

# Time to Act

## Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust



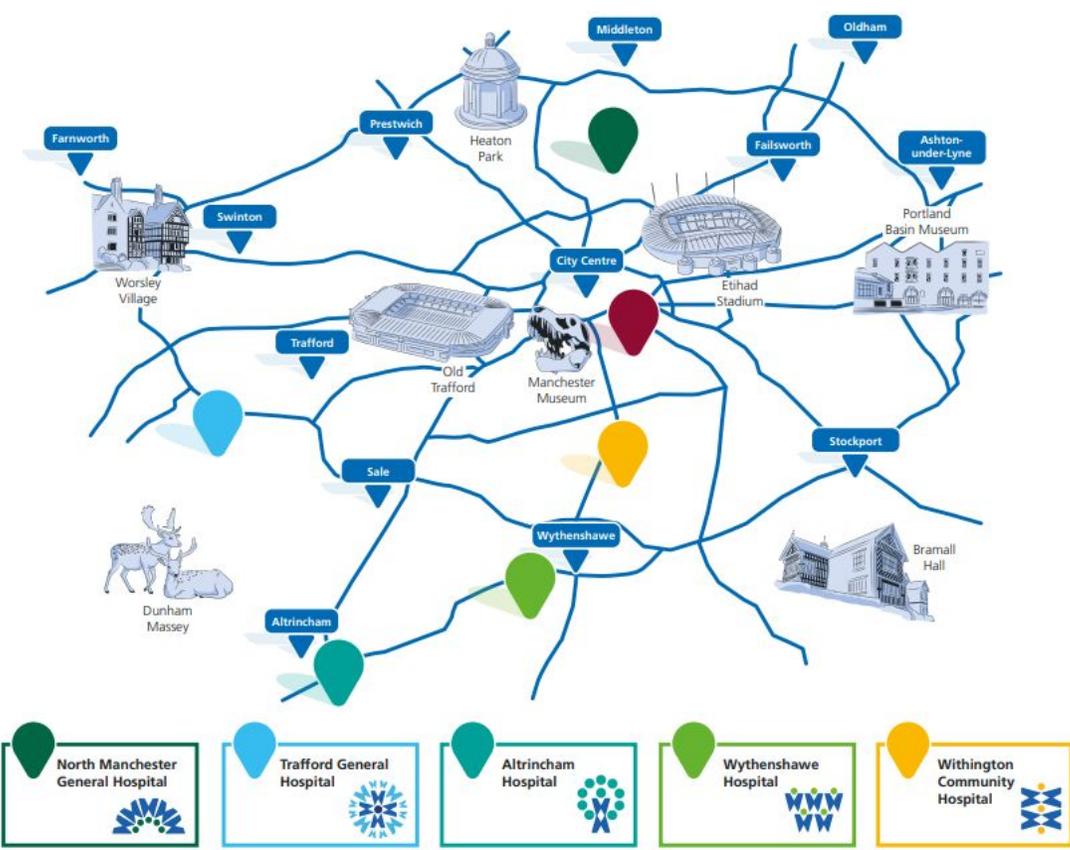
Paul Lewis, Sustainability Manager  
07 November 2025



**Manchester Local Care Organisation**  
A wide range of NHS community healthcare services are provided by Manchester Local Care Organisation and Trafford Local Care Organisation. Together, they ensure that you receive healthcare which is local, coordinated and meets your needs.

**Clinical & Scientific Services**  
Clinical & Scientific Services provide a broad range of services across all MFT sites, as well as in the local community.

**Oxford Road Site**  
Manchester Royal Infirmary  
Manchester Royal Eye Hospital  
Saint Mary's Hospital  
Royal Manchester Children's Hospital  
University Dental Hospital Manchester



- ◆ Employ 30,000 staff + 8,000 training or working for partners
- ◆ Hospital services to 1 million:
  - ◆ 511,000 Emergency Department attendances per year
  - ◆ 153,000 planned operations per year
  - ◆ 530,000 tests & investigations per year
  - ◆ 17,500 babies born each year



# Sustainability and me



# Sustainability in Education and Healthcare



## NHS Emissions

- NHS has emissions roughly the same as the **whole of Denmark**
- NHS makes up **4%** of the UK's total emissions, around 25 million tCO<sub>2</sub>e each year
- In 2020 committed to becoming globally the first healthcare system to reach net zero



