

Primary care training session 1: Climate change, its impact on health and primary care services

[Click here to watch session recording](#)

Presenters:

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NHS NEL Net Zero primary care leads



Learning Objectives

NHS mandate

The North-East London NHS Green plan

Climate change and impact on health

NHS carbon footprint and our next steps



Health and Care Act 2022

2022 CHAPTER 31

PART 1

HEALTH SERVICE IN ENGLAND: INTEGRATION, COLLABORATION AND OTHER CHANGES

NHS England

9 NHS England: duties in relation to climate change etc

After section 13ND of the National Health Service Act 2006 (inserted by section 8 of this Act) insert—

***13NC Duties as to climate change etc**

(1) NHS England must, in the exercise of its functions, have regard to the need to—

- (a) contribute towards compliance with—
 - (i) section 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008 (UK net zero emissions target), and
 - (ii) section 5 of the Environment Act 2021 (environmental targets), and
- (b) adapt to any current or predicted impacts of climate change identified in the most recent report under section 56 of the Climate Change Act 2008.

(2) In discharging the duty under this section, NHS England must have regard to guidance published by it under section 13ND.

13ND Guidance about discharge of duty under section 13NC etc

NHS England may publish guidance about the discharge of—

- (a) the duty imposed on it by section 13NC;
- (b) the duty imposed on integrated care boards by section 14Z44;
- (c) the duty imposed on NHS trusts by section 26B;
- (d) the duty imposed on NHS foundation trusts by section 63B.*

The challenge

NHS is 5% of UK carbon footprint.

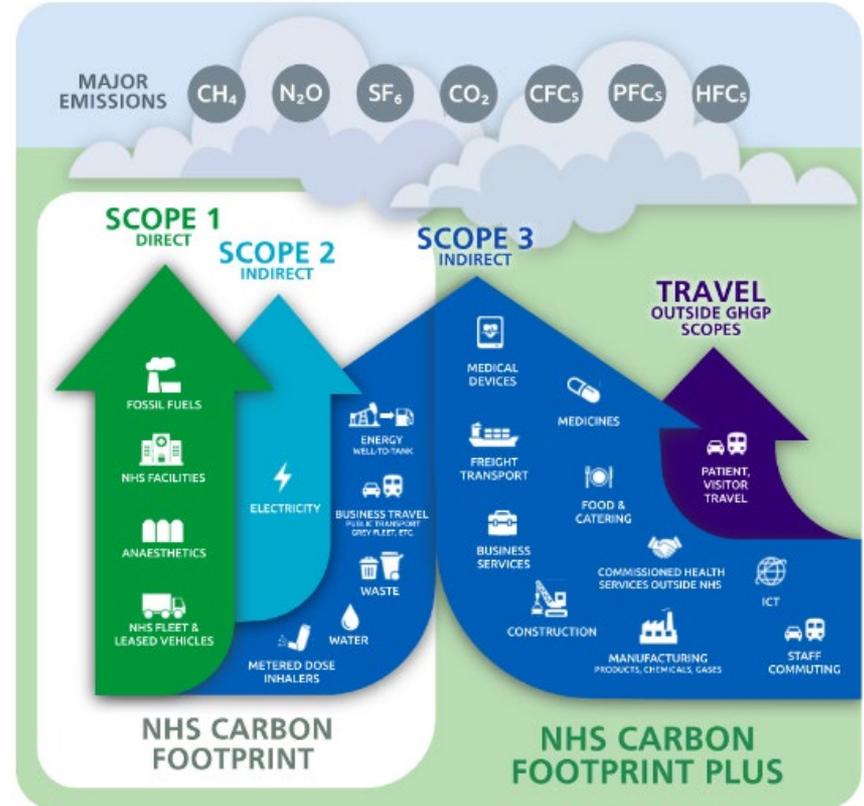
NHS Carbon Footprint- our direct emissions

- **40% reduction by 2025**
- An 80% reduction by 2028-2032
- Net zero by 2040

NHS Carbon Footprint Plus- entire emissions

- An 80% reduction by 2036-2039
- Net zero by 2045

(MtCO ₂ e)	November 2021	80% reduction by 2028 would bring us to
Carbon Footprint	136,420	27,284
Carbon Footprint Plus	847,450	169,490



NHS



So, what are the health service doing?

