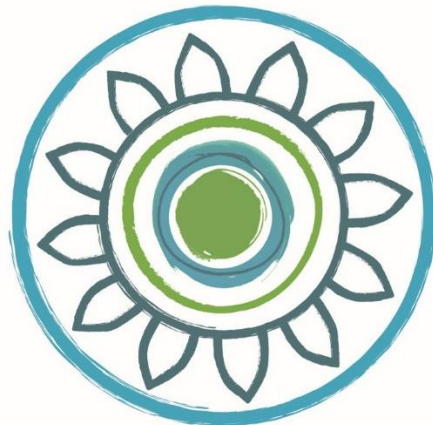




GREEN TEAM COMPETITION

CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE HEALTHCARE



2023-24 Impact Report
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

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BACKGROUND

In September 2023, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals (STH) NHS Foundation Trust commenced a [Green Team Competition](#) in partnership with [The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare \(CSH\)](#). The Green Team Competition is a clinical leadership & engagement programme for NHS organisations wishing to improve the sustainability of their service.

CSH has worked directly with six clinical teams across STH to add sustainable value within their service via mentoring in the use of [Sustainability in Quality Improvement \(SusQI\)](#) methodology. SusQI is an approach to improving healthcare in a holistic way, by assessing quality & value through the lens of the sustainable value equation (Figure 1). The 6 teams were encouraged to consider each element of sustainable value to identify high impact improvement ideas then plan, implement & measure the impact of their projects.

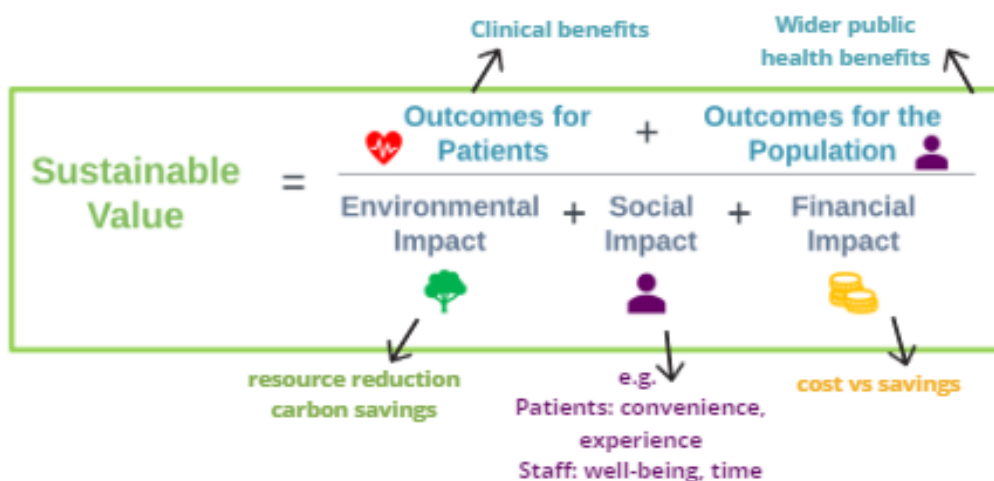
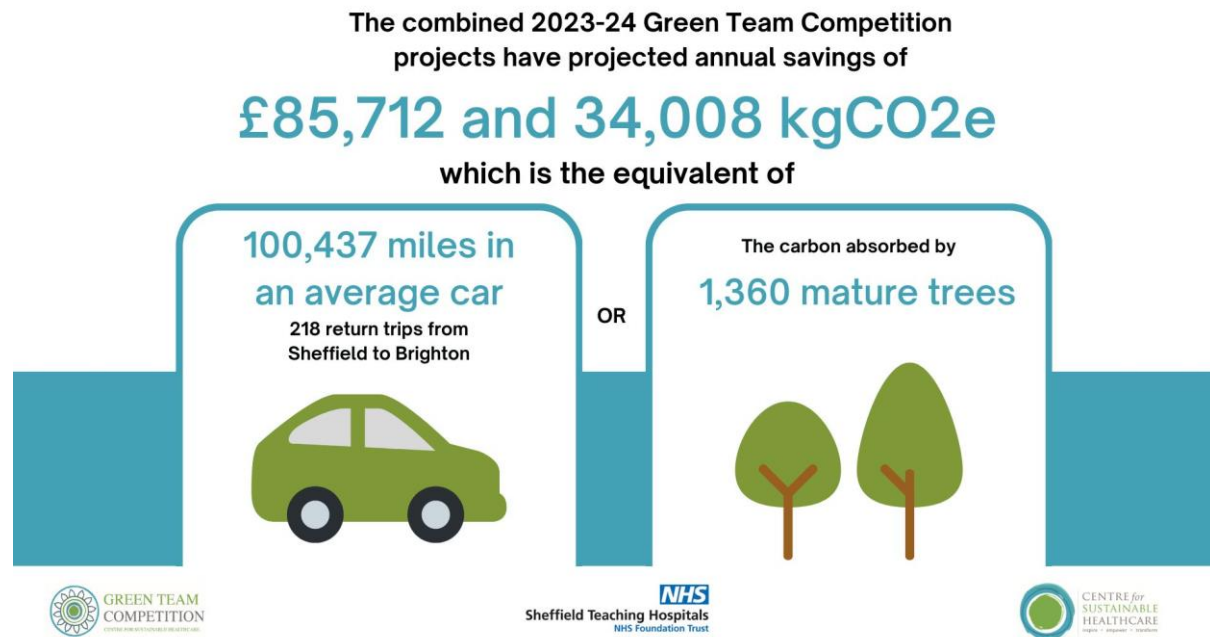


