

Highlights of 2024/25

Over 250
items reused through the MFT Reuse Platform

including stationery, office furniture, and medical equipment

880 tonnes
of clinical waste redirected to tiger stream

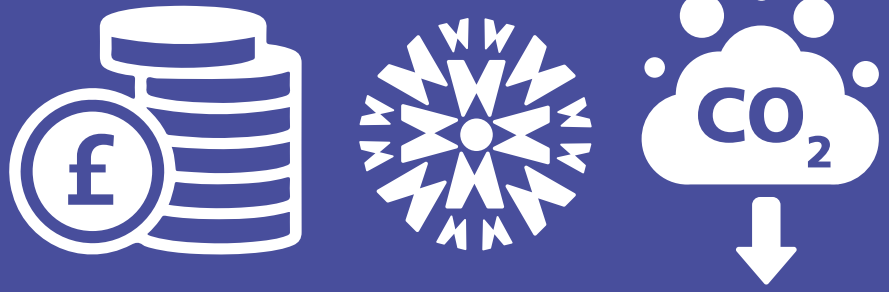
64,832 sustainable actions

recorded by staff through the Green Rewards programme

6 teams accredited for their Green Impact projects

making a sustainable improvement to the way they work

£18.9 million grant funding secured



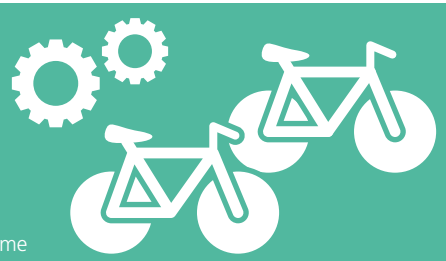
for decarbonising Trafford General Hospital through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

79 new Sustainability Advocates

joined in 2024/25

2,360
walking aids reused

210
bikes serviced for free
via staff bike maintenance programme



27% increase

in solar electricity generated since 2023/24

Performance Report

The following section provides a summary of key developments and case studies from 2024/25, as well as headline objectives for the MFT sustainability programme throughout the next *Green Plan 2 Net Zero* across the ten areas of focus.

Sustainable Models of Care

Adapting care pathways to improve patient outcomes whilst reducing resource use and carbon emissions.

2024/25 Overview

The Hospital@Home (H@H) pathway expanded, and has been positively embraced by patients. In 2024/25, over 57,000 bed days were spent in a H@H virtual ward, allowing patients to receive the same quality care in the comfort of their own homes rather than in hospital. This helps reduce the environmental impact per patient, through less need to travel, and lower energy intensity in homes compared to hospital.

The MFT Sustainability Team presented at the GIRFT Leaders event in October 2024 with Professor Tim Briggs, NHS England National Director for Clinical Improvement and Elective Recovery. MFT was recognised for innovations in the Patient Initiated Follow Up pathway, and for contributions to a Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) national governance toolkit. Dr Prakriti Shreshtha, GIRFT research fellow at MFT, has continued work to rationalise general surgery theatre tray instruments. The project, presented at NHS Confed 2025, has cut the number of unnecessary items present in trays at Trafford General Hospital theatres, achieving carbon and cost savings.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The headline objectives for *Green Plan 2 Net Zero* will be to embed sustainability into clinical pathway design, build capacity to reduce the carbon intensity of pathways, and move towards digitally enabled pathways where clinically appropriate. These objectives work in line with the 10 Year Health Plan for England, aiming to move care closer to home, focus on prevention, and move toward digital pathways.

The further optimisation of H@H, as well as initiatives such as the Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs), which bring services closer to communities, and the Enhanced Recovery Programme, which optimises the pathway and patient recovery for non-emergency procedures, are good examples of service improvements while reducing the carbon intensity of care.

Improving care for patients undergoing total hip replacement at the Trafford Elective Surgical Hub (TESH) has led to a drastic improvement in patient recovery and a reduction in average length of stay. The project was a true collaboration between over 130 stakeholders, including patients, medical and nursing staff, allied health professionals (AHPs), academics, administration and managerial staff.

Dr Justine Theaker, Consultant AHP and Gill Stirrup, Head of Nursing at TESH, started the project in 2011 and used structured quality improvement methods to enhance patient care during total hip replacement (THR) surgery, including repeating cycles of process mapping and patient engagement. The emphasis was on simplicity, scalability and sustainability, and resulted in the team being Highly Commended at the HSJ Partnership award in 2012 and 2013.

At the beginning of the project, patients undergoing THR had an average hospital stay of 13 days. Optimising patients pre-operatively through better identification and management of existing medical conditions, adequate nutrition and hydration, and early mobilisation and rehabilitation, led to a reduction in length of stay down to 5 days. Despite this significant reduction there was no increase in complaints, readmissions or complications.

By mapping patient experience, the team also found that post-surgery precaution advice was delaying patient recovery. Following a research trial at TESH, which was later endorsed by GIRFT recommendations, it was deemed that standard hip precautions during recovery were no longer recommended, and instead, future advice would be individualised. This reduced waiting times for surgery, pre-op deconditioning and equipment costs, as well as further reducing length of stay to below 4 days, with an increase in the number of patients returning home within 24 hours of surgery.

Digital Transformation

Using digital technologies to deliver and manage healthcare to drive down the carbon intensity of care.

2024/25 Overview

500,000 patients are now using the MyMFT app, giving them easier access and control over their health journey, reducing the Did Not Attend (DNA) rate, and reducing the reliance on paper. Over 1,300 appointments have been rebooked through the patient self-scheduling functionality, and 130,000 Fast Pass offers of an earlier appointment have been sent through MyMFT, supporting the reduction of waiting times.

Expansion to further specialities will be delivered through the 'Care on Time' Trust initiative, and work is ongoing to embed health literacy into all patient communications to ensure accessibility and to avoid exacerbating health inequalities.

Virtual outpatient appointments, which negate the need for patient travel, are steadily increasing: 19.4% of outpatient appointments were offered digitally in 2024/25 (nearly 600,000 appointments), compared to 17.8% the previous year.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

Green Plan 2 Net Zero expands this area of focus to include Research & Innovation, and includes three headline objectives: to embed sustainability into strategy, processes and purchasing; to identify, maximise, and measure benefits enabled by HIVE and MyMFT which deliver sustainability co-benefits; and to use improved data and analysis to optimise sustainability reporting.

Moving to more circular models of using technology will be key to avoidance of electrical waste, which is the world's fastest growing waste stream. HIVE continues to be a great example of digital transformation, and accessing further benefits enabled by HIVE will ensure we are maximising its value.

MFT is using HIVE data and predictive analysis to improve patient communications and cut Did Not Attend (DNA) rates. The Trust-wide DNA rate for appointments sits at 9.7%, but in some areas is as high as 31%. This negatively impacts service delivery and has an environmental impact as resources and time are wasted.

The HIVE 'DNA Predict' function uses information from the patient's record to calculate how likely they are to not attend, or not be brought to, their appointment. The analysis enables targeted contact with patients who may benefit from support, for example, with travel to the appointment, accessibility during the appointment, or the need for an interpreter. All these services are readily available to patients to help them get the most from their appointments.

During two trial periods across fourteen specialities in Spring and Autumn 2024, DNA rates decreased from 34% to 27% for contacted high-risk appointments, and from 17% to 14% for contacted medium-risk appointments. There are now thirty booking and scheduling teams using DNA Predict across MFT, covering over 80 specialities.

"DNApredict@MFT is enabling administration and clerical teams across MFT to proactively reduce missed appointments by using insight to offer targeted support where it's needed most. By identifying patients at risk of non-attendance, we can offer timely, personalised interventions, helping people feel supported to attend and improving patient access and experience across our services."

Amy McCawley, MFT Corporate Improvement Advisor

Supply Chain & Procurement

Engaging with suppliers to find ways to reduce the carbon impact of the production and transportation of goods and services used. Also avoiding wastage and unnecessary purchases.

2024/25 Overview

In line with the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap, we routinely include a minimum 10% social value weighting as part of tenders, ask suppliers to provide carbon reduction plans or a commitment to the NHS' net zero targets, and encourage suppliers to complete the Evergreen Assessment. We do not yet have a clear picture of the overall supplier completion rate and accreditation level of Evergreen, however our PFI partners Sodexo achieved the highest level of accreditation.