Leading internationally

Every Trust and ICS has a Green Plan

Low carbon, high quality asthma care

Training provided locally and nationally

Building professional networks

Green and blue social prescribing

Switching to renewable energy

Planetary health

New discipline in
public health

Defined as the 'health
of human civilisation
and the state of the
natural systems on
which it depends'.

Idea that human
health is inextricably
related to
environmental health.

Climate change

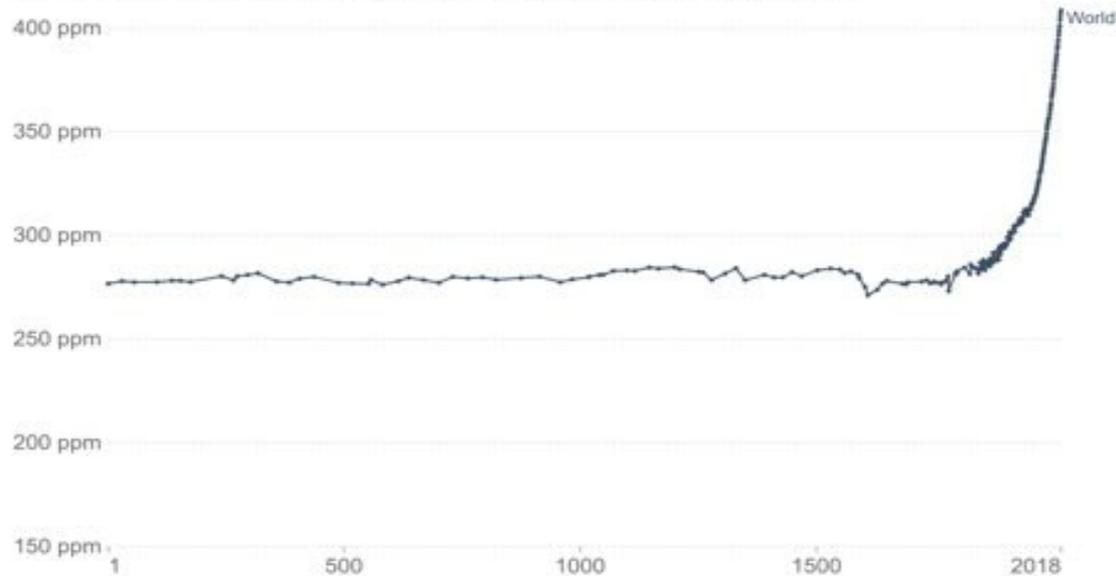
- WHO: 'Climate change is the **single biggest health threat** facing humanity. Every year, environmental factors take the lives of around 13 million people.'
- Climate change can be measured in concentration of CO₂
- It has been proposed that human atmospheric CO₂ concentrations should not exceed 350 ppm in volume.
- Currently the atmospheric CO₂ concentrations are 408.5 ppm (2018).

Atmospheric CO₂ concentrations

Global atmospheric CO₂ concentration

Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentration is measured in parts per million (ppm). Long-term trends in CO₂ concentrations can be measured at high-resolution using preserved air samples from ice cores.