*"There is no trade-off between climate responsibilities and reducing waiting lists. Indeed, often health and climate are mutually reinforcing goals: cleaner air is good for the environment and for respiratory health".*

Lord Darzi 2024



**The climate emergency  
is a health emergency**



# Sustainability in Education and Healthcare

## DfE Strategy

- ◆ **Net Zero Estates** – All new school buildings to meet net zero operational emissions; retrofit existing estate.
- ◆ **Climate Resilience** – Adapt education settings for heatwaves, flooding, and biodiversity.
- ◆ **Green Skills & Education** – Preparing young people
- ◆ **Supply Chain Sustainability** – Embed sustainability in procurement.

## NHS England Net Zero Plan

- ◆ **Net Zero Estates** – NHS Carbon Footprint targets: 80% reduction by 2028–2032; full net zero by 2040 for direct emissions
- ◆ **Climate Resilience** – Ensure hospitals and care facilities withstand extreme weather and maintain continuity.
- ◆ **Workforce Engagement** – Sustainability training and developing sustainable clinical practices.
- ◆ **Net Zero Supplier Roadmap** – Mandatory carbon reduction plans for suppliers and social value weighting in contracts.

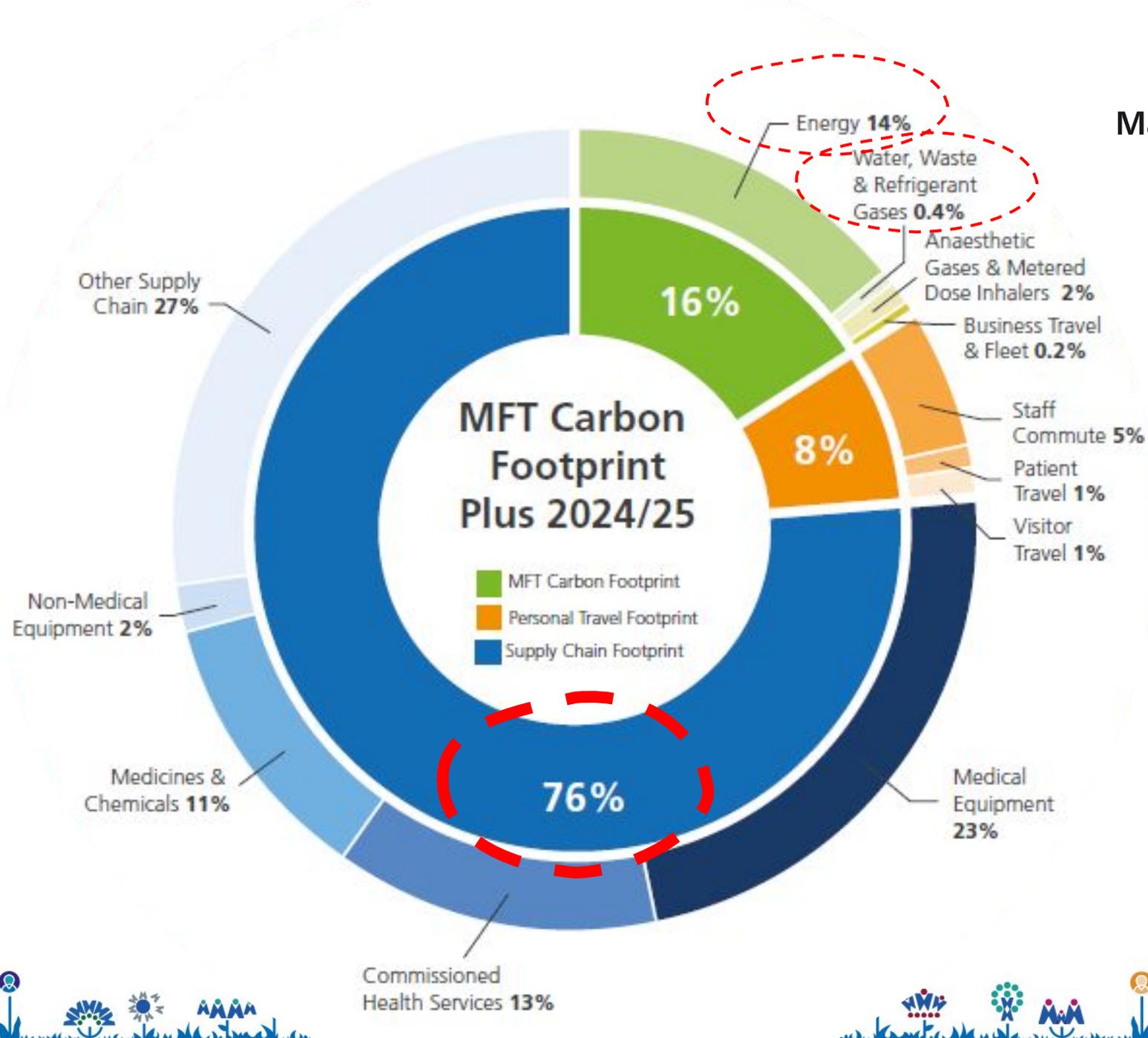


# Carbon Footprint

**Which sector is responsible for the largest proportion of MFT's carbon emissions?**

- ◆ Supplies and equipment (the things we buy)
- ◆ Energy (gas, oil & electricity)
- ◆ Waste disposal & treatment





# Three Pillars of Sustainability



PEOPLE



PLANET



PURSE



## Our Vision

**Our first overarching ambition is to achieve net zero MFT Carbon Footprint by 2038.**

As an anchor institution within the Greater Manchester city region, we have committed to adopting the science-based approach of our Combined Authority, which is even more ambitious than the national NHS target.

This places importance on total carbon emitted, not just the date at which we reach net-zero carbon, to more responsibly limit our overall contribution to climate change. This approach uses an organisational **carbon budget** to manage this over time.



**Our second overarching ambition is to achieve a net zero MFT Carbon Footprint Plus by 2045.**

This is an NHS-led target based on using our influence to address the significant carbon impact of the goods and services being bought, as well as from patient, visitor and staff travel. The longer time span of this ambition represents the scale of the challenge ahead, and MFT will work collaboratively across the healthcare system to achieve this with our suppliers and other stakeholders.

