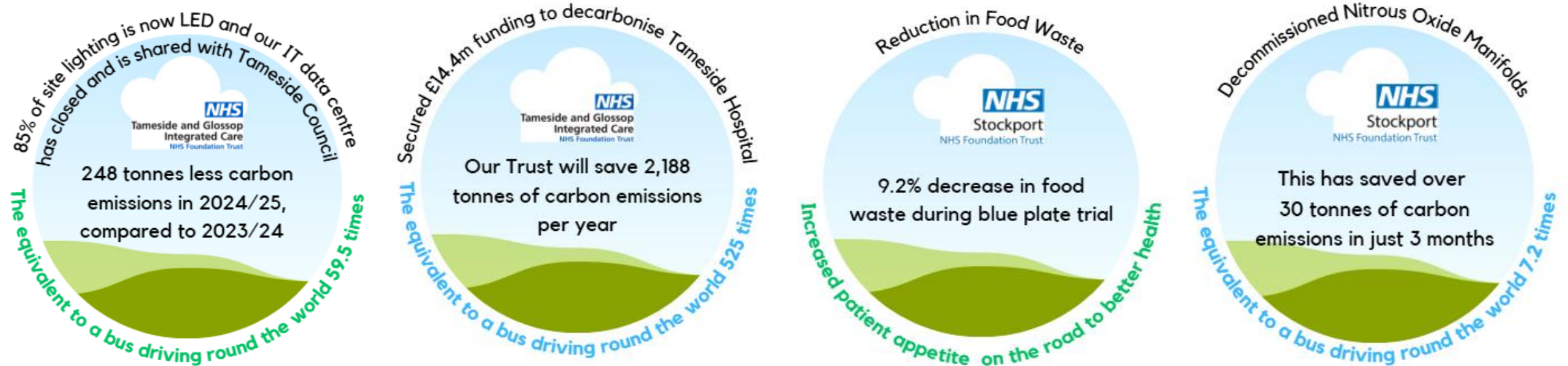


Joint Green Plan 2025 - 2028

What we have already achieved...



Where we are now...

In August 2025, following consultation with Trust colleagues and key stakeholders, a new Joint Green Plan was adopted by Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust (TGH) and Stockport NHS Foundation Trust (SFT). The Plan was developed using updated guidance from NHS England and highlights the key actions that will be delivered over the next 3 years, broken down into 10 clear workstreams.

*(Defra emissions figures from 2019.)

Green Plan Workstreams



Workforce and Systems Leadership: We aim to integrate sustainability into organisational processes by including Green Plan requirements into strategic priorities, incorporating net zero targets into job descriptions and appraisals, providing sustainability training for staff, establishing a staff Sustainability Group, and ensuring effective communication of the Green Plan. These actions focus on empowering staff and embedding sustainability into the Trust's culture and operations.



Net Zero Clinical Transformation: We aim to reduce the NHS's carbon footprint by transforming patient care pathways. Key actions include enhancing early intervention services, empowering patients through initiatives like Patient-Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU), expanding virtual ward pathways to deliver care at home, and streamlining care systems to minimise waste. The plan emphasises prevention, patient self-care, and adopting low-carbon treatments and technologies to improve care delivery, while reducing environmental impact.



Digital Transformation: We aim to leverage digital solutions to enhance sustainability, reduce carbon emissions, and improve efficiency. Key actions include exploring the implementation of AI to optimise processes, increasing virtual wards for home-based care, digitising medical records pathways, rationalising hardware like printers and desktops, and embedding greener digital guidance into strategies. These initiatives aim to reduce paper usage, streamline operations, and ensure equitable access to digital tools, while supporting the NHS's net zero goals.



Medicine: Medicines are responsible for a quarter of the NHS Carbon Footprint Plus emissions, with emissions arising from the supply chain during manufacture and distribution. Actions to reduce these emissions include promoting the use of dry powder inhalers over metered dose inhalers, decommissioning nitrous oxide manifold systems, and encouraging patients to bring their own medicines into the hospital when attending. The goal is to reduce medicine usage and the required production of medicines, which will in turn reduce emissions.



Travel and Transport: The goal is to reduce the environmental impact of transportation within the NHS by promoting active travel, public transport and the use of electric vehicles. Key actions include revising travel plans in line with the NHS Net Zero Travel and Transport Roadmap, conducting annual staff travel surveys, improving facilities for cyclists and walkers, and ensuring all new vehicles meet net zero requirements. The plan emphasises reducing congestion, improving air quality, and supporting staff and visitor health through sustainable travel options.



Green Plan Workstreams



Supply Chain and Procurement: Whilst we do not have direct control over these emissions, the Trusts do have significant purchasing power and influence. Actions to reduce these emissions include; incorporating a 10% net zero and social value weighting in every tender, monitoring and publishing data for supply chain emissions, and integrating circular economy and value-based procurement principles into procurement policy.



Food and Nutrition: We aim to reduce emissions from food by introducing an electronic system to monitor food waste, reducing the carbon footprint of the menu, prioritising locally grown and seasonal food, increasing plant-based options, and promoting healthy eating through regular menu reviews.



Estates and Facilities: We aim to highlight the importance of transforming the built environment, energy consumption, and overall infrastructure to align with net zero targets. This will be achieved through the implementation of heat decarbonisation plans, improve energy metering and monitoring, increased on-site renewable energy generation, and by ensuring sustainability is integral to all new build and refurbishment projects. We will deliver the NHS Clinical Waste Strategy targets and introduce recycling collections in accordance with Simpler Recycling guidance, whilst continuing to provide comprehensive waste segregation training.



Climate Change Adaptation: We aim to focus on building resilience against the impacts of climate change, whilst ensuring continued high-quality patient care. Actions to reduce these emissions include; producing a Climate Adaptation Plan for Greater Manchester with a Trust-specific action plan, reviewing Major Incident Plans and Business Continuity Plans in line with UK climate projections, improving our understanding of climate adaptation through training, and identifying where nature-based solutions could contribute to climate change adaptation.



Nature for Health: This workstream showcases the importance of integrating nature-based solutions to improve health and well-being. It outlines actions to enhance biodiversity and green spaces, including employing a Nature Recovery Ranger through external funding, improving access to green spaces, and promoting engagement with nature-based activities. Initiatives include tree planting, creating natural habitats, and reducing the use of herbicides and pesticides.

