

The Cornwall Primary Care Climate and Health Resilience

# ATLAS

: where we have got to, and where we're going next ...



# Contents

## Our 6 co-benefits of action



Climate benefit



Financial benefit



Health benefit



Ecological benefit



System benefit



Community benefit

“

The energy your team has, and the work you do, on such small resources– the impact you have had is incredible, it's not just in Cornwall, it's the wider SW, I can go to any team in the SW and talk about the Cornwall team, and they all say “yes, we know!!”  
Greener NHS SW

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Our 15 Action Priority Areas, each with 5 impactful sub-actions



# Introduction

Climate and ecological breakdown is here. It's a biggie. And it's already knocking lumps out of our infrastructure, our natural ecosystems, and having devastating impacts on human beings across the planet. It is impacting the health of the planet, the health of our communities, and - crucially for us all - the ability of our health care systems to cope with the consequences. It's what our new NHS Green Plan will encourage us all to take action on.

And the truth is, all health care uses resources, and contributes to emissions and pollution. We contribute about the same as aviation, or IT; and of course we pollute our natural systems with all our drugs, and packaging, and travel. It makes sense for health care to do 3 incredibly important things:

- 1: **reduce the negative environmental impact of our work**, so we are contributing to the solution, not the cause of the problem
- 2: **adapt to existing climate breakdown impacts** such as extreme weather on our systems, our people, and our communities;
- 3: **show the way forward, by investing in robust health creation** to reduce preventable disease, improve the health of our people and communities, and - in turn - reduce the demand for carbon intensive health care.

**Three big asks.** But maybe not as overwhelming as we fear. Because we've already started - all you need to do is decide how to join in.

Volunteer Cornwall's Climate Resilience Team, funded by CIOS ICB, has been working across our statutory and community sector health providers, to accelerate awareness, inspire action and double down on resilience, to further those three powerful responses to the challenge.

Our team sees **health creation** as the more ambitious sister of "prevention". It's not just stopping people falling sick; it's the deliberate pro-active creation of the space, organisations, processes and infrastructure that build communities *in which it's easier to be healthy, than it is to be sick.*

That means the homes, green spaces, connectivity, biodiversity, water systems, food systems, shared assets, culture, systems and people required to keep everyone well, and help us recover quickly and easily should we fall sick.

# The Good News

The really good news is that getting stuck into action on the climate and nature crisis is simultaneously tackling our 6 huge system challenges.



1: **Carbon and climate benefits:** changing how we travel, what we prescribe, how we use our buildings, the waste we create, the energy we use all reduces carbon emissions, and reduces the pollution we cause. And a healthy planet means healthy people. Bingo.



2: **Ecological benefits:** taking action to reduce our impact improves air quality, water quality, biodiversity in ways which improve our own health



3: **Cost savings:** we know more efficient buildings, systems and process reduce wasted materials, energy and space – and that saves us money



4: **Staff benefits:** Rolling up our sleeves and getting stuck in makes us feel more powerful, more creative and like we're working with others on something positive, helps us benefit from greener and more active working conditions, and reduced demand through health creation at source



5: **Health benefits:** focussing on health creation, such as enabling more people to have access to green space, cycling and walking opportunities, or good food, means they don't get as sick from preventable conditions – and don't need as much health care



6: **Community benefit:** investing in the ability of our communities to keep us well – by doing exactly the things we note above – means the community becomes a place where it's easier to be, and stay well, than it is to be sick.

So read on. We've already started. Our Green Plan will create the systems we need.

And this Atlas will look back at what we have achieved; and look forward to where we intend to go. There's no stopping Cornwall now.