Our World
in Data

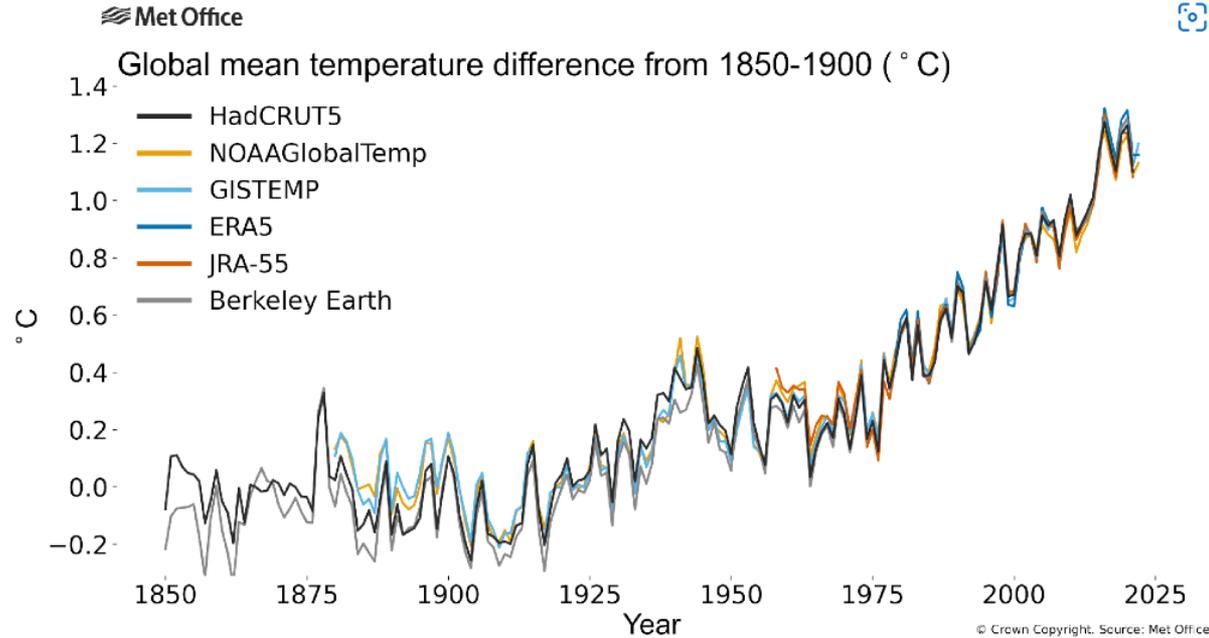


Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

CC BY

Ref: [Our world in data. org](https://ourworldindata.org)

