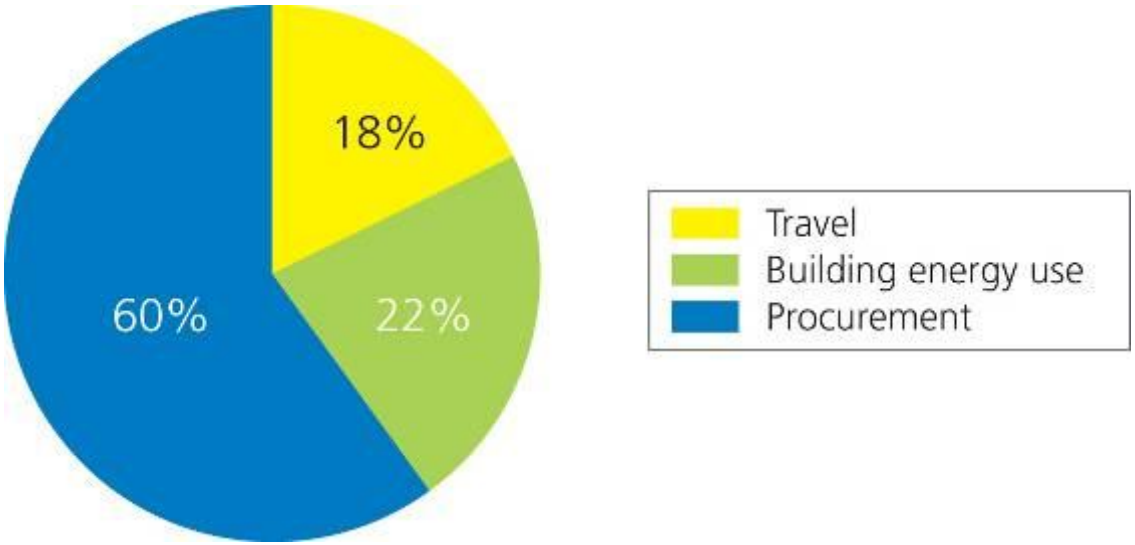
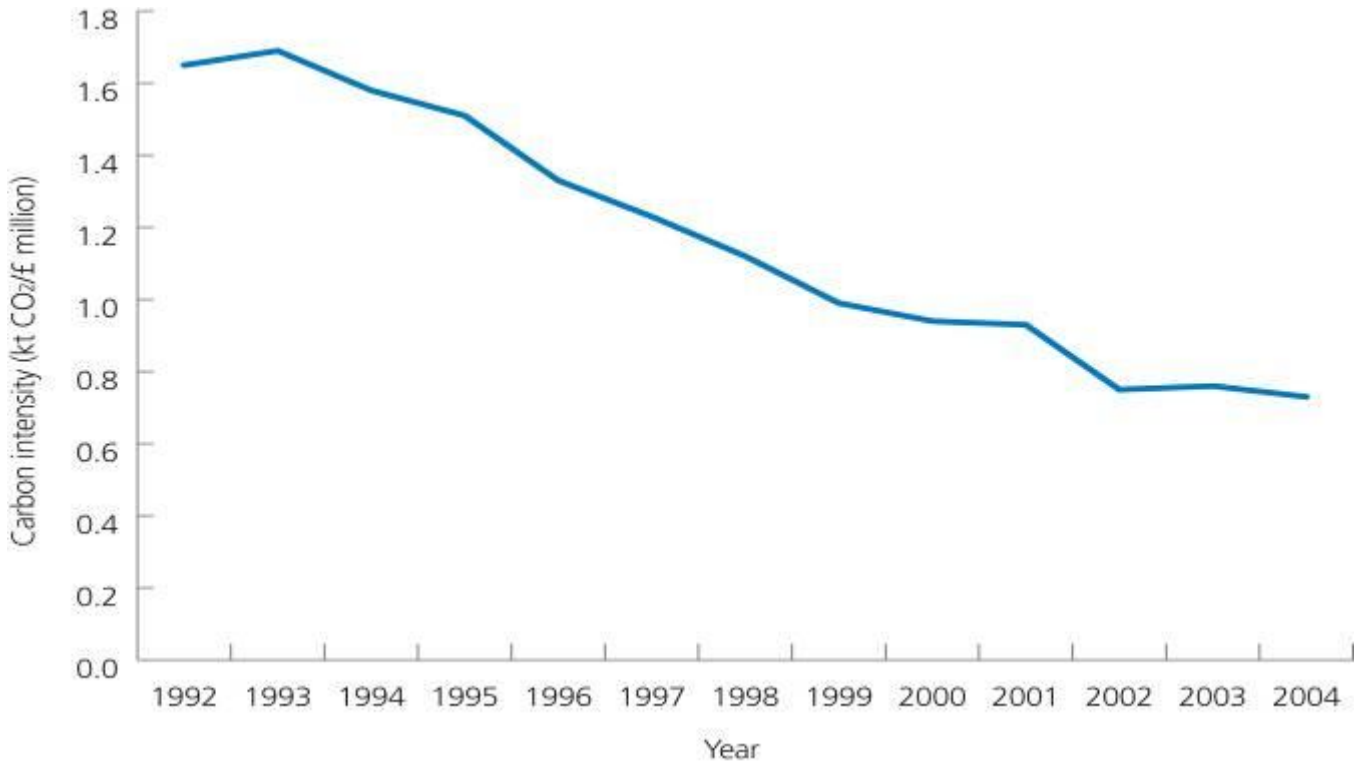
Saving Carbon, Improving Health