# 6 co-benefits: joining the dots

“ You guys are an inspiration, just brilliant, just amazing positive energy, all the connections I have made thanks to you guys!  
ICB member (SW)

01

## Protecting our climate

Reducing carbon emissions and improving our understanding



Climate benefit

02

## Restoring our ecology

Reducing our levels of pollution and ecosystem damage to restore nature



Ecological benefit

03

## Saving our money

Saving money on energy and resources



Financial benefit

04

## Caring for our health system

Investing in health creation to reduce system demand and care for our staff



System benefit

05

## Improving our health

Optimising green activity to improve health for staff and patients



Health benefit

06

## Building our communities

Investing in our communities to be places where healthiness thrives



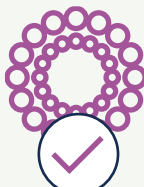
Community benefit

# 01

## Declaring the emergency

☺☺ Thank you on behalf of everyone for all of your help over the past few years with our green impact work, we couldn't have done it without you!  
Compliance Manager

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:



## KEY FACTS

**Acknowledging the crisis is the first step in doing something about it.**

**Business, universities, town councils, HM Government and NHS Trusts – including our Cornish Trusts – have declared a climate emergency. We’re helping primary care GP practices do the same.**

## THE NUMBERS

# 22%

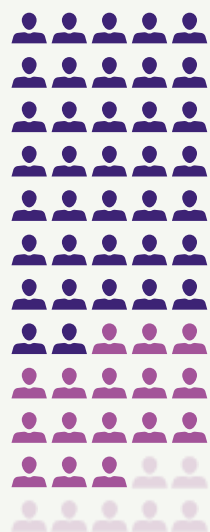
Cornish practices have now declared a climate emergency

JANUARY 2025

## FEEDBACK

# 2 out of 3

Cornish health professional respondents to our 2024 survey strongly agree that the climate emergency is a health emergency

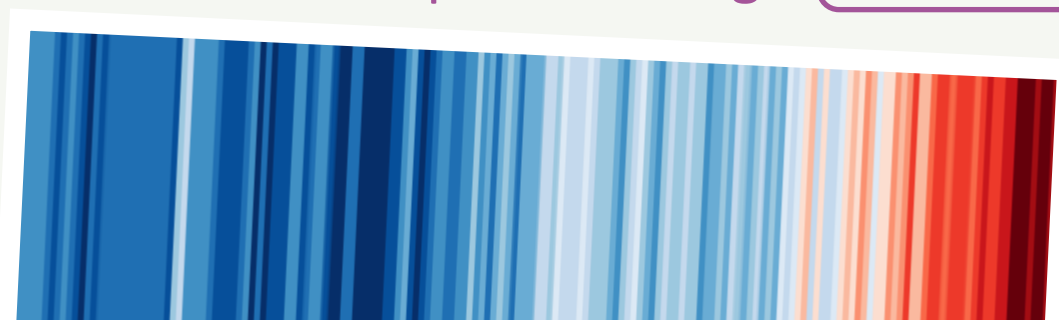


88% of respondents agree or strongly agree that:

*“It’s important to me that my employer takes action to reduce its carbon and ecological impact for our patients’ wellbeing, not just because of our responsibilities within our NHS Net Zero plan.”*

The Climate Stripes of Change

[READ MORE →](#)



92% of respondents to our 2024 survey agree or strongly agree that

“

*I am concerned about the impact of climate change on our patients’ health, especially our most vulnerable patients.*

## OTHER RESEARCH

[READ MORE →](#)

Tackling green issues improves recruitment and attracts more talent.

[READ MORE →](#)

Greener Practice UK Resources

## NEXT STEP

**Declare now**

Use the template below!

[READ MORE →](#)

[JOIN IN! →](#)

**2030 Target**

# 100%

**of all Cornish practices declaring the emergency – and the action they’re taking**

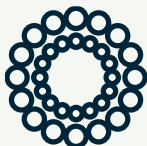


# 02

## Decarbonising our inhalers

“ It is so great to see all the work going on in Cornwall - we are not doing anything like this in the Midlands (yet) but you give us hope. Keep up the great work!!

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





## KEY FACTS

Around  
**3%**

of NHS emissions come from the inhalers prescribed for respiratory conditions. Extreme weather impacts breathing. Now there's an irony...