MFT have worked with Johnson and Johnson (J&J) on a recycling programme, innovatively funded through vouchers based on contracted spend. MFT became the first trust in England to initiate three theatre-focused recycling schemes for 'difficult to recycle' items including suture foils, single-use energy instruments, and sterile tubes. The established walking aid reuse scheme has achieved a return rate of 24%, with the process well embedded into physiotherapy practice.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

During *Green Plan 2 Net Zero*, the headline objectives for Supply Chain and Procurement are: to maximise the sustainability outcomes from existing policies, procedures and frameworks; and to expand the responsible use of resources in the procurement and use of products, including reducing the reliance on single-use products. There are further gains to be made through more transparent and robust contract management of supplier commitments, and we can more actively encourage and support our suppliers to take part in the Evergreen framework. We have an excellent foundation of product trials and innovation which we can build on to rigorously assess new products for their environmental credentials, expand the number of reuse programmes, and increase smart management of products to eliminate waste.

Scan4Safety is a dedicated team working to manage stock and eliminate waste. Their primary responsibility is to ensure that all medical and surgical areas, especially those with significant annual spend, are stocked efficiently under the principle of 'Lean' Processes. By maintaining one to two weeks' worth of supplies and dynamically relocating stock between areas, they significantly reduce waste caused either by over-ordering or though consumables expiring on the shelves.

The team has around 80 colleagues strategically based in local storerooms, collaborating closely with clinical staff and services. They cover 80% of all relevant clinical areas, and oversee stock for more than 110,000 surgical procedures each year.

Central to their efficiency is Genesis, a sophisticated Inventory Management System (IMS) used to digitally track, analyse, and report on consumable usage. Genesis enables precise 'point of care' scanning, integrating data with patient records and supporting both inventory management and compliance with GS1 and EU legislation. This system gives Scan4Safety operatives live information to enable efficient restocking, and it provides analysis to help standardise items used in theatre procedures, encouraging best practice among clinicians.

"Sustainability and waste avoidance is part of the everyday work of Scan4Safety. Genesis is helping us better track consumables, including any reasons they are wasted, and we have saved nearly £2 million in 2024/25 by acting on this analysis. We're aiming to roll out Genesis to more areas of the trust, and there are lots of potential projects upcoming that we're excited about, including equipment tracking using radio frequency identification."

Andy Jackson, MFT Supply Chain Manager

Medicines

Moving to lower carbon options for high-impact areas such as anaesthesia and inhalers and tackling medicinal wastage including overprescribing.

2024/25 Overview

All our acute hospitals have now transitioned to portable cylinders of pure nitrous oxide, eliminating the need for piped manifolds of this gas. Compared to our baseline year, emissions from pure nitrous oxide are 82% lower (a reduction of 3,700 tCO_2e per year). Only the specialist University Dental Hospital of Manchester retains a pure nitrous oxide manifold.

Our Lead Sustainable Pharmacy Technician has made significant inroads in reducing the need for single use plastic bags in inpatient pharmacies. They also worked collaboratively across Greater Manchester to launch the "Your Medicines Matter" campaign, which encourages patients to bring their medication with them during inpatient stays.

MFT helped design and deliver sustainability training for 76 pharmacy staff across Greater Manchester. The training explored pharmacy-specific sustainable improvement projects and was designed in collaboration with the Greater Manchester Sustainable Pharmacy Group, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, and the GM Integrated Care Board.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The *Green Plan 2 Net Zero* Medicine headline objectives are: to research and act on sustainable solutions to lower the carbon footprint of medicines with complex use cases and high carbon emissions at the point of use; and to reduce the wastage associated with medicines. After the success of tackling emissions from desflurane and pure nitrous oxide, we must explore options for the remaining high-carbon and complex-use-case medicines with patient outcomes and experience at the heart of the solution. Reducing medicine waste will initially revolve around 'Your Medicines Matter' to avoid duplication of prescribing.

With over a year in post, MFT's Lead Sustainable Pharmacy Technician Tom Kok has hit the ground running with sustainable improvements. The role of Lead Pharmacy Technician – Sustainability was newly developed to merge traditional pharmacy duties with specific environmental objectives. Since joining MFT, Tom has lead projects reducing the need for single use plastic bags in inpatient pharmacies, and laid the foundations at the trust for a Greater Manchester wide medicine optimisation campaign: "Your Medicines Matter". This behaviour change campaign is a collaboration across the Greater Manchester Sustainable Pharmacy Group, and encourages patients to bring their own drugs into hospital during inpatient stays to avoid unnecessary double prescribing. By ensuring patients drugs travel safely with them during their stay, the waste from duplicate prescribing is massively reduced, with the added benefit of enabling a quicker discharge process for both staff and patients. As a visible advocate for sustainability in his work area, he is making direct improvements while helping to foster a culture where sustainability is embedded in everyday practice.

"It's been an exciting first year as the Lead Pharmacy Technician, Sustainability at MFT. We've shown that small changes can make a big difference. Looking ahead, I'm focused on reducing unnecessary medicine ordering and hope to establish a network of Pharmacy sustainability champions across the trust to drive and encourage sustainability initiatives. Sustainability is everyone's responsibility, and I'm thrilled to be implementing projects that not only reduce waste but also improve patient care."

Tom Kok, MFT Lead Pharmacy Technician – Sustainability

Food & Nutrition

Ensuring the meals served in hospital are nutritionally balanced and low carbon to improve patient experience and recovery rates, alongside tackling food waste.

2024/25 Overview

Led by MFT's specialist food service dietician, biannual menu reviews have taken place at several inpatient sites to ensure we are providing the most appealing and nutritious patient meals. Based on the feedback from patients, visitors, and staff, the improved seasonal menus better aid patient recovery while reducing food waste. The menus were also adapted to list lower-carbon dishes at the top of the page to encourage patients to pick more nutritious and sustainable meals.

Ward-based food waste measurements took place at Trafford General, Wythenshawe and Oxford Road Hospitals to better understand the extent and reasons behind food waste (whether from unserved plate waste, plate waste, or both).

Facilities leaders at Oxford Road hospitals have achieved impressive cost cuts of around £10,000 a month by reducing the inappropriate use of catering disposables, and making reusable crockery and cutlery more available through better processing and staff behaviour engagement.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The new Green Plan includes two key objectives: minimise food waste by placing the patient voice at the centre of food & nutrition; and reduce the carbon intensity of food used as part of food service. Due to the differences in service provision across the Trust, this will require different applications at each site. However, the consistent aim is to ensure that all our menus will provide patients with dishes they will enjoy, meaning they are more likely to eat well and recover effectively.

We will achieve the British Dietetic Association Standards, and ensure our procurement practice prioritises locally produced and higher welfare products. Consistently high standards within the cooking and presentation of all food will ensure that patients feel cared for by hospital staff and that each person receives appropriate nutrition from their meals.

Ward 55 in Manchester Royal Eye Hospital eliminated their daily food waste through three simple steps: improving staff training, correctly ordering meals, and offering second helpings to patients.

Ward 55 was producing around 11kg of food waste a day from plate waste and extra meals being ordered but not served to patients. In comparison, the average household in the UK wastes only around 0.5kg per day. Recognising the huge opportunity for improvement, Ward 55 engaged with Facilities colleagues for support.

Facilities staff refreshed the ward's training on the MFT food ordering systems to ensure that duplicate meals were not being ordered, and that meals followed patients should they move wards. The ward staff started having better conversations with patients about meal and portion size preferences, and also started offering patients second helpings to ensure that any spare food was eaten rather than put in the bin. This fantastic collaboration meant that in June 2025, Ward 55 achieved 0kg of food plate waste!

"We had fantastic engagement from Ward 55 on this project, and we're delighted the ward achieved no plate waste – it shows us the patients are eating well and enjoying their food. We're always on the lookout for more opportunities like this, because they dramatically reduce food waste and save the trust money. I'd encourage anyone at MFT to get in contact if they think we could help."

Irena Tucker, Head of Facilities at Oxford Road Campus

Estates & Facilities

Implementing low carbon processes and technologies for heating, electricity, water, and waste to avoid unnecessary uses of resources

2024/25 Overview

During 2024/25, MFT has secured several energy infrastructure grants, most notably, £18.9 million for the decarbonisation of energy at Trafford General Hospital through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). In addition, we were awarded £2.7 million through PSDS and Great British Energy to install a large heat pump at Altrincham General Hospital and add solar panels at various sites, respectively. North Manchester General Hospital was confirmed to be part of Phase 1 of the New Hospital Programme. The new hospital will be built in line with the NHS Net Zero Building Standards, and as our third largest site, this will help significantly with reducing our carbon emissions.

