

Environmental Policy

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Responsible officer	Alan Weinstock – CEO
Accountable Executive Lead	CEO
Approving Body	Board of Trustees
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Version History

Date	Version	Changes
July 2023	1.0	First version published
June 2026	1.5	Updated to align with Carbon Reduction Plan and NHS Net Zero requirements

1. Our approach and commitment – Environmental Social and Governance (ESG)

As a provider with a social purpose everything we do is about making an impact on the people and communities we work with. We exist to make a lasting difference to the lives of the people we work with, staff and other stakeholders.

Outside of the day-to-day work we know that there is still more we can do to improve our environmental footprint and social value in the terms of the way we operate. Whether it is about improving the environmental impact of our operations, involving people we work with in decision making, adopting an ethical approach to procurement or doing everything we can to celebrate and reward our workforce.

Our approach to Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) aims to go further and look at the wider impact of our operations on the environment and the areas in which we operate.

As part of this commitment, Health Exchange incorporating Living Well Taking Control is committed to achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and to reducing the environmental impact associated with its operations and service delivery.

2. Scope

The requirements of this policy apply to all entities and employees of Health Exchange incorporating Living Well Taking Control.

Although this policy applies to all entities and employees, the primary audience for this policy is those responsible for its implementation, namely the management team of each service and department.

3. Introduction – Environmental

At Health Exchange (HEX) incorporating Living Well Taking Control (LWTC) , we recognize that our actions and operations have an impact on the environment. As a SME working in the health prevention sector, we are committed to minimizing our environmental footprint and promoting sustainability.

The organisation maintains a Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) which measures and monitors organisational emissions across Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 categories and identifies actions to reduce environmental impact over time. The CRP supports the organisation's commitment to achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and aligns with current NHS and public sector procurement requirements.

Our CRP findings: The organisation's primary sources of emissions are associated with staff commuting, work-related travel, energy use and purchased goods and services. In response, we will continue to promote digital and hybrid delivery approaches, reduce unnecessary travel, use accessible community venues and support sustainable operational practices wherever possible.

We aim to integrate environmentally responsible practices into all aspects of our work. To achieve this, we have developed the following environmental policy:

4. Compliance with Applicable Environmental Laws and Regulations:

We will comply with all relevant environmental laws, regulations, and requirements applicable to our operations, ensuring that our activities are carried out in an environmentally responsible manner.

5. Resource Conservation:

We will strive to conserve natural resources by reducing consumption and promoting efficient use of energy, water, and other resources. We will encourage staff, volunteers, and stakeholders to adopt sustainable practices in their daily activities.

6. Waste Management:

We will minimize waste generation and promote recycling and reuse wherever possible. We will implement appropriate waste management practices to reduce the environmental impact of our operations, including proper disposal of hazardous materials.

7. Transportation and Travel:

We will promote sustainable transportation options, such as carpooling, public transit, or cycling, for staff, volunteers, and visitors whenever feasible. We will explore virtual meeting alternatives to reduce the need for travel and associated carbon emissions.

Where appropriate, digital and hybrid approaches will be used to reduce travel-related carbon emissions associated with service delivery and operational activity.

8. Procurement:

We will prioritise the procurement of environmentally responsible products and services and, where appropriate, consider opportunities to reduce carbon emissions associated with suppliers, venues, products and operational deliver

Wherever possible, purchasing decisions will favour products that:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Are made with renewable energy.
- Reduce pollution from all discharges (releases to air, water, and land).
- Reduce the use of toxic materials hazardous to the environment, employees and public health.
- Contain the highest possible percentage of post-consumer recycled content.
- Reduce packaging and other waste.
- Are energy efficient.
- Conserve water.
- Are reusable and/or durable.
- Minimize transportation (local sources, concentrated products).
- Serve several functions (examples: copiers/printers, multipurpose cleaners) to reduce the number of products purchased.

9. Education and Awareness:

We will raise awareness among our staff, volunteers, and stakeholders about environmental issues and encourage them to adopt environmentally responsible behaviours. We will provide training and resources to promote environmental sustainability within our organization and the communities we serve.

10. Collaboration and Advocacy:

We will actively collaborate with other organisations, public / health bodies, and stakeholders to share best practices, promote sustainable initiatives, and advocate for environmentally friendly policies in the health prevention sector.

11. Continuous Improvement:

Progress against the Carbon Reduction Plan will be monitored periodically by the Senior Management Team and reviewed alongside this policy.