

Join Green Impact Dentistry

An internationally recognised sustainability learning and awards scheme with practical advice and tips for dental practices who want to improve their sustainability and social responsibility.

NHS Net Zero: where to start?

We know that staff working in primary healthcare, want to take action on climate change but they often do not know where to start. Healthcare professionals are becoming aware of NHS Net Zero targets and the emerging Green Plans submitted by Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) and trusts. Healthcare professionals want to be part of the solution working towards local, regional and national ambitions to tackle climate change, but they find it challenging and isolating. Primary care workers want simple, effective, easily-accessible information, and connection with peers who are embarking on the same journey. We believe we have the right tool to accelerate activity towards Net Zero goals and engage staff from across the sector.

What is Green Impact?

[Green Impact](#) is a learning framework developed to support the dental sector to deliver sustainable services that consider the triple-bottom line: balancing the needs of individuals and populations against social, environmental and financial outcomes.

The Green Impact toolkit translates national Net Zero ambitions, latest research and local/regional Green Plan targets into simple, clear actions that can be taken by dental teams and individuals. The sophisticated digital tool monitors engagement and tracks activity as dental teams progress through the recommended actions.

Why get involved Green Impact?

1) Tried and tested

Green Impact is a behaviour change tool that empowers staff to change the way they think and work. Delivered by the charity [SOS-UK](#), Green Impact started as a tool for students' unions, but was quickly tailored to meet interest and demand from primary and secondary healthcare colleagues, as well as many other sectors of society including museums, local councils and research institutes. The tool is designed to make it easy and fun for people to make sustainable, low-carbon choices in their specific healthcare setting. Green Impact has been used with great success by nearly 1,200 organisations across 7 countries reaching 375,000 people.

2) Provides social value

Green Impact provides considerable social value, by bringing local teams together while connecting with the wider community of Green Impact users. It also validates and celebrates progress towards Net Zero ambitions in the form of externally-accredited awards: trained students assess participating organisations against the set criteria, gaining knowledge, skills and experience in industry. Receiving a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Green Impact award demonstrates to staff, patients and suppliers the organisational commitment to sustainable health and care services.

3) Monitor, measure, and adapt

The tool's engagement and activity tracking functions allow organisations to structure, strengthen and regularly review their sustainability efforts. User networks receive regular communications, enabling sharing of

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best practice and professional connection. By being part of this community, healthcare workers gain confidence to take effective, evidenced-based action.

Taking part in Green Impact will enable people in dentistry to embed sustainability, to champion health, wellbeing, and social value, and to connect with others across the sector.

How to access Green Impact?

- ✓ **If you work in General Dental Practice (GDPs):** Any dental practice in England, Scotland or Northern Ireland can now sign-up to Green Impact Dentistry to take part *for free*. [Register your practice here](#) to start making an impact. Both NHS and private practices can participate.
- ✓ **If you lead on sustainability within an ICB,** get in touch with us to discuss how we can promote Green Impact Dentistry across your region to drive Green Plan action, or simply share this document with your practices so they can get started right away!
- ✓ **If you are based in Wales:** All primary care services in Wales can get involved in the [Greener Primary Care Wales programme](#), co-ordinated and funded by Public Health Wales. The tool is offered free of charge to users across the Welsh primary care system. *You can only access one programme so cannot participate in both Greener Primary Care Wales framework and Green Impact Dentistry.*
- ✓ **If you work in General Medical Practice (GPs):** SOS-UK have been running a version of [Green Impact for GPs](#) since 2014, and have over 1,200 practices registered across the UK. This is currently funded by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP). GPs can access the tool for free.
- ✓ If you work elsewhere, please get in touch with hello@sos-uk.org to discuss how we can bring Green Impact to you!

For further information

If you have any questions, please get in touch with us on gidentistry@sos-uk.org



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A healthy smile shouldn't cost the Earth. Take action in your practice and work towards a sustainability award with Green Impact