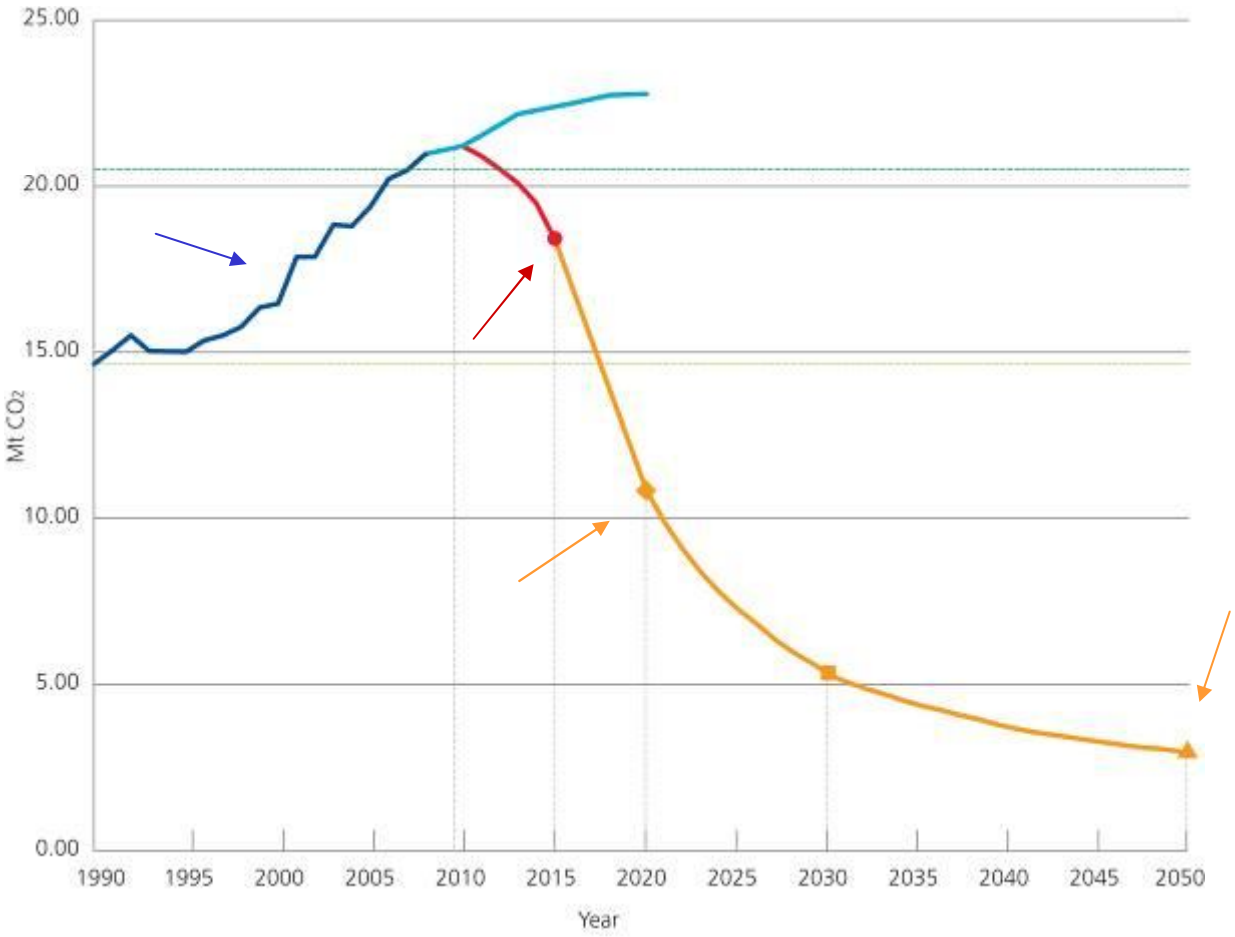
Sonia Roschnik/Cointet
NHS Sustainable Development Unit
Operational Director