**Net Zero  
Clinical  
Transformation**



**Digital  
Transformation,  
Research &  
Innovation**



**Supply Chain &  
Procurement**



**Medicines**



**Food & Nutrition**



**Estates  
& Facilities**



**Travel  
& Transport**



**Climate Change  
Adaptation**



**Green Spaces  
& Biodiversity**



**Workforce,  
Networks & System  
Leadership**



# Working Together

## Joint Estates Projects

### Shared Infrastructure Upgrades

- ◆ Solar PV installations
- ◆ Battery storage
- ◆ Heat pump systems

### Funding Alignment

- ◆ Access government grants  
– PSDS
- ◆ Initiatives like Great British  
Energy funding



# Working Together

## Biodiversity and Nature Based Initiatives

### Spaces for Nature

- ◆ Shared biodiversity projects
- ◆ Spaces for outdoor learning and therapy
- ◆ Community engagement and volunteering

### Habitat Creation

- ◆ Tree planting
- ◆ Community gardens
- ◆ Renewing spaces



# Working Together

## Workforce Training and Education

### Training Staff

- ◆ Carbon literacy training
- ◆ Create cross-sector skills
- ◆ Recognise projects and development

### Career Pathways

- ◆ Promote careers in sustainability, energy management, environmental science
- ◆ Public sector careers



# Working Together

## Procurement & Supply Chain

### Low-carbon Procurement

- ◆ Choosing the right frameworks
- ◆ Sense checking resource usage

### Engaging Suppliers

- ◆ Set expectations for net zero supply chain
- ◆ Identify high emission items and challenge



# Working Together

## Community Engagement & Behaviour Change

### Cross-Sector Campaigns

- ◆ Active travel promotions
- ◆ Energy conservation education
- ◆ Talk to staff, students and families

### Shared Events

- ◆ Combine to promote world awareness dates
- ◆ Webinars, talks, conferences



# Working Together

## Research & Innovation

### Pilot projects

- Sustainable building design
- Low-carbon clinical and education models
- Digital tools for monitoring emissions

### Knowledge Exchange

- Board level exchange
- Operational Sustainability groups
- Local networks



# Working Together

Research &  
Innovation

Community  
Engagement  
& Behaviour  
Change

Procurement  
& Supply  
Chain

Workforce  
Training and  
Education

Biodiversity  
and Nature  
Based  
Initiatives

Joint Estates  
Projects



Thank you!

Time to Act

