

Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2025–2030

HEALTHY PEOPLE | HEALTHY PLANET | HEALTHY FUTURE

Our commitment

We inspire and empower our people to engage in environmentally sustainable practices to safeguard our community, our planet and our future

Acknowledgement of Country

Sunshine Coast Health respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Kabi Kabi/Gubbi Gubbi and Jinibara people on whose land we provide our services. We also pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present, and future. We recognise the strength and resilience that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their ancestors have displayed in laying strong foundations for the generations that follow.

Message from the Board Chair and Chief Executive

Sunshine Coast Health’s values of Integrity, Compassion, Accountability and Innovation uphold and guide our ambition to provide more environmentally sustainable healthcare.

We acknowledge that our services are energy and resource intensive, contributing to the increasing impacts of climate change on population health.

Our Strategic Actions are aimed at achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 in line with the Queensland Government objectives, and our membership of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network.

We are embedding research and innovation, to stand among Australia’s cleanest and greenest health services leading the way to a healthier future for our people and planet.

Dr Peter Gillies
Chief Executive, Sunshine Coast Health

Dr David Rowlands OAM
Board Chair, Sunshine Coast Health

Sunshine Coast Health



Queensland Government

In line with the Sunshine Coast Health Strategic Plan we are minimising our impact on the environment to enable health and wellbeing for generations to come, in the following key focus areas:

Our care

- delivering high quality sustainable health care
- collaborating with our peak bodies, consumers and partners to ensure alignment with contemporary sustainability practice and standards

Our people

- strengthening our environmental governance, leadership and accountability
- inspiring, educating, and empowering our workforce

Our sustainability

- managing our resources responsibly
- reducing our emissions in alignment with Queensland Government targets and the Global Green and Healthy Hospital Agenda goals

Our future

- strengthening our adaptation and resilience to climate change impacts
- embracing sustainability focussed innovation and research



Our Strategic Actions

Our care		Our people		Our sustainability		Our future	
We aim to							
• <i>deliver high quality sustainable health care</i> • <i>collaborate with peak bodies, consumers and partners to ensure alignment with contemporary sustainability practice and standards</i>		• <i>strengthen our environmental governance, leadership and accountability</i> • <i>inspire, educate, and empower our workforce</i>		• <i>manage our resources responsibly</i> • <i>reduce our emissions in alignment with Queensland Government targets and the Global Green and Healthy Hospital Agenda goals</i>		• <i>strengthen our adaptation and resilience to climate change impacts</i> • <i>embrace sustainability focussed innovation and research</i>	
Actions							
Continually evaluate the environmental impact of the services we provide Provide high–value low-carbon care pathways Reduce low value care and unwarranted clinical variation Ensure antimicrobial stewardship Embed disease prevention and wellbeing strategies within models of care Strengthen partnerships and collaboration with our peak bodies, consumers and local, state, national and international partners	Provide leadership to address environmental sustainability and climate resilience Maintain a multidisciplinary environmental sustainability leadership committee Embed sustainability within Quality Improvement Engage with local traditional custodians, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and incorporating traditional knowledge into our practice Establish an environmental sustainability community of practice that grows our sustainability champions network and unit based green teams, and celebrates stainability initiatives Engage and support clinicians	Set aspirational and achievable goals towards achieving the Queensland Government Target for Zero net emissions by 2050 Measure, monitor, report and communicate our environmental performance Utilise the Department of Health Energy and Environmental Management System Detailed work plans are aligned with the 10 Global Green and Healthy Hospital Agenda goals: leadership, purchasing; waste; energy; water; facilities; transport; food; pharmaceuticals and chemicals	Align with the Queensland Government Climate Strategies Engage with research and industry partners Encourage / foster creativity and imagination Strive to know more, learn more and do better				
Measures							
A mechanism for environmental impact assessment is implemented in 2025, evaluated and monitored Carbon footprint analysis / benchmarking of services and practices is undertaken in 2025 and monitored Expansion of telehealth and virtual care pathways Models of care reflect disease prevention and wellbeing strategies Evidence of consumer engagement / representation in the Environmental Sustainability Committee and forums. Evidence of Sunshine Coast Health’s collaboration and representation at local / state / and national forums	The Environmental Sustainability Leadership Strategy and plans are published and accessible There is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation in the Environmental Sustainability Committee and forums The Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) provides guidance and monitors sustainability actions A Community of Practice forum is established, meets regularly and reports to the ESC The number of staff identifying as Sustainability Champions increases year on year. A register of environmental sustainability focussed initiatives is maintained and assessed	Environmental Sustainability reporting through the governance structure. Parameters reflect emissions reduction from baseline year on year Workplans for leadership, purchasing, waste, energy, water, facilities, transport, food pharmaceuticals and chemicals include targets and timeframes which are tracked and updated annually.	The Sunshine Coast Health Climate risk profile is reviewed annually Climate Risk is incorporated in Business Continuity Plans Climate Risk / Hazard Management Plans are developed in 2025/26 The number of Environmental Sustainability focussed research projects completed or in progress increases. Environmental Sustainability focussed innovations are submitted and or feature in the Sunshine Coast Health innovation showcase and tournaments annually.				