[READ MORE →](#)

## FEEDBACK

“Fantastic to see these incredible figures from Cornwall practices. They are leading the way nationally in achieving high quality and low carbon asthma care.

Dr Aarti Bansal, creator,  
UK Asthma Toolkit

## THE NUMBERS

**81%**

Cornish practices now active on low carbon inhaler support

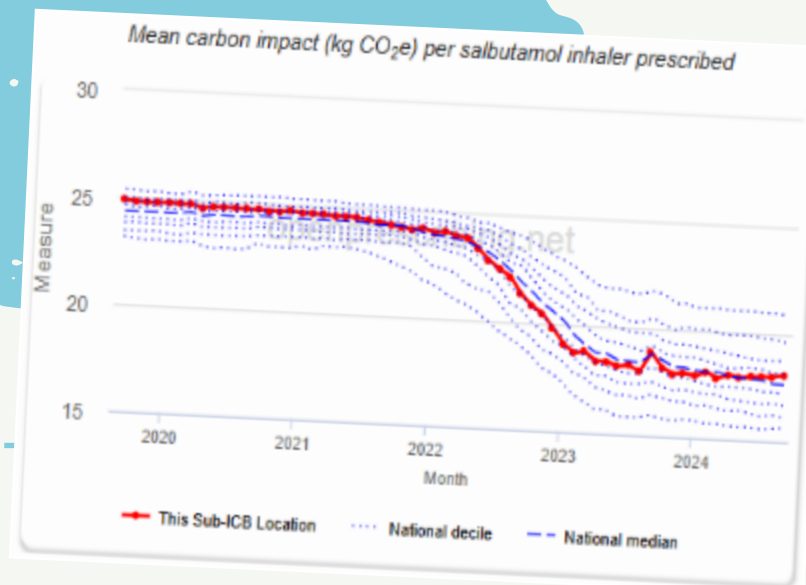
**149,463kg**

CO2 saved 2022-24 via low carbon inhaler action across Cornwall – same as 500,000 miles in medium petrol car

[READ MORE →](#)

**7.5%**

Cornish residents age 6+ being prescribed asthma medication between 2021/22, versus 6.5% across England



CLOS ICB carbon impact per inhaler prescribed

## OTHER RESEARCH

MCF Classifier

[READ MORE →](#)

Low carbon asthma care

[READ MORE →](#)

Impact of extreme weather on asthma

[READ MORE →](#)

Impact of active travel on respiratory health

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

**2030 Target**

**100%**

of all Cornish practices supporting low carbon inhaler use and active lifestyles

[JOIN IN! →](#)



# 03

## Controlling our carbon footprint

“ I attended the Net Zero Clinical Care conference and would love to sign up to your newsletter! My team were super impressed with the work happening in Cornwall. I think we were lucky enough to meet some of your team at our Trust at an event earlier this year.”  
North Bristol NHS Trust

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





## KEY FACTS

The carbon footprint of an average GP appointment is

**6kgCO<sub>2</sub>e**

Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions  
(18 kg with prescribing)

Average elective inpatient stay is estimated at

**708kgCO<sub>2</sub>e**

Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions  
(not including patient, visitor or staff travel)

## THE NUMBERS

**29%**

of Cornish practices now engaged in carbon footprinting

**8**

Cornish practices now using Ecosia as their search engine



The Cornwall Climate Resilient team is now certified Carbon Literate, and the winner of CSA 2024 Carbon Positive Award.

## FEEDBACK

**88% of respondents to our 2024 survey agree or strongly agree that**

“It's important to me that my employer takes action to reduce its carbon and ecological impact for our patients' wellbeing, not just because of our responsibilities within our NHS Net Zero plan.”

## OTHER RESEARCH

What is your business's carbon footprint?

[READ MORE →](#)

GP Carbon

[READ MORE →](#)

Greener Practice UK Resources

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

**2030 TARGET** Cornish practices undertaking annual carbon footprints

**100%**

[JOIN IN! →](#)

# 04

## Optimising our energy

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





## KEY FACTS

*Up to £22k  
annual savings  
identified per practice*

Our innovative partnership with Cornish charity CEP has delivered low-cost energy audits for Cornish practices, showing how to reduce energy, cost and carbon. Average savings per practice of around £4K per year can be achieved – even more with further action based on the clear recommendations.