Global temperatures



Slido quiz

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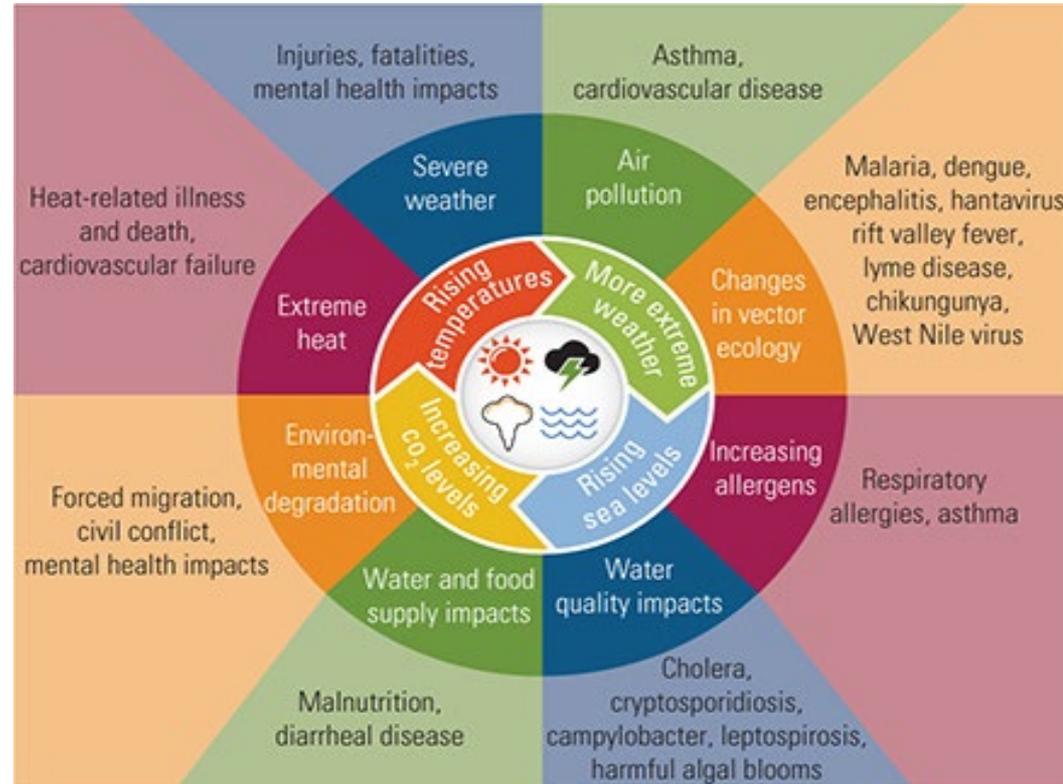
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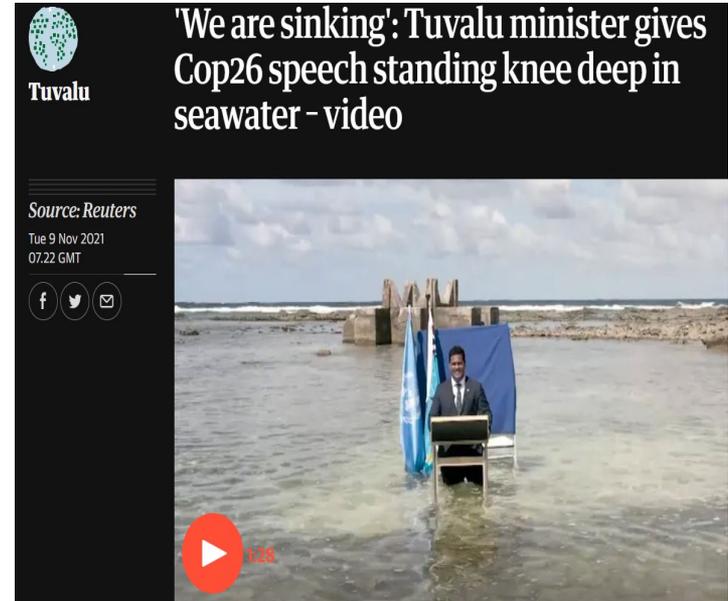
The climate crisis is a health emergency



Global health impact



Pakistan calls for international help after months of flooding cause 'humanitarian disaster'



UK health impact

England braces for 40C temperatures as experts warn thousands could die

Level 4 heat alert announced for next week means 'illness and death may occur among the fit and healthy'

Ballards Road homes on show following blaze which destroyed 14 houses

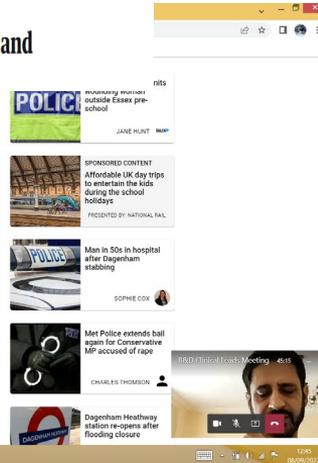
Ben Lynch

Published: 10:37 AM July 22, 2022 Updated: 4:10 PM July 22, 2022



The fire in Dagenham was one of many that broke out on July 19, the warmest UK day on record. Credit: Ben Lynch

Dagenham residents have described the aftermath of a devastating blaze as "like a warzone" as they try and come to terms with the destruction left behind.



The screenshot shows a news website interface. On the left, there's a 'POLICE' article with a 'MISSING WOMAN' sub-headline. Below it is a 'SPONSORED CONTENT' section for 'Affordable UK day trips'. Further down is an article about a 'Man in 50s in hospital after Dagenham stabbing'. At the bottom, there's a video player titled 'Met Police extends ball game for Conservative MP accused of rape' and another article about 'Dagenham Heathway station re-opens after flooding closure'. A Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom of the browser window.

