OVERVIEW

Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB) values the important role sustainability plays in enabling us to operate in a way that meets our present needs without compromising the fabric of the social community, the economy or the natural environment, so that future generations continue to benefit.

HBDHB acknowledges that our vision and values require a healthy natural environment and a well-constructed built environment. Increased climate resilience is also necessary to continue creating a positive impact on overall community health through improved mental health and well-being, improved opportunities for physical activity, improved social contact and improved child development.

KAITIAKITANGA

Many elements of Kaitiakitanga align with the concept of sustainability by acknowledging the mauri and wairua when it comes to our natural resources and environment. HBDHB recognises its responsibility to tāngata whenua to act together as kaitiaki in the active management of our operations in an environmentally sustainable way.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a vision and a set of principles to guide our actions to support sustainability and improve our environmental performance.

In the context of this policy, sustainability refers to environmental sustainability.

PRINCIPLES

In all activities, HBDHB will seek to;

- Minimise harm – Minimising harm to people, the community and the environment. Manage and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.
- Maximise efficiency – Reducing waste through efficient purchasing and processes, including wasted resources (materials, energy, and water), time and money.
- Communicate and educate – Communicate internally and externally on sustainability activities and approaches. Provide information and training to staff on sustainability.
- Assess, measure and evaluate – Continually track, measure and report activities. By measuring our activities, they can be effectively managed and reviewed.
- Improving equity – Improving equity in health outcomes is a strong focus of HBDHB and must be considered in any actions taken regarding sustainability.
- Follow laws and regulations - Ensuring compliance with, and exceeding where practicable, environment and government laws, regulations and codes of practice.
- Apply a whole-of-life view - Having a focus on total cost of ownership view on buildings, products and services procured by or for HBDHB.

- Reduce consumption and packaging - Minimising waste by considering the waste hierarchy before disposal and reducing the consumption of raw materials, disposable single-use products and redundant packaging. Reuse and refurbish whenever possible rather than replace.
- Consider production cycle of goods - Purchasing goods and services that are manufactured, used and disposed of in an environmentally responsible way. Support the use of local and regional materials.
- Lead by example/role modelling – Demonstrate leadership, establish environmental health and sustainability as key priorities and best practice throughout the organisation, sector and within the wider community. Advocate for policy and public funding that supports environmental sustainability.
- Collaborate and build partnerships – Work with other DHBs and agencies; build networks with external organisations and groups.
- Trial new technologies – Trial and integrate new technologies into projects whenever practical.
- Take action – Develop robust business cases, projects and programmes to achieve sustainability outcomes.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all HBDHB staff, external agencies working on behalf or for HBDHB including contractors and sub-contractors in all HBDHB locations.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All HBDHB staff and external agencies working on behalf or for HBDHB are responsible for implementation and compliance with the policy and sustainability plan.

POLICY

HBDHB affirms that a healthy environment is a key foundation for the health and wellbeing of people, and thus environmental sustainability is core to health. We aim to live within our means, and limit the use of natural resources in order to improve the environment whilst ensuring the goals of HBDHB are achieved. HBDHB will foster a culture of environmental sustainability and encourage leadership in sustainability throughout the organisation.

Initial Areas of Focus

Climate change affects the social and environmental determinants of health and HBDHB intends to implement a strong response to climate change.

HBDHB has selected five areas of focus based on their potential financial, equity, efficiency, social and environmental impacts. The intent is to increase resilience and implement both mitigation and adaptation strategies underpinned by cost benefit analysis and co-benefits and financial savings. The following sections outline the policies for each of these areas. It should be noted that these areas of focus are overlapping and should not be viewed or actioned in isolation.

Energy and Carbon Management

HBDHB will prioritise energy efficiency from the outset to manage ongoing energy costs and environmental impact. Unnecessary utilisation and waste will be managed and limited in order

to reduce pollution and carbon emissions. HBDHB will use or procure renewable energy whenever feasible. Ongoing operational costs will be considered alongside initial capital expenditure with a primary focus on total cost of ownership (whole-of-life view).

Sustainable Waste Management

HBDHB seeks to minimise waste generated and therefore costs and environmental impacts. Waste management procedures will seek to improve efficiency, reduce waste, increase reuse and recycling, provide safe and appropriate management of waste for disposal and will not compromise the safety of any person or have an adverse effect on the environment.

Sustainable Water Management

HBDHB will implement water conservation strategies whenever possible including technologically proven devices in all new buildings and refurbishments. Water consumption will be considered in the purchase of new equipment by evaluating water efficiency labelling against other factors.

Sustainable and Efficient Buildings and Site Design

Green building principles have the potential to reduce operation and maintenance costs and reduce the environmental impact of the HBDHB. HBDHB will strive to increase efficiency, cost-effectiveness, flexibility and adaptability, optimise site potential and minimise building footprints, impervious areas and development of the hospital site. Site design will consider sustainable transportation including site circulation for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

Sustainable Transportation and Travel Management

HBDHB seeks to significantly reduce the carbon emissions of commuting, patient travel and avoidable business travel. HBDHB aims to reduce its emission profile of travel by promoting and supporting the use of alternative modes, carpooling and active transport and requiring the purchase or lease of electric or hybrid vehicles when financially viable.