Figure 1. Sustainable Value Equation Source: Centre for Sustainable Healthcare

At the March 5th Showcase and Awards Ceremony, the teams presented their projects, including the anticipated savings & opportunities to scale and spread, to an audience from the Trust and the judging panel.



For a breakdown of savings & impact across the sustainable value equation, please see [Appendix 1](#) on page 5.

COMPETITION ENTRIES - INDIVIDUAL PROJECT CASE STUDY REPORTS

Please click the links below which will take you to the project summary and report in the [CSH Sustainable Healthcare Resource Library](#).

- [Reusable tourniquets for sustainable phlebotomy](#), *South Yorkshire Regional Services (SYRS)*
- [A greener hospital storeroom](#), *Emergency department*
- [Extending the life of anaesthetic circuit tubing and rationalising our suction waste stream](#), *Anaesthesia and operating services with Obstetrics and gynaecology theatres*
- [Rationalising drugs in the operating theatre](#), *Operating services, critical care and anaesthesia (OSCCA) with pharmacy*
- [Reducing Paracetamol Co-Prescribing with Strong Opioids on the Sheffield Macmillan Unit for Palliative Care](#), *Palliative care*
- [Assessing the impact of sending phlebotomy trays for unnecessary external steam sterilisation](#), *Sexual health*

WINNERS: South Yorkshire Regional Services



Congratulations to the winning team, South Yorkshire Regional Services, for implementing reusable tourniquets for sustainable phlebotomy in their outpatient departments. The team have already taken steps to raise awareness and promote take up of this change across the Trust, with enthusiasm from other departments.

SYRS have been awarded £500 to invest into sustainability projects within their service.

“The SYRS project really spoke to the importance of good staff and patient engagement, while challenging the concept of single use, not only for tourniquets, but equipment generally across the Trust”.

Mark Tucket, Director of Strategy and Planning (Judging Panel)

“Happy staff, happy patients – it’s a win-win all round!”

Lea Lindley Senior Sister, Cardiology/Vascular Outpatients, SYRS team

“It has been absolutely inspiring to be a part of the competition. I’ve learned so much about the sustainable value equation and how to get the message across to our staff”

Rebecca Palmer, Nurse Lead for Governance Quality Improvement, SYRS team



NEXT STEPS

We encourage participating teams to continue their projects by embedding and maintaining their changes while continuing to work towards their longer term aims. The sustainability, QI and strategy teams at STH will continue to support the teams to maintain changes long-term as well as support scale of suitable projects to elsewhere in the Trust.