NEWS

Home | War in Ukraine | Cost of Living | Coronavirus | Climate | UK | World | Business | Po

England | Local News | Regions | London

Whipps Cross Hospital patients evacuated after flooding

26 July 2021 · Comments

UK health impact

- Heat related excess deaths occur primarily as a result of respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses. In England and Wales, mortality increases 2.1% for each 1°C increase in temperature
- Heat related mortality is projected to increase in the UK by 45% by 2020s and by 167% by 2050s
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine estimates that 948 people died in England and Wales because of the sweltering conditions between 17 and 19 July. More than half, 495 people, are estimated to have been aged 85 or older, a group that comprises roughly 2 per cent of the nations' population.
- Premature deaths secondary to air pollution in the UK: 40,000/ year (premature deaths cost the UK economy £54 billion/ year)

Top five most 'at risk' of overheating are Birmingham, Newham, Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Nottingham

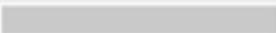
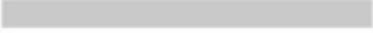
Those neighbourhoods that are high-risk neighbourhoods for heat already exposed to hot weather, will be exposed to very hot weather under 1.5 degrees, and dangerous hot weather at 3 degrees scenario:

- Newham 154
- Tower Hamlets 117
- Hackney 111
- Waltham Forest 75
- Barking and Dagenham 59

519 neighbourhoods in NEL are high-risk for overheating

We have the highest number of deaths related to air pollution in the UK

Of the top 25 upper tier local authorities in England with the highest proportion (%) of deaths attributable to PM 2.5 in 2019, 24 were London boroughs

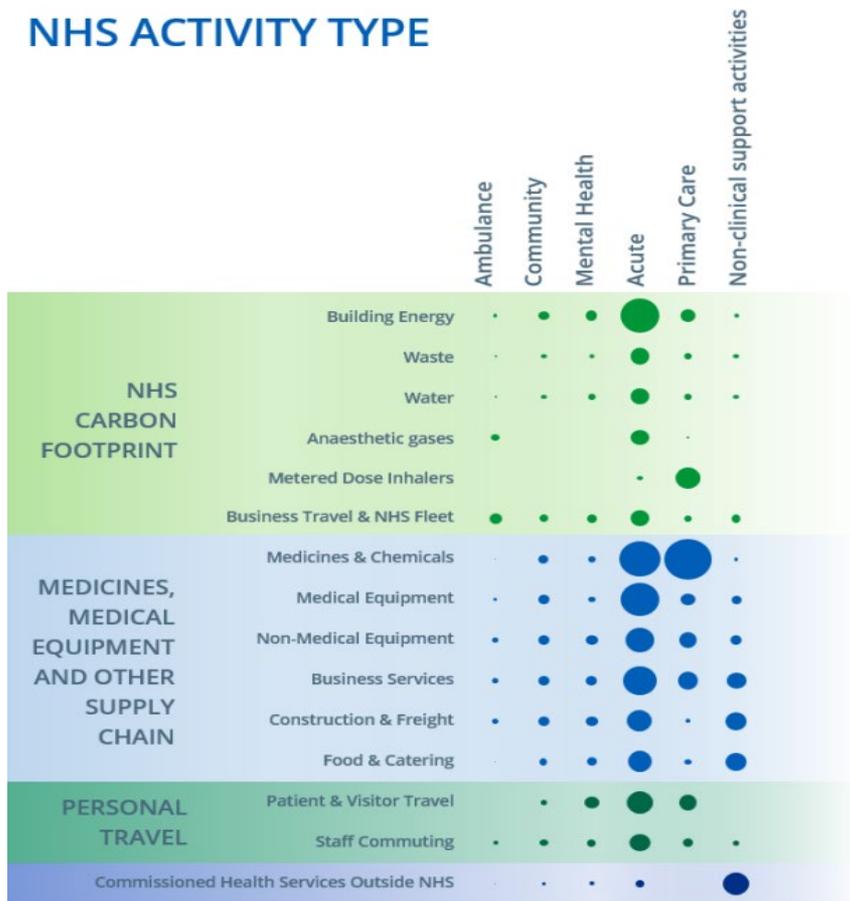
England	5.1	
Newham	7.0	
City of London	6.9	
Waltham Forest	6.9	
Westminster	6.8	
Barking and Dagenham	6.8	
Islington	6.8	
Kensington and Chelsea	6.8	
Hackney	6.8	
Tower Hamlets	6.7	
Redbridge	6.7	