The continuation of the tiger waste segregation campaign has seen clinical tiger waste segregation grow from 32% in April 2024 to 45% in March 2025. For each kilogram of waste moved from infectious to tiger, we save 0.35 $kgCO_2e$. The switch has helped save 326 tCO_2e (or 20%) from the waste carbon footprint versus 2023/24.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The three headline objectives for Estates and Facilities within *Green Plan 2 Net Zero* are: to reduce the carbon intensity and absolute carbon emissions from our estate (energy, water and waste emissions); embed sustainability within projects and capital development work; and to increase adherence to best practice waste hierarchy. Decarbonising our estate requires both supply and demand side energy action, as well as embedding lower carbon measures as part of backlog maintenance to minimise cost and potential disruption. This will involve more collaboration between the Sustainability, Energy & Waste team with the Capital Development teams within Estates & Facilities. Furthermore, MFT will strive for best practice in waste treatment and segregation across clinical and domestic waste, demonstrated through improved recycling rates and lower waste footprint overall.

Energy is essential for us to deliver healthcare, but it is also responsible for the largest part of our direct carbon emissions. To tackle the large and complex problem of achieving net zero carbon energy, we need experts. In January 2025, the MFT Energy Team appointed Joe Tattersall as Building Management Systems (BMS) Engineer. The newly created role focuses on optimising our demand for energy, making sure we are not using energy wastefully.

Joe's responsibility is broad: he works with the systems that control heating, lighting, and ventilation in all our hospitals and clinics. By adjusting these energy intensive systems to run as efficiently as possible, Joe is ensuring our buildings stay comfortable for patients and staff, without wasting energy.

As well as performing regular checks, fixes and software updates, Joe is also involved when new buildings are being planned or built, making sure the controls are designed so the buildings use as little energy as possible. His role is key to helping the trust reduce our carbon emissions.

"After 20 years in mechanical maintenance, I've recently redirected my focus towards energy efficiency, which has been a refreshing change. Through targeted adjustments and optimisation of heating, ventilation and air conditioning plant operations, I've been able to reduce running hours and deliver annual electrical savings of £26,280 at Wythenshawe Hospital alone. I'm looking forward to rolling out these strategies across the rest of MFT, supporting our journey towards Net Zero."

Joe Tattersall, MFT Building Management Systems Engineer

Travel & Transport

Avoiding unnecessary travel and shifting to lower carbon modes of transport for the movement of people and goods.

2024/25 Overview

In conjunction with an external consultancy, we conducted accessibility studies for North Manchester General, Trafford General and Wythenshawe hospitals. Site-based improvements were suggested to make it easier for users to navigate to and around these sites, particularly relating to different active or public modes of transport. MFT have engaged with Transport for Greater Manchester (TFGM) and Manchester City Council to share these recommendations.

To support active travel, we continued our popular staff bike maintenance sessions at five of our sites. During 15 sessions throughout 2024/25, 210 bikes were checked and maintained by qualified cycle mechanics from our partners Cheshire Cycles. Furthermore, we upgraded a cycle shelter near Entrance 5 at Wythenshawe Hospital using funding secured from TFGM. Used by patients, visitors, and staff, the new stands are more accessible and secure, and offer more cycling spaces, increasing the capacity of the shelter from 18 to 24 bikes.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The headline objectives within the new Green Plan include reducing the carbon intensity of the trust fleet, reducing the carbon intensity of business travel, and reducing the carbon intensity of commuting for staff, patient & visitor travel.

Supporting these objectives and *Green Plan 2 Net Zero* is the MFT Healthy Travel Strategy. This highlights our Trust-wide principles and priorities which focus on healthier active lifestyles that improve health and wellbeing. Active travel, public transport, incentives to active travel and low carbon transport modes will all play a key part in the delivery of the strategy.

In addition to reducing the carbon intensity of its own fleet, MFT have also pledged to support two major milestones set by NHS England; that all vehicles offered through NHS vehicle salary sacrifice schemes must by electric by 2026, and that all new non-ambulance vehicles in the NHS must be zero emission by 2027.

MFT is investing in supporting staff with healthy and active travel, expanding the offer of free periodic bike maintenance to free maintenance workshops during 2024/25. MFT have offered free bike maintenance sessions to staff at our main hospital sites for a number of years. This year, we delivered more than ever before, holding 16 days of sessions across Trafford General, North Manchester General, Withington Community, Wythenshawe and Oxford Road Campus hospital sites. 210 staff bikes were checked over and maintained by fully qualified bike mechanics from our partner Cheshire Cycles. As part of the service, staff were also offered advice on further maintenance or parts that may soon need to be replaced.

A new addition to the programme this year was the offer of bike maintenance classes, held over lunchtimes on the bike maintenance days. During these classes, participants were taught maintenance techniques like how to quickly check their bike for issues, mending a puncture, and tuning gears and brakes. These sessions were trialled in March 2025 and were a great success, with 35 participants over four sessions and positive feedback received from attendees.

"We've been very pleased with the popularity of the new maintenance classes. For those that cycle to work, it is good practice to have your bike serviced on a regular basis. By offering these maintenance classes to our staff, we are increasing their ability to be self sufficient should issues like punctures happen on their way to, or home, from work."

Alex Scoular, MFT Sustainability Officer

Climate Change Adaptation

Making sure our buildings and services are prepared for the impacts of extreme heat or flooding events.

2024/25 Overview

While climate adaptation has been a relatively difficult area of focus to act on over the course of the first Green Plan, we saw good progress in 2024/25 in defining meaningful actions and next steps. MFT took part in a shared development process to create a framework for assessing the maturity level of NHS trust's adaptation efforts. Commissioned by the North East and North West Integrated Care Boards, the development involved a collaboration between representatives from several trusts across both regions, and was facilitated by two external organisations: Sniffer and Sustainability West Midlands. In a baseline assessment, MFT's maturity sits mostly at 'starting' or 'intermediate' stage across the four capabilities.

To further facilitate a regional approach, representatives from MFT also input into climate change adaptation workshops organised by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). Using the feedback from these workshops and relevant research, GMCA produced the Greater Manchester Climate Change Risk Assessment, which MFT will use as a guide for our own adaptation efforts.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

The two headline objectives for Climate Adaptation are to ensure MFT is continuing to embed climate change adaptation within business as usual and business planning practices; and to increase the clinical awareness and preparedness for the impacts of climate change on the population served by MFT. Using the maturity framework, we'll define specific actions and create a trust climate adaptation plan, with progress regularly monitored. We will build our site-level and service-specific understanding of climate risks, and collaborate to plan for these risks through business continuity plans. Identification of further resources and training, as well as key legislative documentation, to support key staff members and teams in progressing with adaptation will also be key to moving towards a more adapted state.

Climate adaptation, by its nature, is a dynamic area of work that is constantly changing, but MFT has been part of work to define a pathway for NHS organisations. In a collaboration with other NHS organisations and external partners Sniffer and Sustainability West Midlands, MFT helped in defining a holistic guide to climate adaptation action: A Climate Adaptation Framework for NHS Organisations in England.

The framework is based on the principle that an organisation has adaptation 'capability' that determines its ability to respond to the impacts of climate change. The framework is split into four capabilities: understanding the challenge, organisational culture and resources, planning and implementation, and working together. Each capability contains several actions, categorised at different maturity stages: Starting, Intermediate, Advanced and Mature. The more mature an organisation's capabilities, the better positioned they are to deal with the impacts of climate change.

MFT is at a starting to intermediate stage of maturity across the four capabilities. We have a strong foundation in Understanding the Challenge and Working Together. We already recognise climate change risk in our trust risk register, and we have collaborated with GMCA and Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board to input into regional climate adaptation plans. We have more work to do at the starting phases of Planning & Implementation and Organisational Culture & Resources, with the need to create an MFT climate adaptation plan and identify resources available for adaptation work. Using this framework and renewed Green Plan governance, we can proactively take steps to limit the impacts of climate change on our trust and the community we serve.

Green Spaces & Biodiversity

Utilising our onsite green spaces to benefit people and the environment.

