

A simple guide to...

Sustainability

In this Simple Guide we explore how as a Trust we are managing our environmental responsibilities in a year where the European Commission has named Bristol as European Green Capital. As one of the biggest employers in Bristol we have a huge environmental impact on our city and so it is our duty to show leadership in this area. Here we focus on four key questions relating to our sustainability programme.



How is UH Bristol reducing its impact on the environment?

How does a more sustainable environment enhance staff wellbeing?

How are we encouraging our staff to be 'green'?

How are we supporting Bristol's role as the European Green Capital 2015?

How is UH Bristol reducing its impact on the environment?

The Trust has developed a sustainability action plan drawing all of the environmental activities of the Trust under the Big Green Scheme, including the development of sustainable models of patient care, procurement and travel. Set up in 2009, the Big Green Scheme has been installing initiatives and action plans to reduce the impact that the Trust has on the environment

as a whole. Achievements so far include the installation of solar photovoltaic panels on the roof of St Michael's Hospital, the use of electric vehicles for transporting equipment between sites, efficient electricity generation and water heating, capturing £300k of waste heat from our chimney, presence activated lighting, staff engagement projects and increasing recycling.

Did you know...?

20% of the Trust's electricity is generated on site.



How does a more sustainable environment enhance staff wellbeing?

As a Trust we are committed to promoting a healthier and more productive workforce alongside saving energy and reducing carbon emissions. We promote active and green travel through a cycle scheme, public transport discounts, city car club, the free hospital bus and car sharing.

With around one in 20 vehicles on Bristol's roads carrying NHS staff, visitors, patients, or deliveries, any numbers that we can reduce will make a difference. Small changes can have a huge effect when replicated across our more than 8,000 staff, and everyone has a role to play.

Did you know...?

Nearly 20% of our workforce travel to work by bike.



How are we encouraging our staff to be 'green'?

The Green Impact Awards were introduced in 2011 to inspire, support and reward staff who are participating in sustainable development. In 2015, these Green Champions will be mobilised and will engage in Trust-based activities – such as the Big Green Scheme's TLC campaign which urges the green champions – and staff – to turn off unused equipment, switch off lights and close doors; all actions that can improve energy efficiency while enhancing the patient environment.

In 2015 every ward in the Bristol Heart Institute will be engaged in

the Green Impact Awards and all clinical areas of the BHI will achieve the TLC award. After reaching TLC level, staff will be encouraged to work through tougher actions listed in the Green Impact workbook, ticking off bronze, silver and gold awards – which are categorised depending on the perceived difficulty of the actions.

Once achieved, the workbook will be entered in for the respective award. The scheme will then be rolled out to other areas in our hospitals. We will also be establishing allotments on Trust land in conjunction with

community group Incredible Edible Bristol. Staff, patients and visitors will be able to help maintain and enjoy the food that is grown.

Did you know...?

There are 25 teams participating in the Green Impact Awards throughout all of UH Bristol.



How are we supporting Bristol's role as the European Green Capital of Culture 2015?

European Green Capital will be an exciting year for the city as a whole. European Green Capital 2015 is the perfect opportunity to focus on patient and staff wellbeing and the link between the environment and health.

We will be participating in initiatives such as Wellbeing Week in October – focusing on ways that we can improve the wellbeing of staff and the public through a reduction in our environmental footprint.

The theme of the Green Capital award is 'happier, healthier cities' and since we are at the heart of the community, we will be doing our bit to support this. Throughout 2015, there will be a programme of events with a green theme across the whole of Bristol.

There will be incentives for greening across the hospital, community collaborations and exciting events which will provide lots of ideas to inspire your creative side, get you

Did you know...?

Bristol is the first UK city to be awarded the European Green Capital title.

out and about and opportunities for learning more about sustainability and its links to health and wellbeing. The Big Green Scheme will be keeping you up to date and inviting you all to get involved in the bits that interest you.

Find out more