The strategy team plan to share the teams project outcomes and learning regionally (ICB & NEY SPF) and with the South Yorkshire Climate Alliance (SYCA) and Sheffield council. Promotion of the projects in these forums will reach more health professionals who may be inspired to make changes within their own practice, but also to patients and the general community in Sheffield, to raise the profile of the importance of sustainable practice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to STH for partnering with us, with specific thanks to

Our 6 Green Teams for their enthusiasm, dedicated work & creativity in devising and completing their projects.

Rachel Cottam, Strategy & Planning Manager, for dedicating considerable time to co-supporting the teams throughout the programme. Rachel's perspective from within STH was invaluable to ensure teams gain the most from their participation and to best promote their changes, learning and outcomes moving forward.

Our judging panel for their time and keen interest in the projects.

- Charlie Elliot - Deputy Medical Director, STH
- Rachel Morris - Head of Sustainability, STH
- Mark Tucket - Director of Strategy and Planning, STH
- Paul Buckley - Deputy Director of Strategy & Planning, STH
- Cath Richards, SusQI Programme Lead, CSH

Rachel Morris, Head of Sustainability and Kevin Firth, Head of Organisational Development Programmes, for their engagement and consideration of how to further support the teams moving forward and their efforts to align sustainability and improvement work within STH.

Thank you to Rosie Hillson, Sustainability Analyst, CSH, for her careful and highly skilled work in carbon footprinting. Rosie supported the teams in carrying out their own carbon footprinting and equipped teams with the knowledge and tools to carry out future calculations for projects in the future, essential for demonstrating outcomes towards Net Zero healthcare.

Appendix 1: POTENTIAL ANNUAL SAVINGS SUMMARY.

For more detail on projects, please refer to the [individual project case study reports](#) on page 2.

The following table provides detail on the **annual** savings to the Trust from the 2023-4 Green Team Competition. Savings in black text are based on actual changes made during the 10-week competition. Savings in blue text are based on planned or potential changes that require longer to implement.

Project	Financial Outcomes	Environmental (CO2e) Outcomes	Social Outcomes	Clinical Outcomes
SRYS	6,632	1,058	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% patients like reusable option as more comfortable & sustainable. Staff agreement reusable better for clinical, social, environmental & financial reasons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gentler for patient with less risks of pulling skin/hair. Easier for staff to remove, reducing risk of harm.
Emergency	20,786	10,810	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing staff concerns of waste in emergency care. An organised stockroom saves staff time & improves the overall user experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items quicker & easier to find for clinical use
Anaesthesia with obs & gynae theatre	21,486-51,107 10,487	3,302-7,887 8,258	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9/13 (69%) staff thought anaesthetic tubing change would save time & effort. 7/13 (53%) found current policy confusing. 10/13 (77%) staff thought gelling was the best solution to disposal. 5/13 (38%) thought this would reduce their workload. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No negative impact on patient care
OSCCA with pharmacy	11,300	7,017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff support for centralising low-use medications for environmental, financial & reduced risk benefits. Pharmacy technician strongly thought intervention would make their job easier. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced variation in stock reduces the risk of medication error with consequent benefits to patient safety.
Palliative care	211	154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff will save time from reduced medication administration. Potential to improve staff job satisfaction as staff will administer all prescribed medications, rather than wasting paracetamol when patient can't manage all medications. Stock space on the unit is freed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36% reduction in regular paracetamol usage. No patient had a regular dose reinstated during the project period, demonstrating no negative impact on pain management. Reduces tablet burden to patients taking many medications who find swallowing effortful.
Sexual health	Neutral	1,117	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% team members agreeable to change. 73% of team members very concerned about waste and environmental impact of care. Project led to boost to morale within clinic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No negative impact on care. In some cases, the change reduces clinic delays as trays do not need to be unpackaged.
Total Savings	£85,712	34,008 kgCO2e		