

Environmental Sustainability Mission Statement



Our climate is changing, and the National Care Forum (NCF) wants to ensure that the not-for-profit sector is ready to lead the way in mitigating and adapting to this change. We're passionate about creating a better future for our members and those they support, and to promote a clean, safe and healthy environment for people to live and work in.

Climate change and the degradation of the natural environment poses a substantial threat to human health and wellbeing globally. It is crucial for the sustainability of the care and support sector that we learn to meet the needs of the current generation without compromising our ability to meet the needs of future generations.

Our responsibility to the environment has become increasingly apparent in recent years, with the direction of future policy and legislation clear. Environmental sustainability is appearing on the agenda for regulatory bodies and commissioners, financial partners and those receiving and seeking care. The landscape is rapidly changing and providers have an opportunity to get ahead of the curve.

Embracing the transition to a low carbon society and committing to protecting and regenerating our natural environment brings holistic benefits to health and wellbeing; potential cost savings and opportunities to access green finance; and improved efficiency and optimisation.

Not-for-profit social care providers – as trusted institutions in each and every community - are well placed to act as part of this global shift. Similarly, NCF – as the membership body - is equipped with the influence, connections and expertise to drive change across the sector.

We are committed to:

- Supporting members on their environmental sustainability journeys.
- Embedding environmental sustainability into all our internal operations.
- The co-development of ideas and solutions, giving a voice to the workforce and those drawing on care and support in the green transition.

We aim to do this by:

- Establishing connections with networks and alliances dedicated to environmental sustainability in adult social care.
- Creating a dedicated network for environmental sustainability for members.
- Mapping our membership's progress and identifying challenges and opportunities.
- Building on this insight - Generating resources supporting members to respond to the environmental sustainability and climate change challenges.
- Facilitating peer learning, the sharing of data and information, and creating channels for voicing concerns.
- Using our influence to direct the policy and regulatory landscape.
- Advocating for support from the government in the form of a national action plan for a greener social care sector, backed up by capital funding.
- Engaging with research and innovation to ensure new approaches are developed for sustainable development in social care.
- Leading by example - Reviewing NCF policies to embed environmental sustainability, creating an action plan to improve internal practices and seeking greener partners.