2024/25 Overview

Our corporate understanding of how we should use our estate to support a thriving natural world and personal health is continuing to develop. This year, Wythenshawe Hospital hosted a research project, in partnership with Sow the City and Natural England, that sought to examine how staff, patients and visitors benefit from the green spaces within our estate. The outcomes provide us with a clear roadmap to unlock the full potential of our green infrastructure.

We were the beneficiary of new tree planting in 2024/25, which help to provide a focal point for staff wellbeing, sequester carbon, and improve canopy cover. The new trees include 30 trees from the NHS Forest project, planted at Trafford General and Wythenshawe Hospitals; three trees from the Sakura Cherry Tree project, planted to commemorate Dr Richard Sawyer at Wythenshawe Hospital; and a silver birch, planted in memory of Dr Joff Shaw as part of the Doctors in Distress Campaign to support the mental health of healthcare workers and prevent suicide.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

There are two key objectives in the new Green Plan: to manage green and natural spaces within the MFT estate to support nature recovery, and to empower staff to utilise green and natural spaces to improve health and wellbeing.

There are well established links between access to greenspace, a thriving natural world, and personal health. It is our aim that the natural environment within our estates should become an integrated part of the healthcare system at MFT. This work will be supported through the appointment of an NHS Ranger in 2026 who will develop the spaces, oversee management of the environment, and encourage staff and patients to utilise the space for a range of outcomes.

A unique collaboration between Natural England, Sow the City, and Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust has reimagined what hospital green space can be —not just some landscaping, but an integrated part of the healthcare system.

Hosted at Wythenshawe Hospital, and funded through the Bollin to Mersey Nature Recovery Partnership, this project combined rigorous research with hands-on transformation. A detailed report explored how staff, patients, visitors, and the local community interact with hospital green spaces, identifying barriers and opportunities. In parallel, Sow the City led the revitalisation of Baguley Woodland—a semi-ancient pocket of woodland on hospital grounds—turning it from an inaccessible space into a welcoming, biodiverse sanctuary.

The team tackled invasive Rhododendron, which had choked native species and blocked access. Through volunteer woodland management sessions, hospital staff and local corporate groups rolled up their sleeves to clear paths, plant bulbs, and breathe new life into the space. These sessions involved a variety of hospital users and was co-created with the wider community.

The research was funded by Natural England and is being disseminated widely. It engaged 102 staff and 31 patients/visitors through surveys, and 12 staff members joined focus groups to co-design the future of Baguley Woodland. Their insights shaped seven key recommendations—from better signage and facilities through to cultural shifts that normalise outdoor breaks.

The Trust now aims to implement the Baguley Woodland scheme and will share the findings across NHS networks, offering a replicable model for embedding nature into healthcare.

Workforce, Networks & System Leadership

Engaging the workforce so that our workforce has the skills and awareness to take action on the sustainability agenda including staff learning and development, and undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

2024/25 Overview

79 staff volunteered as Sustainability Advocates in 2024/25, doubling the size of the network. The Sustainability Team launched the Greener Theatres campaign, targeting carbon intensive theatres and recommending actions from the Intercollegiate Greener Theatres Checklist. The second MFT Sustainability Conference in March 2025 welcomed keynote speaker Dr Fiona Adshead, Chair of the Sustainable Healthcare Coalition, who emphasised the crucial role of collaboration to ensure sustainability is embedded from the planning stages of healthcare delivery.

88 staff members from multiple disciplines completed in-house Carbon Literacy Training. Two Sustainability Advocates, having completed the training, relaunched the Greener Allied Health Professionals (AHP) group, endorsed by the CSS Divisional Director – AHPs. The group encourages membership from across the 2,800 AHPs at MFT, with the opportunity to embed sustainability within equipment use, care pathways, staff travel and food.

Looking Ahead to Green Plan 2 Net Zero

In the next Green Plan, the headline objectives are to continue to educate and engage as much of the workforce as possible about the net zero ambitions of the NHS and sustainable healthcare, and to build the capacity of the workforce to engage with and embed sustainability within everyday working practice.

To achieve these objectives, senior leaders must prioritise environmental sustainability and support staff to build knowledge and skills to design changes to care delivery. As Dr Fiona Adshead emphasised at our conference, we have to make the environment part of every decision we make in healthcare, across the whole value chain. Our Governance structure supporting the trusts sustainability ambitions has become more robust, and we now have the Chief Executive of WTWA chairing the Green Plan Oversight Group.

Our Sustainability Advocates are making huge strides in driving down the carbon footprint of our Trust. Callum Goolden, Clinical Scientist Virology, volunteered to be a Sustainability Advocate and serves as a Green Champion for the Association for Laboratory Medicine. Callum and the virology team receive and process a vast number of clinical samples for both diagnoses and public health surveillance, and the specimens require ultra-low temperature (ULT) storage. The ULT freezers are a major contributor to the overall energy consumption of the service.

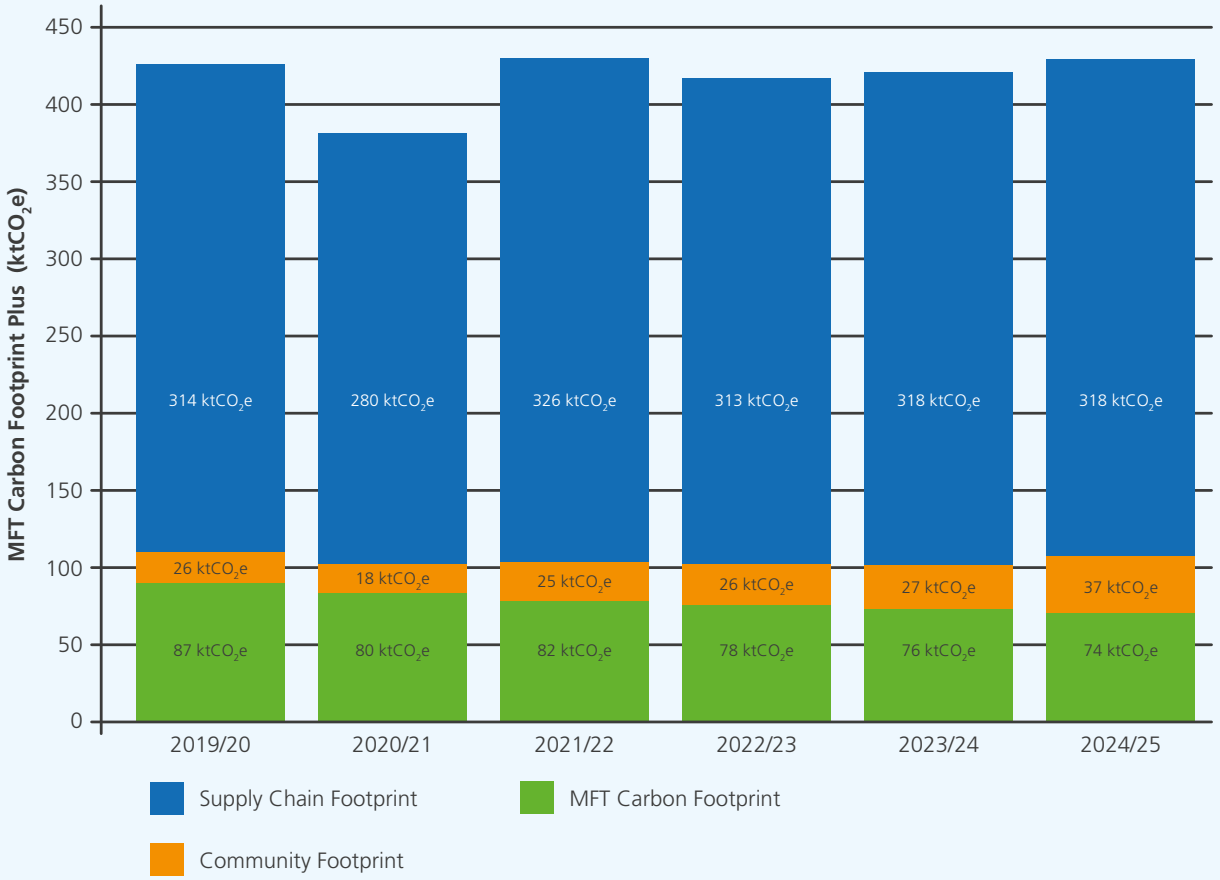
Identifying this as a sustainability and cost saving opportunity, Callum and colleagues including Darren Livesey, Virology Equipment Officer (pictured), joined the international Freezer Challenge. After reviewing published evidence and obtaining consensus agreement, they switched the ULT freezers from -80°C to -70°C. By adjusting 19 freezers, the team reduced their electricity demand by nearly 23%, achieving estimated savings of £4,800 and 450 $kgCO_2e$ per year - equivalent to over 19,800 road miles in a small petrol car. The achievement was published in Lab Med News to share best practice as widely as possible.

