

# NHS staff view – action and attitudes to sustainability

## Nearly all NHS staff believe it is important to be environmentally friendly in their home and work lives



**98%**

of NHS staff believe it is important for the health and care system to support the environment.



**71%**

of staff feel that their employer encourages them to support the environment at work.



**93%**

of NHS staff believe it is important for individuals to support the environment.

## The NHS is doing great things



95% of staff use water efficiently.



93% of staff reduce paper use.



88% of staff turn off lights when not needed.

**45m<sup>3</sup>**

The NHS saved 45m<sup>3</sup> cubic meters of water last year – the same as 22,000 Olympic swimming pools<sup>1</sup>.

**135,000**

NHS provider organisations recycled 135,000 tonnes of waste last year<sup>1</sup>.

## This leads to measurable benefits

**£84m**

NHS provider organisations saved £84m (330,000 tonnes of carbon) in energy over the last year<sup>2</sup>.

**£1.85bn**

The NHS has saved £1.85bn in energy costs since 2007<sup>3</sup>.

The health and care sector is one of the world's largest employers with 1.3m staff working in the NHS in England<sup>4</sup> and 1.56 million people working in adult social care in England<sup>5</sup>. The sector has an opportunity to support the environment and improve health and wellbeing. There is a huge appetite among staff to do more.

## What's next?

### Best ways to engage staff



Communicate the positive impact that sustainability can have on staff, public and patient health and wellbeing.



Show how easily sustainability can fit into staff's day-to-day role.



Explain how sustainability action can save money and time.

### Get involved



Join the Sustainable Health and Care Campaign.



Show what you're doing locally – share your hard work, celebrate success and get your colleagues involved.



Sign up for the newsletter and follow on Twitter @SustHealthCare.



Share your sustainability work with your staff, patients and the public on Sustainable Health and Care Week – 25-29 June 2018.



Celebrate your achievements – enter the Sustainable Health and Care Awards.

#### Footnotes and sources:

1. Based on ERIC data – Estates Returns Information Collections (NHS providers) – covering areas such as energy, water and waste.
2. SDU's Health Check 2018 report - <https://www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/reporting/sustainable-development-in-health-and-care-report-2018.aspx>
3. SDU's Securing Healthy Returns report - <https://www.sduhealth.org.uk/policy-strategy/engagement-resources/financial-value-of-sustainable-development.aspx>.
4. Based on NHS Digital data - <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/areas-of-interest/workforce>.
5. <http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Documents/NMDS-SC-and-intelligence/NMDS-SC/Analysis-pages/State-of-17/Infographic-State-of-the-adult-social-care-sector-and-workforce-2017.pdf>. Full results are available in the technical annexe document [www.sduhealth.org.uk/staffsurvey](http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/staffsurvey).