

Policy Name	Environmental Policy
Applies To	Directors, Staff, Volunteers and General Public
Policy Area	Business Standard Policies
Approved by Directors	January 2023
Live Date	January 2023
Review Schedule	Biennial
Staff Notified of Policy	January 2023
Version	V1.0
<p>This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the designated review schedule. It will remain Live and Active until such time as the review prompts necessary changes.</p> <p>Team members of Support Medical Group will be informed when any such changes are made and the policy reuploaded to replace the current policy.</p>	

Policy Statement

Support Medical Group CIC (SMG) aims towards a successful energy management programme that will combine an effective strategy with the correct practical interventions and is committed to continually reducing the environmental impacts of its business operations. SMG will continue to develop its strategy in line with overall National NHS Strategy.

Our main impacts are from greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere from the use of fossil fuels for our vehicles, carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere from the use of fossil fuel-based energy and from the production of waste in SMG property. Carbon dioxide is the primary greenhouse gas emitted through human activities.

1.1 To achieve this commitment, we will:

- Assess the environmental impact of current and likely future operations.
- Strive to continuously improve our environmental performance and integrate recognised applicable best practice into our business operations.
- Consideration should be given to rapidly changing fleet technology and environmental benefits this can bring.
- Contact with suppliers who meet or exceed the environmental standards set by SMG.
- Give due consideration to environmental issues in the acquisition, design, and location of buildings.
- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation as well as other environmental requirements to which SMG subscribes.
- Minimise waste by evaluating operations and ensuring they are as efficient as possible.

1.2 To secure these objectives we will:

Equal Opportunities and Diversity Policy

- Annually communicate our environmental policy, internally and externally, encouraging feedback from our team and other stakeholders.
- Work together with our service partners and suppliers to encourage commitment towards improved environmental performance.
- Implement an on-going training program for its entire staff to raise awareness of environmental issues and enlist their support in improving our performance.
- Actively promote recycling both internally and externally with stakeholders.
- Incorporate sustainability requirements into new contracts.
- Monitor figures for energy, water, and waste annually as a minimum to identify target areas for improvement.
- Monitor and measure staff business miles to ensure that SMG is not undertaking business miles unnecessarily.
- Encourage use of audio and video conference call facility for meetings.
- Continue to maintain and foster an active team of green champions.

1.3 Specific recent initiatives include:

- Impacts on the environment of fuel on the current fleet and its future replacement.
- Setting efficiency targets, increasing each year for new SMG lease cars and vehicles
- Introduction of an environmental assessment in the supplier vetting process.
- Provision of SMG premises that meet current required environmental standards.
- Move towards the achievement of Zero waste to landfill.
- Introduce paper recycling at all SMG sites.
- Continuation of lease Car Policy with allowable CO₂ emissions set at no more than 110 CO₂g on a WLTP basis and incentives for low Co₂g vehicles.
- Introduction of solar panel technology on vehicle roofs
- Introduction of Microsoft Teams to reduce business travel.
- Introduction of e-pay, e-timesheets, and e-expenses
- Production of periodic green newsletters available to all team members containing examples of good practice
- Introduction of electric vehicles across the fleet.
- Purchasing 100% renewable electricity

SMG Aims and objectives by 2030.

We would have reduced our carbon footprint in such a way we would have reduced it by 20%.

We will do the following to improve how we reduce are carbon footprint:

- Invested in Carbon Offsetting any milage that we do.
- Invest in Solar Panels for all industrial premises.
- Invest in Battery storage for green power.
- Invest in Solar Panels for Ambulances and Medical units.
- Invest in alternative fuels such as bio diesel.

This statement represents our general position on environmental issues and the policies and practices we will apply in conducting our business. This is accessible to all staff via the intranet and to other interested parties via our website.