"Optimisation of ULT storage within Virology has freed up vital laboratory floorspace and resulted in impressive carbon and cost savings. This project demonstrates how seemingly minor adjustments can have a significant positive environmental impact without negatively impacting the services we provide for the benefit of our patients."

Callum Goolden, MFT Clinical Scientist, Virology

Carbon Footprint

Figure 1: MFT Carbon Footprint Plus from Baseline



Our Green Plan sets out our overarching ambitions to meet net zero carbon emissions. To monitor progress towards these ambitions, we measure and present our carbon impact in line with the Delivering a Net Zero National Health Service methodology.

- Our Carbon Footprint reduced by 3% compared to 2023/24, and 15% since our baseline year 2019/20
- Our Carbon Footprint Plus remains largely influenced by the Supply Chain footprint, which contributed 76% of the emissions in 2024/25, following a similar pattern since our baseline year

Supply chain emissions, the largest part of our Carbon Footprint Plus, are measured through changes in spend, but this method means the footprint calculated is not suitable for year on year comparison or analysis of improvement. Instead, we get a good understanding of the scale of the footprint and the areas of spending that are responsible for the most carbon, including medical equipment, commissioned health services and other supply chain, which includes construction.

Energy is responsible for 86% of our Carbon Footprint (our direct emissions). Trust wide natural gas and electricity consumption shifted marginally compared to last financial year. As a result, total energy emissions remained very similar to last financial year. Stop. Outside of energy, medical gas use (nitrous oxide and mixed nitrous oxide and oxygen, also known as 'gas and air') is the largest direct emitter. Nitrous oxide use has fallen significantly in recent years because large wasteful nitrous oxide manifolds were decommissioned across our acute sites, resulting in the largest carbon saving within our direct carbon footprint in 2024/25. Gas and air is now responsible for 7% of our Carbon Footprint.

Footnotes

1. The 2024/25 Carbon Footprint, Carbon Footprint Plus, remaining Carbon Budget, and projected 2025/26 emissions have been updated compared to those reported in the MFT 2024/25 Annual Report. This is because of access to more complete energy data, refrigerant gas data, fleet data and the release of more accurate carbon factors for future projections.
2. The method for estimating Staff Commuting and Patient & Visitor travel emissions (the community footprint) was updated in 2024/25 to use annual government carbon factors and modelled staff distance based on the biannual staff travel survey, rather than carbon factors from 2019 and national estimates used in previous financial years. The Health Outcomes of Travel Tool is used to model patient and visitor travel distances. As a result of these changes, we are more confident in the accuracy of emissions, however we are still comparatively less confident in the accuracy of this section of the Carbon Footprint Plus than other sections, given the reliance on modelling from average data sets. These methods are the best available to us at the time of calculation.

Carbon Footprint

Figure 2: MFT Carbon Footprint Plus Composition 2024/25

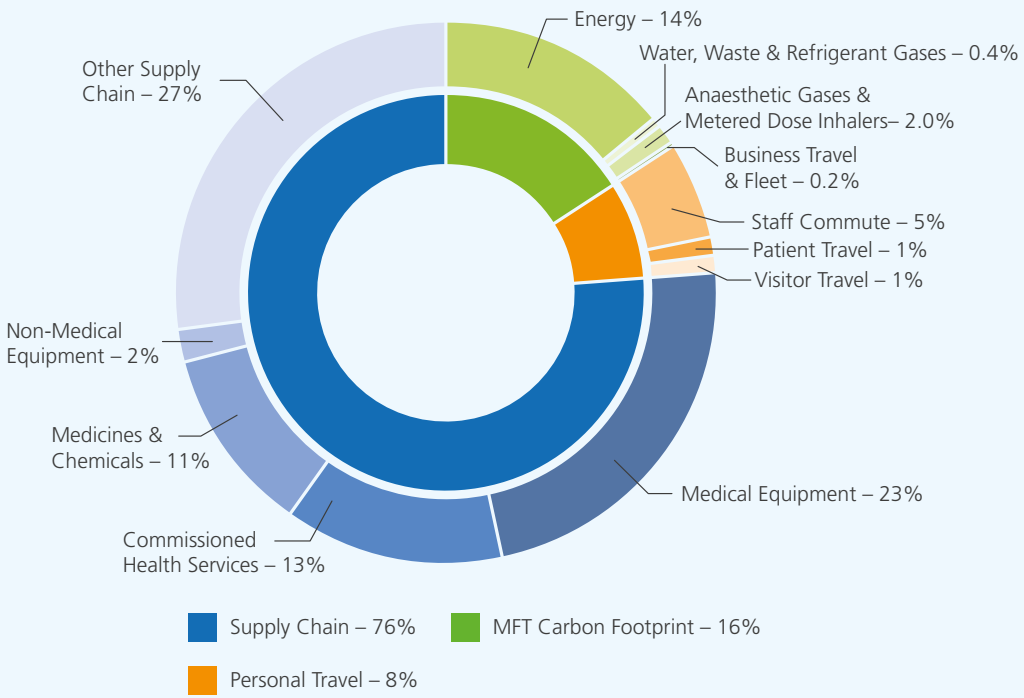
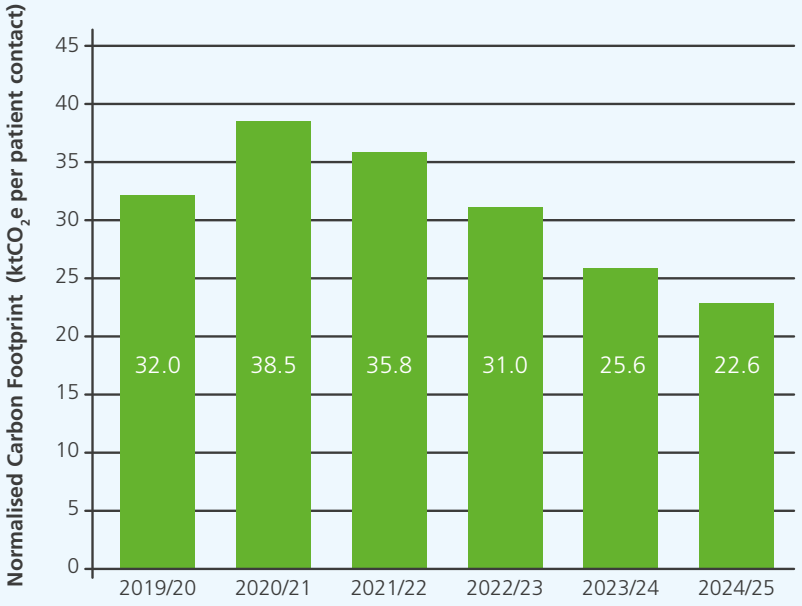


Figure 3: Annual Carbon Footprint per Patient Contact



The supply chain footprint is the largest part of the Carbon Footprint Plus at 76%. The largest parts of the supply chain footprint (identified using the spend-based emissions methodology) are medical equipment, commissioned health services and other supply chain, which includes construction activities. These spend categories are likely to remain the largest proportions to the footprint, however supply chain decarbonisation is most focused around medical products and consumables, particularly where we can reduce waste and move to more sustainable options, as well as within construction which has strong guidelines for net zero building and refurbishment practices.

Outside of the supply chain footprint, energy is responsible for the largest proportion of the footprint plus, which is increasingly directly related to the natural gas used to heat some of our sites. The third largest section is staff commuting, an area we can influence with good incentives and co-benefits to choosing to travel actively rather than in cars.

We continue to see more patients year on year, with a 10% increase in patient contacts compared to 2023/24 and an 20% increase from our baseline year 2019/20. While seeing and treating more patients, we are also achieving reductions in our direct carbon footprint, indicating that we are delivering care in a less carbon intensive way year on year. This is likely the result of broad strokes quality improvement action across the trust, as an improvement in patient outcomes or efficiency often has the co-benefit of being lower carbon care.

