
# PAPER

BOD 47/2012

(Agenda Item: 16)

# Report to the Meeting of the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

# Board of Directors

**For Information**

**28 March 2012**

**Carbon Management Programme Update**

This paper is to inform the Board and to record progress with the Carbon Management Programme.

A prioritised approach to energy efficiency was agreed with the Carbon Trust:

1. Save energy by insulating to reduce heat loss
2. Replace old heating plant with new efficient technology
3. Upgrade energy controls

In line with these priorities investment has taken place during FY12 to contribute to long term emissions reduction. At the following Trust sites: Vale Resource Centre, Fulbrook, Rectory Centre and Abingdon and Witney Community Hospitals, old heating boilers are being replaced with ‘super’ efficient ones that operate at over 90% efficiency.

Several older buildings have been surveyed to assess the benefit of cavity wall insulation (Fiennes Centre, Fulbrook and Sue Nicholls Centre); however, owing to the natural ventilation characteristics of these buildings only the Sue Nicholls Centre is suitable. Roof insulation will be improved within buildings at the Littlemore site.

The BREEAM (Building Research Establishment’s Environmental Assessment Method) assessments of the Littlemore and Warneford sites are scheduled to be complete at the end of March. These are very rigorous assessments of environment performance in areas of management, health and wellbeing, energy, transport, water, waste and pollution. Early indications show a low score is expected; however this should be anticipated, as they are the first serious examination of how, in terms of environmental impact, these sites are managed. They are the first step to improving performance and will provide structure. The aim is to improve the environmental management at these sites to at least a BREEAM rating of good. This is achievable, and if attained, together with the new developments (Manor and Highfield), will mean a major part of the Trust’s estate will be rated at good or above. This, in addition to the obvious environmental benefits will enhance the Trust’s reputation as good Corporate Citizen.

The Procurement has completed a programme to install high efficiency printers with 2 side printing default.

**Carbon Management Programme Update:**

There are five streams to the carbon reduction plan:

* *Ensuring that the major capital investment planned in estate re-provision takes maximum cost effective advantage of the latest technology to reduce carbon emissions.*

The new Highfield development at Warneford Hospital and the new The new Manor House development are scheduled to complete October 2012 and October 2013. Work is taking place at the different stages of these developments to ensure they achieve a BREEAM rating of excellent.

On a smaller scale following the investment during FY12 further replacement of old inefficient plant will be part of FY13 investment programmes.

* *Ensuring that the re-provision in community provision maximises cost effective utilisation of space and minimises carbon emissions.*

The first draft of the Trust’s Estates Strategy is being prepared and is expected at the end of March. This should present opportunities for further rationalisation.

* *Ensuring that the involvement and engagement of staff initially in representative pilot sites and then in the subsequent roll out across OBMH deploys proven engaging, cost-effective strategies developed by and for staff.*

To provide structure to staff engagement it is planned to develop an Environmental Management System (EMS). An EMS provides a practical framework for managing energy, water, procurement, waste, land and pollution; providing a common link to the different aspects, procedures, services or activities of an organisation. Other Trusts have put these in place certified to ISO 14001. These Trusts will be contacted to share best practice and to understand how best to proceed.

* *All opportunities to install roof insulation and Voltage Optimisers that deliver a 3-5 year pay back are implemented.*

During FY12 planned investment was used to improve roof insulation within the buildings at the Littlemore site.

**Going forward**

The planning and development requirements of introducing an EMS certified to ISO 14001 will be assessed to identify the work required and the potential benefits.

Informatics plan to invest £35,000 in software designed to monitor activity which will automatically closed down inactive computers. Research has shown if this reaches the Trust’s 3000 plus PCs it has the potential of reducing CO2 emissions by 233 tonnes.

On completion of the BREEAM assessments at Littlemore and Warneford, steps and investment necessary to improve the rating will be identified and supporting action plans will be developed.

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to note the progress reported in this paper.

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1. *A risk assessment has been undertaken around the legal issues that this paper presents and there are no issues that need to be referred to the Trust Solicitors.*