## FEEDBACK

“Having this [audit result] written down in black and white is exactly what I need to encourage the partners to take crucial action on our energy use. Mid Cornwall Practice Manager

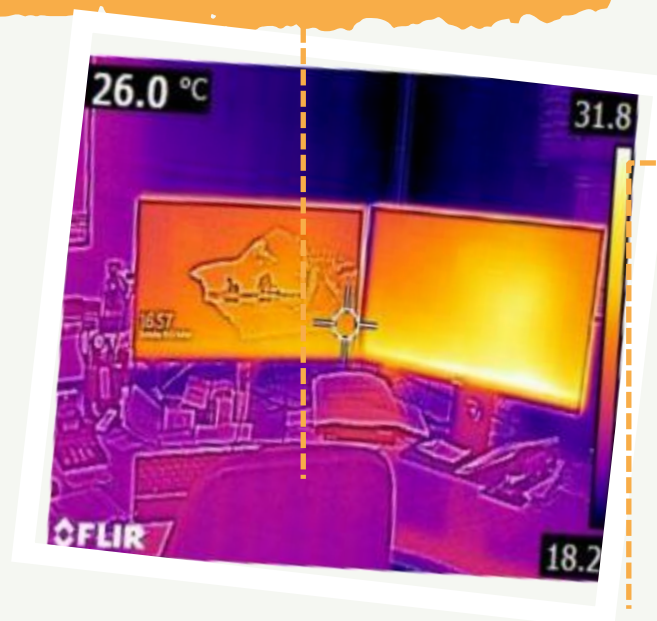
## THE NUMBERS

42%

% of Cornish practices supported via energy audit

£88,319

Total recurrent yearly savings identified so far



456 tonnes

Co2 savings identified; potential for 65% energy and cost reduction per year via recommendations offered

*Of practices audited already:  
96% need renewable energy tariff  
100% need LED installed with PIR  
100% need to upgrade insulation  
and draughtproofing*

## OTHER RESEARCH

Emissions in 2023

[READ MORE →](#)

CEP

[READ MORE →](#)

Greener Practice  
UK Resources

[READ MORE →](#)

GP Carbon

[READ MORE →](#)

CSE

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

**2030 TARGET:**

100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

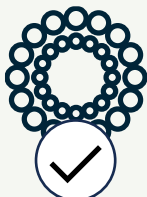
Cornish practices to have undertaken energy audits; 50% of savings accrued  
Invested in health creation



# 05

## Greening up our banking

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





## KEY FACTS

# 71tonnes

A surgery with 10,000 patients produces 71 tonnes of CO2 per year on average, simply through its banking choices

# £37bn

In 2022 alone, the five big UK high street banks (Barclays, HSBC, Santander, Lloyds, and NatWest) provided £37 billion of financial support to fossil fuel companies.

## FEEDBACK

More than 1 in 4 respondents to our 2024 survey are already changing their own or practice banking choices

## THE NUMBERS

# £1.4bn

Total CIOS annual budget, held by banks at every step in the system

# 22%

Of Cornish practices are now considering their banking

# £924,180

Core annual PCN funding which could be invested in clean banking

## Bodriggy Health Centre, Hayle!

First Cornwall general practice to shift to clean banking: 2024

In October 2024 the **BMJ** announced that it was banning advertising from all banks that fund fossil fuel companies

## OTHER RESEARCH

Moneytree for impact data

[READ MORE →](#)

Staffing figures 2024

[READ MORE →](#)

Make money matter

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

## 2030 TARGET:

# 50%

[READ MORE →](#)

Cornish practices to be banking clean and investing their finances in a healthy future for all

# 06

## Optimising our prescribing

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

20%

Pharmaceuticals contribute around 20% of the NHS carbon footprint, of which 79% is prescribed in primary care and community services, 13% in acute services and 5% in mental health services.