Carbon Budget

Our carbon budget relates to those emissions we directly control, the MFT Carbon Footprint. It sets a science-based limit for the maximum emissions we can emit on our pathway to reach net zero carbon by 2038/39. It adopts the approach that we emit no more than our 'fair share' of global emissions. The first interim budget spanned from our baseline year in 2019/20 until 2024/25, representing the end of the first Green Plan.

By the end of our first interim budget, we have emitted 69,019 tCO_2e more than budgeted for, overshooting our budget by 17%.

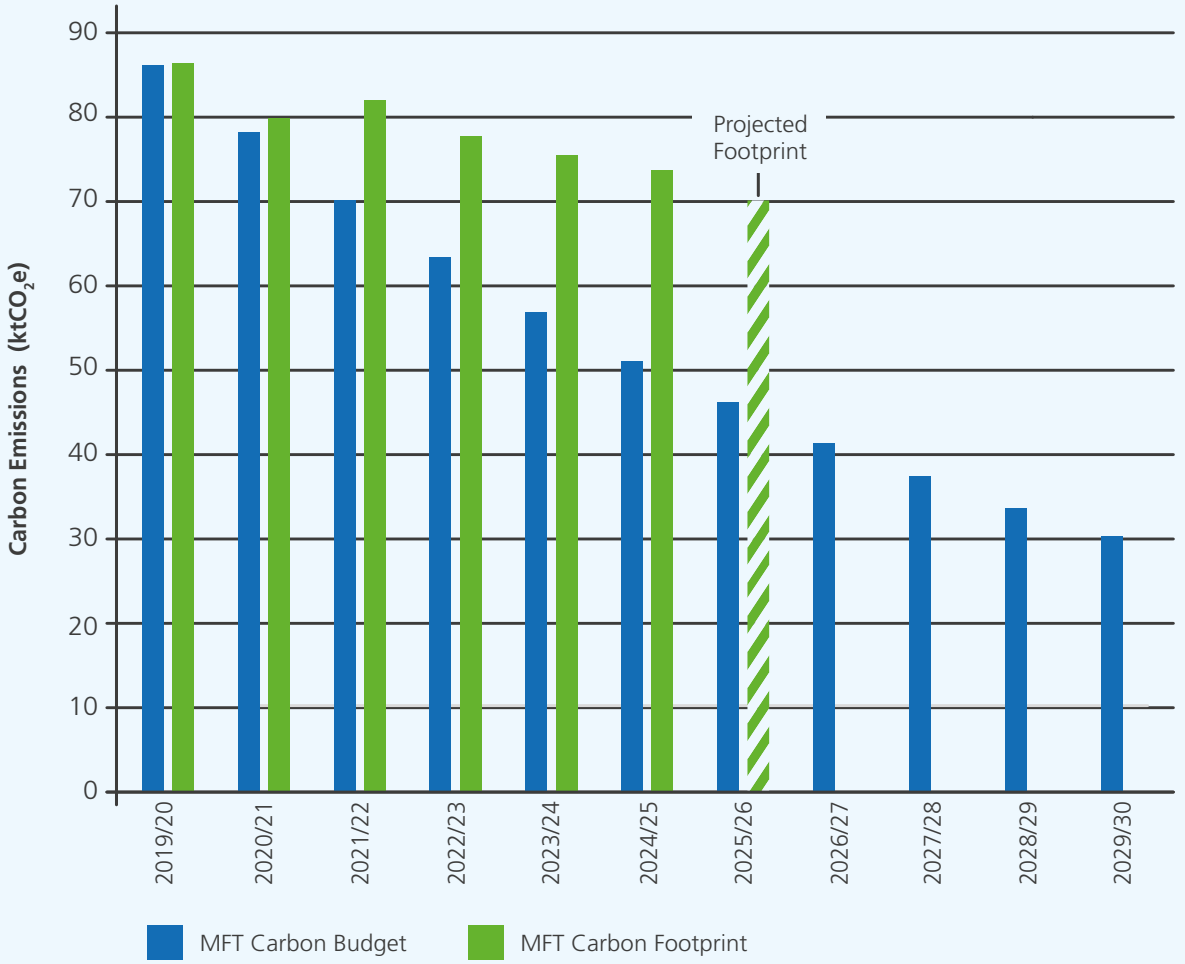
Next year we predict the MFT Carbon Footprint will reduce by approximately 4%. Reductions are expected from lighting upgrades to efficient LEDs, the full impact of the nitrous oxide manifolds decommissioning, improved waste segregation from tiger waste and the introduction of reusable sharps bins, and the national electricity grid becoming less carbon-intensive.

Even with these reductions, we will overshoot the allotted budget for the year, and are likely to continue to overshoot during the next five years of *Green Plan 2 Net Zero*.

Our carbon reductions are not at the pace needed to meet our 2038 net zero carbon target, nor limit us to our 'fair share' of emissions. The context is not unique to MFT. Other organisations and the whole Greater Manchester region are not currently meeting their carbon budgets. Meeting these budgets is mutually dependent on local decision-making and behaviour change, but is currently limited by national infrastructure, innovation, and funding.

At the end of our first Green Plan, we must consider learnings from achievements so far and understand which actions can be accelerated to reduce our carbon emissions. This period has shown that meeting the ambitious 10% year on year reductions of our budget is incredibly difficult, particularly given the other pressures on the NHS. We will continue to monitor progress against our carbon budget, and during the next Green Plan, we will assess progress towards the first 2028 Greener NHS milestone of 80% reductions on 1990 emissions levels.

Figure 4: MFT Carbon Footprint & Annual Carbon Budget



Conclusion

This Sustainability Annual Report is the final one for our first Green Plan. The Trust has made considerable progress over the past three years, as exemplified by our reduction in carbon emissions per patient. We have seen progress in all ten areas of focus meaning that we are delivering a well-rounded programme of sustainability improvements.

We are delighted that many of our case studies are providing inspiration for other healthcare organisations, showing that change is possible in a variety of settings and at a range of scales.

Progress has been supported through our successes in obtaining grant funding to support projects, especially to support decarbonising our estate, the largest sector of emissions in our direct carbon footprint. Awareness of sustainable healthcare, and the triple benefits of sustainability are increasing throughout the Trust. We have seen lots of teams take part in the Green Impact scheme and are witnessing an ever-growing community of interested colleagues through the Sustainability Advocates programme.

Emissions monitoring and reporting quality has been refined and improved. This supports the understanding that our emissions reductions are not progressing as quickly as we would like and are not in line with the science-based budget laid out at the start of the Green Plan. Much of the decarbonisation work required at our sites is on heating and energy systems and will require expensive capital development works that have a long lead time. Every site has a decarbonisation plan, but the delivery of these plans is heavily reliant on obtaining suitable funding.

Our new Green Plan will build on the success and learning from the first Green Plan. More than ever, the focus will be on embedding sustainability across the organisation and ensuring that as many staff and teams take action to contribute to the successful delivery of improving sustainability.

The Sustainability Team are extremely grateful to all our colleagues and partners who have contributed to the successes of the first Green Plan, and we encourage everyone across the Trust to take part in taking positive action to support our new one!

Appendix A: Green Plan Target Progress at a Glance

The tables below show a breakdown of the progress achieved at the end of the first Green Plan. Each Area of Focus is categorised as having achieved good, moderate or limited / no progress from 2022 to 2025. Each headline objective and supporting objective is marked as complete, partially complete or incomplete.

If you would like further information about MFT's sustainability programme, please engage with your local sustainability lead, division director, or contact the MFT Sustainability Team for support (TimeToAct@mft.nhs.uk)

Progress Key:

Incomplete | Partially Complete | Complete

Sustainable Models of Care – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Pilot the redesign of at least 3 care pathways to reduce carbon. 2% of patients discharged to a PIFU pathway.
Supporting Objectives	Establish at least 3 'green working groups' for clinical services with a high environmental impact. Provide resources and training on Sustainable Quality Improvement (SusQI), to empower clinical leads to review and redesign care pathways to reduce carbon (in collaboration with system and regional partners). Continue to embrace the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) programme to avoid unnecessary procedures, admissions and bed days. Measure and promote the specific carbon benefits of key, out-of-care hospital models such as Community Macular Treatment Centres. Pilot innovative technologies that reduce the environmental impact of care and prevent ill-health.