Source: [Mayor of London](#)

Healthcare's Carbon Footprint

- Global health care has its own carbon footprint.
- 4.4% of global carbon emissions come from health care emissions
- In the UK the NHS contributes to 5% of the national Carbon footprint (2017)

NHS ACTIVITY TYPE



Carbon footprint of Primary care was 23% of the total NHS carbon footprint

Of this footprint:

- 48% from pharmaceuticals
- 13% from MDIs inhalers
- 9% from personal travel.

Delivering Net Zero NHS, 2019

Slido quiz

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How is climate change affecting our health and care system?

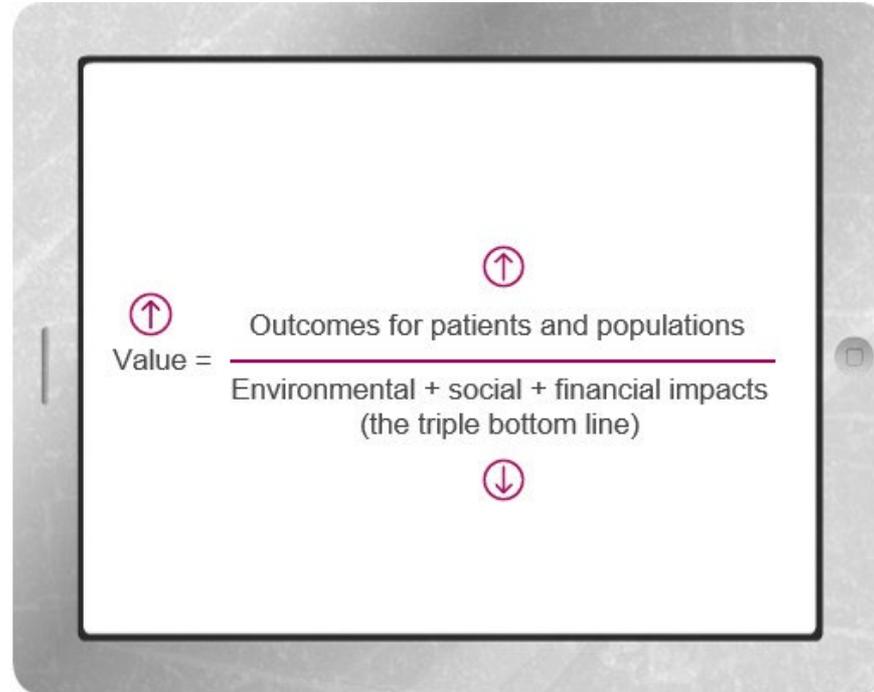
- Increasing workload
- Cost of living crisis and fuel poverty
- Health inequalities especially in NEL
- Workforce problems- Wellbeing, shortages, retention
- Changes in governance and policy
- Financial implications for the system

Royal College of General Practice views on climate change

"To integrate sustainability into all parts of the system including curriculum, policy, guidelines, research and practice."

"To enable the general practice community to take meaningful actions on the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE)"