## FEEDBACK

“

*I was chatting to a team in Northamptonshire on Monday who've been watching Cornwall from afar and are taking you as their [green] gold standard – so hope you're well and looking after yourself too”*  
Principal Pharmacist, ICB (SW)

## THE NUMBERS

74%

Cornish practices are working on optimising their prescribing, and reducing waste

70%

Cornish practices are using green social prescribing to support patients

18

Cornish practices are now prioritising work on reducing polypharmacy and waste

12

Cornish practices are using funding we have helped secure to improve social prescribing options

## OTHER RESEARCH

Deb Gompertz - Show me your meds

[READ MORE →](#)

Dorset repeat prescription programme

[READ MORE →](#)

Drug pollution in rivers

[READ MORE →](#)

Greener Practice UK Resources

[READ MORE →](#)

Extreme heat impact on medication

[READ MORE](#)

## NEXT STEP

## 2030 TARGET:

100%

[READ MORE →](#)

Cornish practices working on decarbonising and optimising their prescribing

# 07

## Engaging our patients

“ Helping patients understand and respond to the health impacts of the climate emergency is part of our duty of care.

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

Climate change is arguably the most significant global health threat of the 21st century. Engaging our patients in our task to care for human and planetary health is key. Primary care is a fundamental part of our communities. Climate impacts are a collective threat; climate resilience is a collective endeavour.

## FEEDBACK

84% of respondents to our 2024 survey agree or strongly agree that

“Helping patients understand and respond to the health impacts of the climate emergency is part of our duty of care.”

55% of respondents to our 2024 survey agree or strongly agree that

“I am concerned about the impact of climate change on our patients' health, especially our most vulnerable patients.”

## OTHER RESEARCH

[READ MORE →](#)

Communicating with your patients

[READ MORE →](#)

World Health Organisation: climate threat

## NEXT STEP

**2030 TARGET:**

**100%**

[READ MORE →](#)

Cornish practices actively working with staff and patients on climate resilience

## THE NUMBERS

**71%**

Cornish practices are using social media, PPGs and community groups to connect with their patients

**64%** respondents to our 2024 survey have had, or would like, support from the team on how best to communicate with colleagues and patients on climate action

**22** Cornish practices are now working with their PPGs to develop and deliver green actions



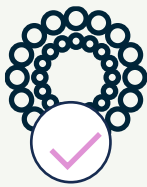


# 08

## Activating our travel

“ It’s fantastic to be able to offer this e-bike to our hard-working staff! Practice Manager on receipt of ebike grant

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

# 30 minutes

of daily exercise have an enormous impact on a wide range of physical and mental health conditions. So we're leveraging our health estate, and our community partnerships, to make that happen more and more easily.

## FEEDBACK



“The bike racks have encouraged me to cycle more than I drive, now; having a secure place to lock the bike up is reassuring; and I've noticed more people cycling now than previously. GP, Redruth, on new cycle racks.



## THE NUMBERS

# 76%

Cornish practices now working on active travel with staff and patients

# £32k

applied for, secured and invested in primary care active travel to improve existing infrastructure

9 “Beautiful Day Out” hand drawn maps installed in GP practice

36 New bike sheds and types of cycling kit installed in Cornish practices for staff and patients

8 Dr Bike Repair sessions run at GP practices

5 Tonnes CO2 saved annually by one Green Pioneer practice using e-bikes and active travel

## OTHER RESEARCH

National Library of Medicine

[READ MORE →](#)

Exercise: the miracle cure

[READ MORE →](#)

NHS Scotland active travel

[READ MORE →](#)

Pedal power for cleaner healthcare delivery

[VIEW VIDEO →](#)

## NEXT STEP

## 2030 TARGET

# 100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Of all Cornish practices actively promoting active travel for staff and patients; with messaging and kit.