Carbon Footprint - NHS England



Carbon Intensity of the NHS





Key

- NHS England
- NHS England forecast
- 2007 baseline
- Carbon Reduction Strategy Target
- 10% target from 2007 baseline
- 1990 baseline
- Climate Change Act Target
- 26% target from 1990 baseline
- 64% target from 1990 baseline
- 80% target from 1990 baseline

What do we need to do?

Energy and carbon management

- Organisations should review their energy and carbon management at Board level
- Develop more use of renewable energy
- Measure and monitor on a whole life cycle cost basis

Energy and carbon management

- Ensure appropriate behaviours are encouraged in individuals as well as across the organisation

Procurement

- Organisations should minimise wastage at the buying stage
- Work in partnership with suppliers to lower the carbon impact of all aspects of procurement
- Make decisions based on whole life cycle costs
- Promote sustainable food and nutrition throughout its business

Procurement

- The carbon footprint of pharmaceuticals within the NHS will need further research and action to produce significant reductions

Travel and transport

- Organisations should routinely and systematically review the need for staff, patients and visitors to travel
- Consistently monitor business mileage
- Promote care closer to home, telemedicine, and home working opportunities

Travel and transport

- Provide incentives for low carbon transport

Water

- Organisations should ensure efficient water use by:
  - Measuring and monitoring its usage
  - Designing it into building developments
  - Quick operational responses to leaks
  - Using water efficient technology
  - Avoiding the routine purchasing of bottled water.

Waste

- Organisations should monitor, report and set targets on the management of domestic and clinical waste
- Minimise the creation of waste in medicines, food and ICT
- Review the approach to single use items versus decontamination options

Designing the built environment

- Low carbon usage in every aspect
  - resilience to the effects of climate change
  - energy management strategies
  - transport, service delivery and community engagement
- A taskforce to develop a blueprint for optimum low carbon healthcare buildings

Organisational and workforce development

- Every member of staff should be encouraged and enabled to take action in their workplace
- Organisations should support their staff by:
  - promoting increased awareness
  - conducting behavioural change programs
  - encouraging home working, low carbon travel, and the use of ICT
  - ensuring sustainable development is included in every job description

EARTHbeat
EARTHbeat
SAVE ENERGY
THIS MEANS YOU!

Partnerships and networks

- Local Area Agreements, Local Strategic Partnerships and Comprehensive Area Assessments
- NHS regional networks for sustainable development to ensure:
  - a broad consistent approach
  - an action plan across each region to tackle this agenda

"The NHS is an extremely important, if not the most influential partner for Defra (now DECC) in achieving Public Sector carbon emissions reductions"

Governance

- Board approved sustainable development management plan
- Healthcare regulators should consider sustainability and the environmental impact of services as an integral part of quality standards

Governance

- Role of Strategic Health Authorities and Regional Government Offices:
  - The NHS delivers carbon reduction through its commissioning frameworks
  - The NHS delivers on its sustainability commitments within Local Area Agreements
  - Sustainable development regional networks in the NHS are developed further to deliver on this agenda

Finance

- Carbon literacy
- Appropriate investment needed for a low carbon NHS and in preparation for a carbon tax regime
- Partnership working to deliver incentives, economies and training to support shift in culture

Looking ahead: Preparing for the future

- Metrics to measure and monitor direct and indirect carbon footprints across the NHS are required
- Societal and NHS scenarios in a low carbon world and their impact on models of care, and how to develop and promote low carbon pathways

Sustainable Development Unit

Saving Carbon, Improving Health

Let’s get started!

- Board Approved Sustainable Development Management Plan
- Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model
- Monitor, Review and Report on Carbon
- Raise carbon awareness at every level

And now the work really begins …