Outcomes

Sustainability will be embedded by all HBDHB staff into their daily activities. All HBDHB staff will have a clear and shared understanding about what it means and how they can apply it to their daily tasks.

We will learn more about sustainability and will apply some of the best available sustainable technologies. We will use realistic performance indicators to measure and report on our progress with sustainability.

MEASUREMENT CRITERIA

All HBDHB staff will strive to measure, track and report environmentally sustainable activities, strategies, initiatives, programmes and projects. The Facilities Management Sustainability Team will endeavour to measure and set targets for reduction and report (annually) on greenhouse gas emissions by participating in an externally audited system, using carbon accounting to the ISO 14064 and greenhouse gas protocol standards, to measure and manage greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The energy management plan will be developed in accordance with the energy management standard ISO 50001.

DEFINITIONS

Carbon footprint
The total amount of greenhouse gases produced to directly and indirectly support human activities, usually expressed in equivalent tons of carbon dioxide (CO2).

Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)
Greenhouse gases refer to carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, ozone and chloro—fluorocarbons occurring naturally and resulting from human activities that absorb infrared radiation, prevent heat from the earth escaping and contributing to the greenhouse effect (global warming).

ISO 14064
Part of the ISO 14000 series of International Standards specifying principles and requirements at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals. It includes requirements for the design, development, management, reporting and verification of an organization's GHG inventory.

ISO 50001
The purpose of this International Standard is to enable organisations to establish the systems and processes necessary to improve energy performance, including energy efficiency, use and consumption. Implementation of this International Standard will allow appropriate management of greenhouse gas emissions and other related environmental impacts and energy cost through systematic management of energy.

Kaitiaki
Trustee, minder, guard, custodian, guardian, caregiver, keeper, steward.

Kaitiakitanga
A built-in reverence, guardianship, stewardship, trusteeship, for the natural environment and for the forces and the resources of nature.

Mauri
Life force, vital essence - the essential quality and vitality of a being or entity.

Sustainability
Living within and respecting environmental limits and preventing environmental harm while providing for our society now and for future generations.

Tāngata whenua
Local people, indigenous people - people born of the whenua.

Wairua
The non-physical spirit or soul which exists beyond death.

REFERENCES

Building Act 2004
Hastings District Council 2014 State of the Environment Report
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
Health & Disability Act 1994
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for Hastings District Council and Napier City Council 2012
Land Transport Act 1998
Land Transport Rule, Dangerous Goods 1999 (Dangerous Goods Rule)
Ministry for the Environment – New Zealand's Greenhouse Gas Inventory
Ministry of Health – Framework for Action on Health and Environment
Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment – Energy in New Zealand 2017
Ministry of Economic Development – New Zealand Energy Strategy 2011-2021
Resource Management Act 1991
The NZ Waste Strategy Towards zero waste and a sustainable New Zealand, M.F.E.
Waste Minimisation Act 2008

Standards

New Zealand Building Code
AS ISO 14064:1, 2, & 3 Greenhouse gases
AS/NZS 4261:1994 (A1) Reusable containers for the collection of sharp items
AS/NZS 4452:1997 The storage and handling of toxic substances
AS/NZS Safety in Laboratories: Chemical aspects
AS/NZS 14001:2016 Environmental management systems
NZS 4304:2002 Management of Healthcare Waste
NZS 5433:1&2 2012 Transport of dangerous goods on land
NZS 8142:2001 Infection Control Audit Workbook
NZS 9201:23 2004 Model General Bylaws – Trade Waste

Related Documents

Hawke's Bay District Health Board, Facilities Management Sustainability Plan
Hawke's Bay DHB (Nov 2015). *Business Case: To Implement a Travel Plan for Hawke's Bay District Health Board*. Hawke's Bay DHB.
Hawke's Bay District Health Board Travel Plan Management Document, 2017
Hawke's Bay District Health Board Travel Plan: Travel Scope, 2016

Related Policies

Asbestos Management Policy – HBDHB/OPM/047
Asset Disposal Policy, Plant and Equipment – HBDHB/OPM/016
Body Parts/Bodily Substance Management Policy - HBDHB/CPG/083
Car Parking Policy – HBDHB/OPM/077
Hazard Management Policy - HBDHB/OPM/050
Hazardous Substances Policy - HBDHB/OPM/041
Health and Safety Policy – HBDHB/OPM/019
Health and Safety Requirements for Contractors and Subcontractors - HBDHB/OPM/049
Motor Vehicle – Use of Policy – HBDHB/OPM/034
Procurement Policy and Procedures – HBDHB/OPM/081
Waste Management Policy – HBDHB/OPM/008

KEY WORDS

Carbon Management
Efficient Buildings
Energy Management
Site Design
Sustainability

Transportation
Travel Management
Waste Management
Water Management
Procurement
Pharmaceuticals
Food

For further information please contact the Sustainability Officer.