Digital Transformation – Overall Progress Rating: Moderate Progress

Headline Objectives	Deliver 25% of all first outpatient appointments and 60% of all follow up appointments virtually. Embed circular economy considerations within the procurement and disposal of IT equipment, including the development of reporting metrics.
Supporting Objectives	Work with key suppliers to embed circular economy considerations within procurement of IT and other digital infrastructure, including purchasing durable devices that can be repaired and upgraded, and embracing technology as a service rather than a product. Collaborate with key partners to embrace digital innovations that have significant carbon benefits associated with them. Identify and measure the sustainability benefits of 'HIVE' which digitalises and streamlines patient records into a single system.

Supply Chain & Procurement – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Apply a social value weighting of at least 10% to all new purchasing contracts and work collaboratively with partners and suppliers to drive down our carbon footprint plus.
Supporting Objectives	Develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy to support the transition to net zero carbon and more sustainable procurement models. This will embed circular economy principles, with suppliers expected to consider and take responsibility for all stages of the product lifecycle. Work collaboratively across the system to develop interventions for the top 10 most carbon intensive products and suppliers. Implement a programme of carbon literacy for procurement staff, achieving at least 50% of staff trained by 2024/25. Pilot new methods for reporting on supply chain carbon emissions to improve the accuracy of the MFT Carbon Footprint Plus. Increase the proportion of recycled paper purchased from 64% to 95% by 2024/25.

Appendix A: Green Plan Target Progress at a Glance

Medicines – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Reduce the carbon footprint of medicines that have a high GWP at point of use (inhalers, medical gases, and volatile anaesthesia.)
Supporting Objectives	Appoint sustainable anaesthesia leads for MFT hospitals with allocated PA time for this agenda and ensure a collaborative working group operates across the whole Trust. Implement a programme to minimise wasted Nitrous Oxide and Entonox. Develop and implement a Trust-wide hierarchy for sustainable anaesthesia, maintaining desflurane usage at less than 5% of volatile halogenated agents (only used when clinically essential). Baseline carbon emissions from MFT prescribed inhalers and develop a programme of interventions to reduce the impact on our carbon footprint, including improving disposal of used inhalers. Develop a campaign to further reduce over or unnecessary prescribing and wastage of medicines. Require all anaesthetists to undertake mandatory training and regular CPD on the environmental impacts of anaesthesia.

Food & Nutrition – Overall Progress Rating: Moderate Progress

Headline Objectives	Reduce the carbon impact of food, minimise food waste and eliminate unnecessary single use plastics from catering.
Supporting Objectives	Undertake an in-depth food waste study across at least one MFT hospital, to identify and deliver priority interventions. Increase the number of low carbon, sustainable and healthy patient meal options on offer as part of the Better Hospital Food Programme, and require catering providers to report progress at least once annually. Work with ICS and PFI partners to take a more collaborative and robust approach to procurement of catering services with increased weighting on healthier, lower carbon and locally sourced supplies. Eliminate all unnecessary single use plastics from staff catering facilities and ensure this is a contractual requirement for any new outsourced provision.

Estates & Facilities – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Reduce carbon emissions from the building estate by at least 30% by 2024/2025 and ensure major schemes are energy efficient and low or zero carbon. Implement innovative treatment technologies for waste and increase the recycling and reuse rate from 17% to 25%.
Supporting Objectives	Develop an Estates Decarbonisation Strategy, delivering ambitious energy and water reduction and efficiency schemes, destemming hospital sites and seeking funding opportunities. Develop a plan for innovative treatment and prevention of waste, including working with key suppliers and social enterprises to develop a circular economy approach Develop decarbonisation plans for all existing fossil-fuelled CHP schemes and not commit to any new schemes unless they have a decarbonisation plan that aligns with our carbon budget Ensure that major hospital redevelopments, refurbishments and life-cycled infrastructure is designed to be low and zero carbon in-use. Increase capacity of on-site renewable energy generation and only use certified renewable tariffs. Explore opportunities to work with partners to develop PPAs for off-site renewables.

Travel & Transport – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Reduce the carbon emissions of travel and transport activities (business travel, fleet mileage, staff commuting and patient and visitor travel) by 25%. Achieve a "Good" rating for the Clean Air Hospital Framework.
Supporting Objectives	Deliver the MFT Healthy Travel Strategy and implement campus-specific travel plans. Reduce journeys through virtual outpatients' visits and the provision of care closer to home. Review business travel and implement an action plan to reduce its environmental impact. Actively seek funding to improve active travel infrastructure, whilst continuing to incentivise take-up through hire schemes and on-site cycle maintenance. Fully electrify the in-house transport fleet, and only offer ultra-low and zero emitting vehicles through staff salary sacrifice schemes, providing supporting charging infrastructure subject to funding and electrical capacity constraints. Work with key suppliers and partners to consolidate orders and deliveries to sites. Ensure that up-to-date information on active and sustainable travel is widely available to staff, patients and visitors.

Appendix A: Green Plan Target Progress at a Glance

Climate Change Adaptation – Overall Progress Rating: Moderate Progress

Headline Objectives	Ensure our organisation is preparing to deal with the impacts of climate change by delivering and embedding the Climate Change Adaptation Plan (CCAP) and associated action plan.
Supporting Objectives	Deliver, maintain and report progress against the Climate Change Adaptation Plan (CCAP) and associated action plan. Maintain and review climate change risks on the corporate risk register. Work with city-wide partners to deliver shared priorities on climate change adaptation and help ensure system-wide resilience. Ensure that major new buildings and hospital campus redevelopments are planned and designed to be resilient to climate change impacts including hotter drier summers, and an increasing frequency of extreme weather events.

Green Spaces & Biodiversity – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Maximise the quality of on-site green spaces, identifying and delivering schemes that address one or more of the following priorities: improve local biodiversity, support staff wellbeing and/or patient recovery, combat climate change or provide opportunities for social prescribing.
Supporting Objectives	Develop a Greenspace and Biodiversity Plan, establishing associated metrics. Collaborate across estates, clinical teams and with local social enterprises to develop and seek funding for schemes. Build green measures into major hospital redevelopment programmes. Facilitate our staff beekeeping programme and assess the feasibility of expansion across other sites. Require service providers to undertake annual tree condition surveys to establish a programme of recommended works. Implement opportunities for wildflower planting, designated 'no-mow' zones to encourage wildlife, and expand hedgerow and tree cover.

Workforce, Networks & System Leadership – Overall Progress Rating: Good Progress

Headline Objectives	Continue to educate and engage the workforce to understand the net zero ambition of the NHS. At least 50% of staff with major influence or responsibility for carbon intensive areas to undertake training and/or CPD.
Supporting Objectives	Include a net zero carbon clause in all job descriptions and set appraisal objectives for those in key positions of leadership and influence. Provide role-appropriate staff and student sustainability training. Work with partners at all levels to develop a tailored programme of learning. Appoint undergraduate and postgraduate sustainable education leads to embed sustainability within MFT clinical trainee development. Run focused campaigns and behavioural change programmes to increase awareness and action on specific sustainability themes. Develop and maintain a net zero communications plan with key deliverables. Widely promote our work through events, social media and case studies. Enhance the package of 'green' staff benefits.

Appendix B: KPI Dashboard

- **Carbon:** Our Carbon Footprint has reduced for the third year in a row despite a 10% increase in patient contacts since 2023/24. The increase in the community footprint has occurred due to an improvement to the methodology. The supply chain footprint remains the largest section of the Carbon Footprint Plus. Since baseline year, the footprint and normalised footprint has reduced significantly showing effective carbon reduction progress.
- **Buildings & Utilities:** Natural gas and electricity consumption remained very similar to last year. The normalised footprint has decreased due to the lower carbon intensity of the grid and higher number of patient contacts. We have seen a continued increase in onsite renewable generation in 2024/25, with significant gains since baseline year. The large increase in refrigerant gas leaks is likely due to improved data quality and monitoring, in addition to the resource being very volatile.
- **Medicines & Anaesthesia:** The reduction in use of pure Nitrous Oxide and lower volatile use of Gas & Air has led to a further reduction in the medical gases footprint. Despite an increase in overall prescription of inhalers, more low-carbon dry powder inhalers were issued rather than metered-dose, thus we have seen a decrease in the inhaler footprint. The slight increase in the volatile gas footprint is likely in line with increased patient contacts and associated elective procedures.
- **Waste:** Total tonnage across waste has gone up, likely due to more patient contacts. However, the waste per patient contact has dropped, suggesting we are becoming more efficient with our use of resources. New domestic waste contractors have been appointed, resulting in improved measurement of recycling rates (hence apparent drop in tonnages from 2023/24).
- **Travel:** Despite the drop in total business travel mileage, car mileage (the most popular mode of business travel) has slightly increased since 2023/24. Fleet mileage accounting is becoming more accurate, which is likely responsible for the increased mileage. Staff commuting has increased with more staff employed, and the increase in virtual appointments has limited the rise in the patient & visitor travel mileage.

