



## Bristol Health and Wellbeing Board

Title of Report	<b>Air Quality &amp; Climate Change</b>
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Date of meeting:	<b>25<sup>th</sup> September</b>
For:	<b>Discussion</b>

### 1. Purpose of this Paper

This paper sets out the ambitions of North Bristol NHS Trust for its vehicle fleet. In order to meet the objectives of the NHS Long Term Plan, support the commitments in its Sustainable Development Policy and contribute to air quality improvements in the city, the Trust needs to introduce changes to its current fleet. The Trust is taking this opportunity to update the HWB board of its progress to date and its intentions for the future.

### 2. Executive Summary

The bulk of North Bristol NHS Trust activity is based primarily on the Southmead site however satellite sites exist at Cribbs Causeway, Cossham, Knowle West and Frenchay. We have a fleet of approximately 70 vehicles currently managed by different teams across different departments. There is no minimum vehicle specification and many vehicles are idle for significant portions of the day. We have a high number of business miles due to requirements to visit patients in the community but only 3 pool cars available for this resulting in staff using their own vehicles for business use in most cases. The Trust has made a number of improvements in relation to sustainable travel including: the introduction of 6 electric vehicle charging points, a commitment to adopt the Clean Air Hospitals Framework, free personal travel plans for all staff and patients, 3 hybrid pool cars, a try-before-you-buy loan bike scheme (fleet of 22 bicycles), pool bicycles, monthly free safety checks for staff bicycles, promotion of the 39 buses per hour (peak times) that serve the Southmead site, 50 car-share spaces and a Switch Off campaign.

### 3. Recommendations

The Trust is commencing a scoping study to identify the current vehicles used, lease length, business needs and corresponding infrastructure improvements (e.g. charge points, dedicated fleet vehicle parking etc.) to be able to centralise its fleet. This will allow the specification of more fuel efficient vehicles, ensure greater efficiency of use, reduce management time and enable improved monitoring. The Trust commissioned an Energy Saving Trust fleet review in 2015 the results from which will feed into the study. The recently launched Clean Air Hospital Framework has also provided a list of actions for which an implementation plan will be created.

## **4. Evidence Base**

The problems of air pollution in the city and the impacts on health are well recognised with the current proposals for a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) being the mechanism to address this. As a healthcare facility treating the health conditions that result from poor activity levels and poor air quality, we are morally obliged to take action to encourage more sustainable and active travel and reduce the impacts from our own vehicles. We also recognise that this is a region wide issue so have been working with NHS partners across the BNSSG area, through the Sustainability and Health Group, to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan. The actions which result from a region wide risk assessment will include identifying fleet improvements.

## **5. City Benefits**

The Trust's work will result in improved fuel efficiency and air quality together with a reduced contribution to climate change. This in turn supports the Bristol One City Plan and the national Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health and Social Care System, whilst enabling the Trust to work towards achieving targets in the NHS Long Term Plan and the Climate Change Act. More efficient vehicles will also reduce the financial impact to the Trust of staff travel into the proposed CAZ in the centre of Bristol.

## **6. Financial and Legal Implications**

Not applicable.

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix 1. North Bristol NHS Trust's Travel Plan 2019-2023