

<p>NHS 24 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29 FEBRUARY 2024 ITEM NO 9.4 FOR ASSURANCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME UPDATE</p>
<p>Executive Sponsor:</p>	<p>Dr Ron Cook, Interim Medical Director</p>
<p>Lead Officer/Authors:</p>	<p>Caroline Shanley, Programme Manager</p>
<p>Action Required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board is asked to review and take assurance from the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Programme update.
<p>Key Points for the Board to consider</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to the climate emergency is one of the Scottish Government’s highest priorities. • CESP activities are part of the annual review for all health boards. • The alignment to national strategies is significant.
<p>Governance process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NHS 24 governance reflects that defined by the Scottish Government National Climate Emergency and Sustainability Programme.
<p>Strategic alignment and link to overarching NHS Scotland priorities and strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Scotland Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy: 2022-2026. • The Scottish Government (SG) Care and Wellbeing Portfolio and Public health priorities for Scotland are overall strategic reform policies and delivery framework within Health and Social Care. • Chief Medical Officer – Realistic medicine annual report: 2022 • Realistic Medicine Action Plans • NHS 24 Workforce Strategy • NHS 24 Corporate Strategy • NHS 24 CESP Strategy and Action Plan • NHS 24 Finance Strategy
<p>Key Risks</p>	<p>Risk of delivery could be impacted by the significant financial gap across the NHS. It is highly likely that no new projects will start for at least two years.</p>
<p>Financial Implications</p>	<p>A key deliverable of the CESP programme is to identify any potential financial efficiencies. Constrained financial resource means that capital plans are likely to focus only ‘in flight’ projects.</p>
<p>Equality and Diversity</p>	<p>NHS 24 takes account of requirements in relation to equality and diversity in relation to Sustainability Development and environmental matters. The initial EQIA screening has taken</p>

	place in 2023 and a follow up review was scheduled in January 2024, however it's not thought that this is required at the current time and will be reviewed again in 3 months.
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1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 The Board is asked to review and take assurance from the CESP update at its meeting on 12th February 2024.

2. TIMING

2.1 The NHS 24 Climate Emergency and Sustainability Programme update is reported to the Board as per the national governance requirements.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Climate change presents a serious risk to the health of people around the world and has been described by the Lancet Commission on Managing the Health Effects of Climate Change as “the biggest global health threat of the 21st century”.

3.2 NHS 24 has defined deliverables and targets align to the [NHS Scotland Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026](#). The Scottish Government corporate governance structures for Health Boards are in place at NHS 24, and the Climate Emergency and Sustainable programme is a key internal pillar of [Our Corporate Strategy 2023 | NHS 24](#).

3.3 Appropriate action to reduce carbon emissions, will reduce the impact on population health. This aligns to Scottish Governments [Care and Wellbeing Portfolio Board](#) priorities. Net zero targets are a key pillar of the Value Based Health & Care action plan aligned to Realistic Medicine. As we remobilise and reform services, we must build towards a more sustainable healthcare system that delivers better value care to the public.

3.4 Health care emissions contribute to the climate crisis. The CESP strategy and operational structures in NHS 24 will deliver more environmentally sustainable services, while also improving population health both now and in the future.

3.5 NHS 24 also has a key role to play in supporting its workforce to consider wider environmentally sustainable behaviours. This includes promotion of sustainable travel methods, procurement and a digital first approach for communication.

3.6 In May 2023 the NHS 24 Board approved the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy and action plan. There are five main areas aligned with associated delivery actions and targets to achieve our overall net-zero ambitions.

- Buildings and Land
- Travel

- Goods and Services
- Care and Realistic Medicine
- Communities



- 3.7 NHS 24 committed to establishing an organisational CESP Programme. There are five key priority areas for delivery, these have associated short, medium- and long-term actions from each of the five themes. Individual aligned projects have been established and future projects will be put in place if there are updated Scottish Government CESP priorities, and where new opportunities emerge. Operational leads from each Directorate contribute to the delivery of the actions to deliver CESP targets.
- 3.8 Robust project governance is in place, providing assurance to the NHS 24 Board, that sustainability and value are key considerations for design, delivery and evaluation of current and future programmes and projects.
- 3.9 A bespoke workshop was delivered to increase awareness and knowledge of the CESP national programme. This workshop was delivered by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). IEMA offered this training to all Boards nationally coordinated by NHS Assure.
- 3.10 The processes for data collection are evolving, and as a result, NHS 24 now has improved capability for data collection, including access to near 'real time' data for some sites through collaboration with landlords, energy and waste suppliers.
- 3.11 The NHS 24 CESP Annual Report was taken to the Planning and Performance Committee in November 2023 and to the Board on December 21st, 2023, and was approved for publication on the corporate NHS 24 website.
- 3.12 There is uncertainty if the NSAT will continue in its current form and is subject to review. However, NHS 24 still plan to use the NSAT in its current form to

carry out an internal review of progress to provide assurance to the EMT, Planning and Performance Committee and the Board. The next quarterly update for the Planning and performance committee and the board will report activity against the action plan to demonstrate success to date.

4. ENGAGEMENT

4.1 Internal

A significant focus has been on staff engagement across directorates. To maximise accessibility and ease of communication, various forms of communication methods have been introduced e.g., a specific internal CESP microsite, and new wall board screens, which share information, successes and improve awareness. Specific meetings on better waste and energy management are now in place and include staff across our services.

4.2 External

The Executive Lead, Non-Executive Board Champion, and Programme Manager for the NHS 24 CESP programme, are members of several national CESP groups. These groups include membership from health boards, Scottish Government, NHS Assure and subject matter experts. The NHS 24 CESP approach and success have been presented nationally, including the Scottish Government National CESP Conference in September 2023.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 A key deliverable of the CESP programmed is to identify any potential financial efficiency. Constrained financial resource across NHS Scotland, means that capital plans are likely to focus only 'in flight' projects.