Sustainable healthcare

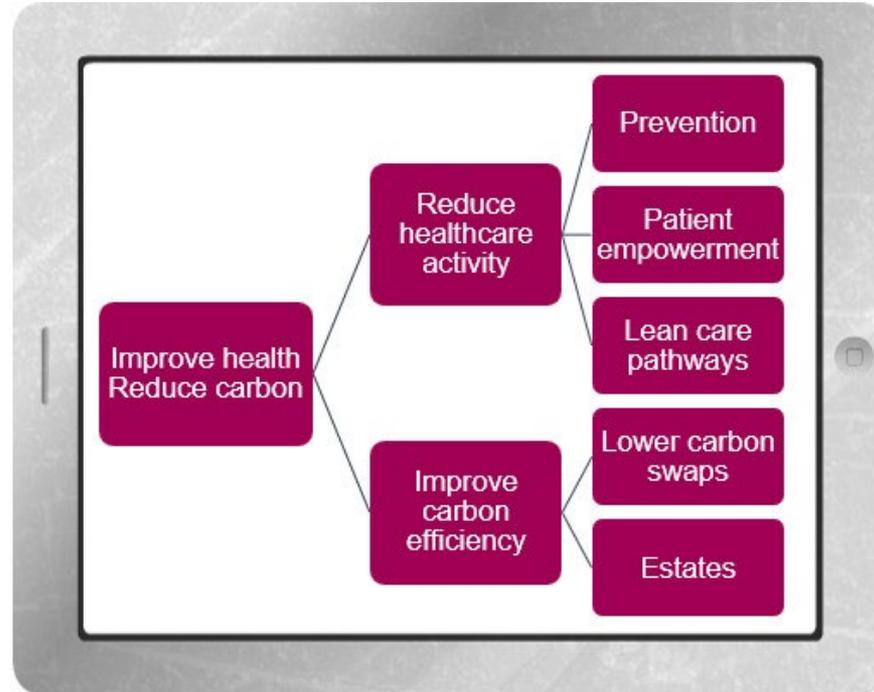


NEL ICS Green Plan workstreams

- Workforce
- Estates and facilities
- Adaptation
- Supply chain and procurement
- Medicines
- Travel and transport
- Food and nutrition
- Green spaces and improved wellbeing
- Digital transformation
- Models of care

Check out how you are helping deliver the [NEL ICS Green Plan](#)

How primary care can help?



Making net zero business as usual

GOING FORWARD, HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?

- **Interact** with the Net Zero Clinical Leads for Primary Care
- **Reflect on** how your team can contribute to the delivery of the [NEL ICS Green Plan](#)
- **Remember** that the NHS is a paper lite organisation
- **Prioritise active travel** to commute and for business
- **Consider low carbon options** in the services that you design and the programmes that you deliver
- **Feedback loops** - identify opportunities to innovate and share examples of good practice

GOING FORWARD, HOW CAN NEL SUPPORT YOU?

- **Seek resource and expertise from the NEL team** to support delivery and innovation at scale
- **Provide training on how taking climate action** increases health equity

FUTURE PROOFING THE SYSTEM

- Taking climate action is essential to protect the population and **reduce pressure on the NHS**
- **Improve staff retention**, making our organisation one that takes the climate crisis seriously.

Slido quiz

Go to www.slido.com/ on your phone or laptop



The screenshot shows the Slido website homepage. At the top left is the 'slido' logo. The navigation menu includes 'Product', 'Solutions', 'Pricing', 'Resources', and 'Enterprise'. On the right, there are links for 'Log In' and a green 'Sign Up' button. A blue search bar contains the text 'Joining as a participant?' followed by a text input field with '# Enter code here' and a right-pointing arrow. Below this is the main heading: 'Your go-to interaction app for hybrid meetings'. Underneath is a sub-heading: 'Engage your participants with live polls, Q&A, quizzes and word clouds — whether you meet in the office, online or in-between.' At the bottom, there are two buttons: a green 'Get started for free' button and a blue 'Schedule a demo' link.