# 09

## 3Rs:

**REDUCE**  
**REUSE**  
**RECYCLE**

“

*I wish I had more time to spend on this as I really feel passionate about this. Well done to you and the team for what you have helped to achieve so far!*  
Strategic Business Manager, North Cornwall Coast PCN

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS



## THE NUMBERS

# 72%

Cornish practices now working on reducing, reusing and recycling

# £11,400

Funding raised for and invested in reusable primary care equipment such as: reusable coil fitting kit, insulated cups for staff and vulnerable patients, menstrual products, hygiene packs, and medication bags for street homeless people

## Current live programmes:

- Only Order What You Need: meds waste reduction
- Waste Audit delivery
- Food Waste Reduction
- Waste Action Network

### Waste Audit

One practice found that about a third of the waste in the rubbish bins could have been recycled or composted!

# 66%

Cornish practices now equipped with Refactory Boxes for Hard to Recycle Items

## FEEDBACK

### Response from West practice manager to team's support on waste:

“The work that you and Debbie did (on the Waste Audit) was really helpful with this change. We have a compost bin now and staff are using the food waste bin, and we are doing much better with separating our recycling out of the general waste.”

## OTHER RESEARCH

### Drug pollution

[READ MORE →](#)

### Microplastics are everywhere

[READ MORE →](#)

### Microplastics and cardiovascular risk

[READ MORE →](#)

### The hidden cost of plastic in healthcare

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

### 2030 TARGET

# 100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Of all Cornish practices actively reducing clinical and non clinical waste and linked health inequalities, and supporting Only Order What You Need Campaign



# 10

## Greener Impact for Health Toolkit

“ Our Gold Award is fantastic news – very well done indeed. Really proud of you. Can we add this to the practice website, please? And another one for the CQC file of pride.  
Penzance practice partner

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





#### KEY FACTS

# 36%

of all national platinum Toolkit Awards – the highest Award – have gone to Cornish practices



#### FEEDBACK

Senior practice staff at news of securing Gold Award

*Great teamwork - brilliant result. Thank-you. Huge thanks to Annette Eatock at Volunteer Cornwall for sore-thumbing and steering us through. There's no reason why all three practices can't be right up the leaderboard for next year ...*

#### THE NUMBERS

# 67%

Cornish practices now actively working on the Toolkit in 2024

4 Platinum  
8 Gold  
6 Silver  
5 Bronze

# 57: 1%

Cornwall's 57 practices make up less than 1% of total UK practices- but the 23 Cornish Awards equate to 14% of all Awards nationally.

# 23: 14%

#### OTHER RESEARCH

[READ MORE →](#)

[Greener Practice UK Resources](#)

[READ MORE →](#)

[Greener Practice UK Toolkit Link](#)

#### NEXT STEP

**2030 TARGET**

# 100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Cornish practices using the Toolkit and other emerging tools to reduce negative impacts, improve resilience to climate breakdown and support health creation



# 11



## Green Spaces for Health: String of Green Pearls

“ I think you have started something now; all the team love the garden and are itching to get out there helping to keep it up!  
N&E Practice staff

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

23%

A view of nature for NHS staff can reduce staff sickness by 23%; yet only 35% of households with annual income below £10,000 are within 10 minute walk of accessible natural green space

35%

## NUMBERS

35%

Cornish practices, and RCHT and CPFT now participating in our String of Green Pearls programme, developing green spaces for health for staff and patients



JANUARY 2025



100%

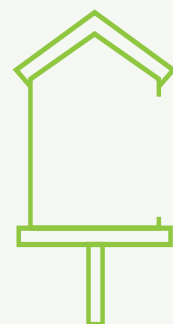
Staff and visitors asked at a secondary care site in 2024 wanted more access to its green spaces; 51% did not know where they were



Cornwall has 2 official NHS Forests sites



60% of respondents to our 2024 survey say their workplace is now creating more habitat friendly space outside, from bird boxes to sensory garden areas for patients



## NHS Forests

Team helped Penntorr Health's Wellbeing Garden win the 2024 Collaborative Green Space Projects Award



## Feedback

“I was sort of not coping a 100% during the last 3 years...I think people need a way to contribute, and find a way to take part, and be a productive human being, and be actually part of life, and for me [the new community garden project], it's just a starting point for me to realise my potential.”

