Hainault Surgery Carbon Reduction Plan North East London Integrated Care System (NEL ICS) 1 April 2025

1. Executive Summary

Hainault Surgery is committed to supporting the NHS's ambition to become the world's first net zero national health service. As a primary care provider within North East London, we recognise our responsibility to reduce our environmental impact while maintaining the delivery of high-quality, accessible patient care. This Carbon Reduction Plan outlines our baseline carbon emissions, reduction targets, and the measures we will implement to help meet both NHS and UK Government climate goals.

2. Organisational Overview

Hainault Surgery is an NHS general practice located in North East London. Serving a diverse and growing patient population, the practice operates from premises in the Hainault area and provides a wide range of primary care services. These include face-to-face and remote consultations, home visits, long-term condition management, immunisation clinics, health checks, and screening services. As part of the NHS, Hainault Surgery is aligned with NHS England's Long Term Plan and the Greener NHS programme, which aims to achieve net zero carbon emissions across NHS activities within the set national timelines.

3. Baseline Carbon Emissions

Our baseline year for carbon measurement is 2023. Emissions data have been drawn from sources including utility bills, travel surveys, procurement records, and waste management reports. Emissions are classified according to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol under Scopes 1, 2, and 3.

Scope Definitions and Sources:

Scope 1: Direct emissions from on-site fuel use, such as gas heating.

Scope 2: Indirect emissions from purchased electricity.

Scope 3: Other indirect emissions, including those from staff commuting, patient travel, procurement, waste disposal, and the supply chain.

4. Carbon Reduction Targets

In support of NHS and ICS sustainability objectives, Hainault Surgery has adopted the following carbon reduction milestones:

By 2026: 10% reduction from 2023 levels

By 2030: 30% reduction

By 2035: 50% reduction

By 2040: 75% reduction

By 2045: Net Zero for Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions

By 2050: Net Zero across all Scopes, including Scope 3

These targets will be reviewed annually and adjusted as necessary, in line with updated NHS and NEL ICS guidance.

5. Carbon Reduction Measures

5.1 Building Energy Efficiency

We are undertaking a range of measures to improve the energy efficiency of our practice premises. These include optimising the use of heating and ventilation systems, switching to LED lighting throughout the building, and promoting energy-saving behaviours among staff. By 2026, we plan to assess the feasibility of solar panel installation and upgrading building insulation where required.

5.2 Sustainable Transport

Patient and staff travel contribute significantly to indirect carbon emissions. We actively promote sustainable travel through participation in the Cycle to Work scheme, provision of cycle storage facilities, and encouragement of public transport use. Where appropriate, we will continue to offer remote consultations to help minimise travel. The practice will also explore the transition to electric vehicles for any practice-related travel before 2030.

5.3 Waste Reduction and Recycling

Recycling facilities are in place for paper, cardboard, plastics, and ink cartridges. We work closely with our clinical waste contractors to ensure proper segregation and responsible disposal. The use of single-use plastics is being phased out wherever safe alternatives are available, with a focus on administrative and non-clinical areas.

5.4 Sustainable Procurement

As part of the NHS supply chain, we are committed to procuring goods and services with lower environmental impact. This includes prioritising local suppliers, favouring recyclable or reusable products, and engaging with suppliers to better understand the lifecycle carbon footprint of medical equipment and consumables. Procurement practices will be aligned with NHS England's Net Zero Supplier Roadmap.

5.5 Digital and Paperless Working

We are transitioning to a paperless environment by promoting the use of electronic patient records, secure messaging systems, and digital prescription services. Paper use has been significantly reduced, and any new IT equipment is assessed for energy efficiency and long-term use.

5.6 Staff Engagement and Sustainability Culture

Environmental sustainability is embedded in our practice culture. Staff receive regular updates on green initiatives, and training is provided to support low-carbon practices. A dedicated "Green Team" has been established to lead sustainability initiatives, gather feedback, and monitor progress. Staff are encouraged to contribute ideas and take active roles in carbon reduction efforts.

6. Monitoring and Reporting

We will monitor our carbon footprint annually using NHS-recommended tools such as the Green Plan Tracker and Carbon Footprint Plus Calculator. Results and progress will be shared with the North East London ICS and summarised in our practice's annual report. Our Carbon Reduction Plan will be reviewed and updated every three years, or more frequently if required by local or national policy changes.

7. Governance

Responsibility for delivering this Carbon Reduction Plan lies with the Practice Manager and the appointed Sustainability Lead. Regular updates will be provided at team meetings, and annual reviews will be conducted by the practice leadership team to ensure progress remains on track.

8. Declaration

We confirm that this Carbon Reduction Plan is current, accurate, and aligned with NHS England's Net Zero commitments and the Greener NHS strategy.

Hainault Surgery Date: 1 April 2025