Theme	KPI	Unit	2019/20*	2023/24	2024/25	Trend from Prev Year (22/25 vs 23/24)	Trend from Baseline (24/25 vs 19/20)
Carbon	MFT Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	86,708	75,535	73,361	↓ -3%	↓ -15%
	Community Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	25,790	26,566	37,010	↑ 39%	↑ 44%
	Supply Chain Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	314,274	318,268	317,529	N/A**	N/A**
	MFT Carbon Footprint Plus	tCO_2e	426,772	420,369	417,492	N/A**	N/A**
	Normalised MFT Carbon Footprint	*Kg CO_2e / patient contact*	*32.02*	*25.63*	*22.60*	↓ *-12%*	↓ *-29%*
Building & Utilities	Natural Gas Consumption	kWh	180,188,024	199,268,670	200,110,233	– 0%	↑ 11%
	Electricity Consumption	kWh	95,032,414	72,422,022	71,960,670	↓ -1%	↓ -24%
	On-site Renewable Generation	kWh	99,799	551,530	697,816	↑ 27%	↑ 599%
	Water Consumption	m^3	800,124	739,702	744,266	↑ 1%	↓ -7%
	Refrigerant Gas Leaks	Kg	91	216	273	↑ 26%	↑ 200%
	Normalised Energy & Water Carbon Footprint	*Kg CO_2e / patient contact*	*25.30*	*21.56*	*19.50*	↓ *-10%*	↓ *-23%*
Medicines & Anaesthesia	Volatile Anaesthetic Gases Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	1,674	316	333	↑ 5%	↓ -80%
	Medical Gases Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	10,704	7,931	6,340	↓ -20%	↓ -41%
	Inhaler Carbon Footprint	tCO_2e	727	676	523	↓ -23%	↓ -28%
Waste	Total Waste Tonnage	Tonnes	7,932	8,594	9,044	↑ 3%	↑ 14%
	Healthcare Waste	Tonnes	3,613	3,936	4,166	↑ 6%	↑ 15%
	Healthcare Reuse & Recycling	Tonnes	57	97	97	– 0%	↑ 71%
	Non-Healthcare Waste	Tonnes	2,972	2,873	3,260	↑ 19%	↑ 10%
	Non-healthcare Reuse & Recycling	Tonnes	1,290	1,689	1,521	↓ -24%	↑ 18%
	Normalised Total Waste	*Kg waste / patient contact*	*2.93*	*2.98*	*2.78*	↓ *-7%*	↓ *-5%*
Travel	Total Fleet Mileage	km	697,041	417,235	470,042	↑ 13%	↓ -33%
	Total Business Travel Mileage	km	7,888,127	4,476,990	4,288,831	↓ -4%	↓ -46%
	Modelled Staff Commuting Mileage	km	146,295,961	166,764,396	170,655,790	↑ 2%	↑ 17%
	Modelled Patient & Visitor Travel Mileage	km	99,625,822	100,523,686	104,703,263	↑ 4%	↑ 5%

* Figures include North Manchester General Hospital. ** NHS England guidance recommends procurement carbon footprinting methodology is not suitable for year-on-year comparison, but instead demonstrates the magnitude of the Supply Chain Carbon Footprint compared to the MFT Carbon Footprint.

Appendix B: KPI Dashboard

Figure 5: Carbon Footprint Plus Changes 2023/24 to 2024/25

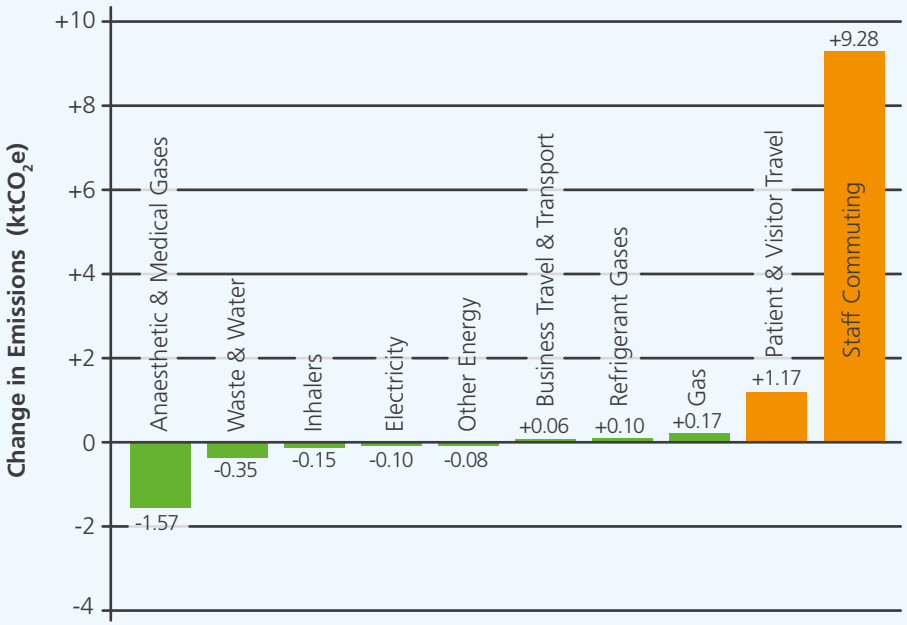
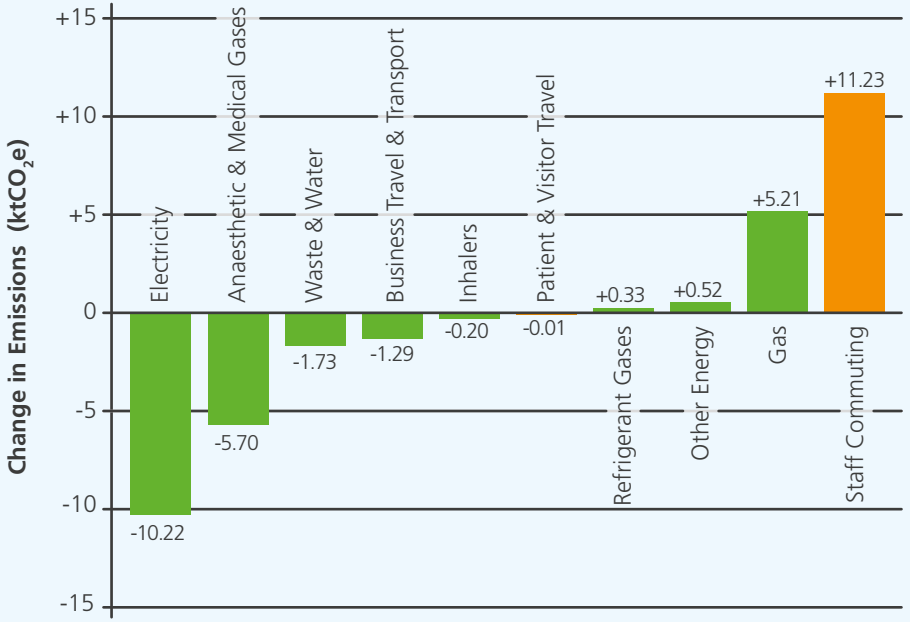


Figure 6: Carbon Footprint Plus Changes Baseline 2019/20 to 2024/25



Find Out More

If you have any questions, or would like to find out more about the work that we are doing please contact us via email: TimeToAct@mft.nhs.uk

View the first MFT Green Plan

Staff can find practical sustainability advice from MFT on the intranet

See our Sustainable MFT Linktree for further resources

Watch our webinar service at the Sustainable MFT Vimeo playlist

MFT's Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures can be found within our ***Green Plan 2 Net Zero*** strategy.

This document was produced by the Energy & Sustainability Team at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust:

MFT Estates and Facilities
International House
Ledson Road
Manchester
M23 9GP