Enter code #NELICSGreenPlanPC

Take action



We ask that **all staff working in north east London** complete the short [Greener NHS online modules](#)



Listen to Primary Care podcast – Dr Sharon Christy [Primary Care NEL Episode 6: Net Zero \(let's go greener\)](#)



Sign up to the Greener Practice network

Greener Practice

Email nelondon.nelgreenteam@nhs.net to [join the Green Team](#)

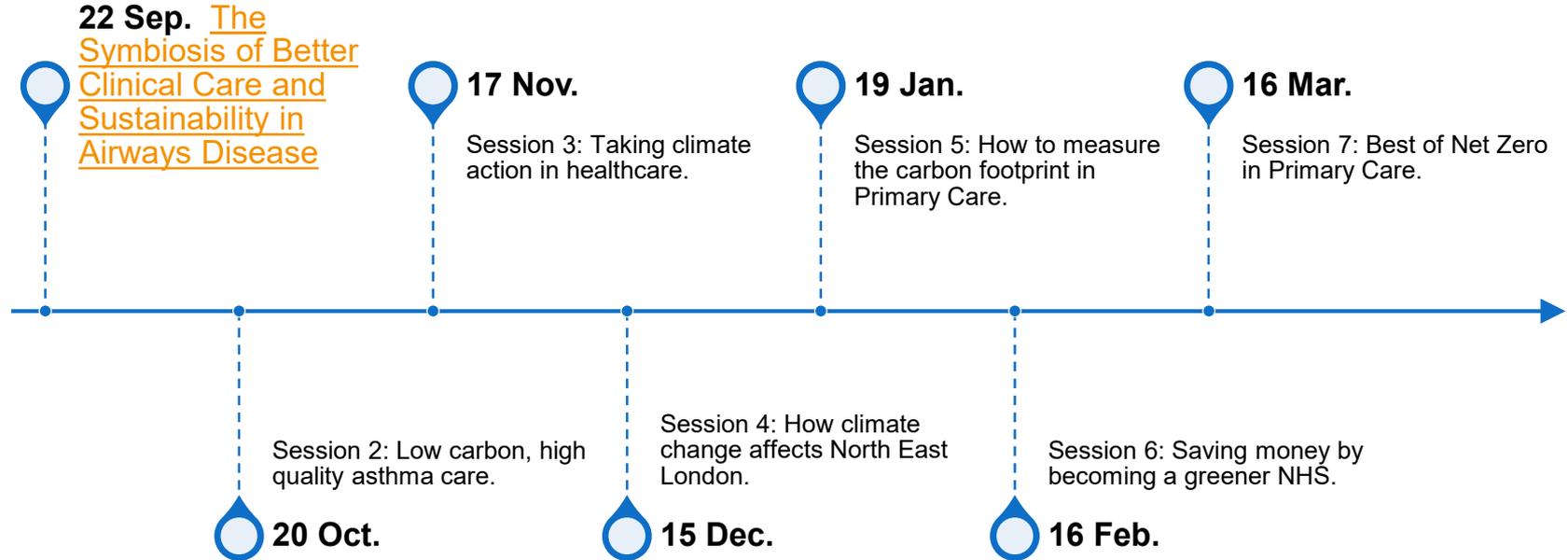
Join our [Greener NHS Community](#) and connect with likeminded people across the NHS

Follow the campaign on social media: www.twitter.com/GreenerNHS

Sign up for the national Ebulletin: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/email-bulletins/greener-nhs/>

Anyone working with/in primary care can join the [Greener Practice North London Network](#)

Next sessions



Thanks for listening

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Reduce admissions.

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Search Greener NHS



Any Questions?

- amitsharma1@nhs.net
- sudeshnasarkar@nhs.net
- Rebecca.waters@nhs.net

Further learning

To read

[Article about the NHS's carbon footprint](#)

[Healthcare without harm and Arup's report on healthcare's carbon footprint](#)

[Imperative for climate action to protect health](#)

[Report from the Royal College of Physicians on air pollution](#)

[Raworths doughnut economics- discussed at Dr Sawyers talks and may be useful for GPs to plan sustainable policies](#)

To watch

[RCGP net zero webinar \(1 hour\)](#)

To listen

[Primary Care NEL Episode 6: Net Zero \(let's go greener\)](#)

Quiz references

Resources for quiz 1:

- [UK Health Alliance on Climate Change. The Impacts of Climate Change on Public Health.](#)
- [Energy & Climate Intelligence Unit. Flood risk and the UK.](#)

Resource quiz 2:

- Sustainable Development Unit. Waste hotspot: Plastics.