Green Space Participant, Roseland



## OTHER RESEARCH

NHS Forest Space to Breathe Report

[READ MORE →](#)

NHS Forest

[READ MORE →](#)

A Natural Health Service: The Wildlife Trusts

[READ MORE →](#)



## NEXT STEP

2030 TARGET

100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Cornish practices developing green spaces for staff, patient, visitor and planetary health



# 12

## Food for people and planet

“ How does it make me feel to be able to offer WellFed to my patients? Absolutely amazing!  
Dietician, Mid Cornwall

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





## KEY FACTS

Cornwall has significant and increasing levels of T2 diabetes, obesity and malnutrition.

People with malnutrition are more likely to visit their GP, be admitted to hospital and recover from treatment more slowly. Research estimates that the additional cost of malnutrition is £7,775 per person p/year at a total cost to the healthcare system in England of £22.6 billion.

[READ MORE](#)

## FEEDBACK

*"I'm cooking from scratch and eating more healthily. It's made me love my food even more. Some of the veg I've never seen before and had to google! It's been great being part of a team and has really improved my mental health. I just feel I fit. It's made me look at the environment and what I'm eating. I always leave feeling positive! WellFed Participant*

## THE NUMBERS

47%

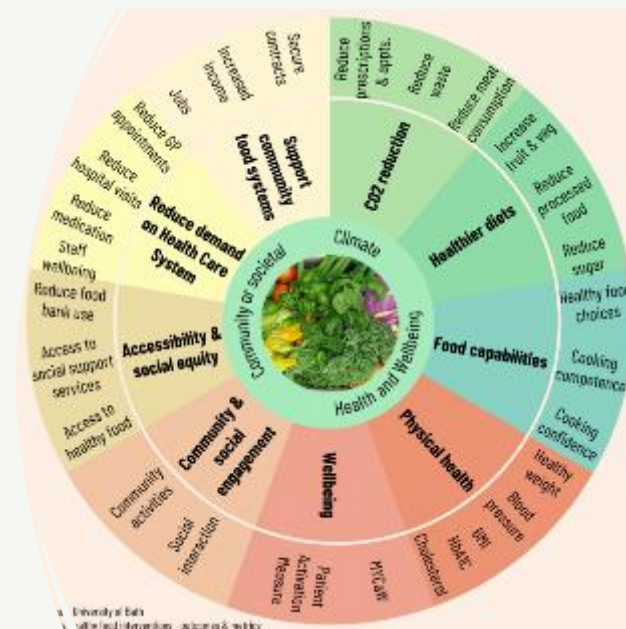
Cornish practices now working on low carbon and pro-nature food initiatives for staff and patients

9 Cornish practices involved in health-creating WellFed programme

9 Number of WellFed human and community co-benefits to be tracked by Universities of Bath and Cardiff

£90k

Non ICB monies secured for WellFed as key low carbon, pro-nature, health creation programme



## OTHER RESEARCH

The Lancet

[READ MORE →](#)

Sustain: Bridging the Gap

[READ MORE →](#)

Fruit & veg on prescription

[READ MORE →](#)

Alexandra Rose Voucher Scheme

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

2030 TARGET

100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Cornish practices offering food, learning and activity in our community based green growing spaces as part of health care, and health creation

# 13

## Connecting with our community

“ We wouldn't have been able to do anything without the team – Emily is amazing!”  
Cornish GP

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?





KEY FACTS

GP practices aren't isolated islands in an ocean - they're a deep-rooted part of a complex community. Making the most of that role, and collaborating with communities on health, climate and nature, is worth its weight in gold ...

FEEDBACK

“It’s been amazing to get to know the people on the Well Fed programme, they have become part of life on the farm. Two of the participants are carrying on volunteering with us after the box on prescription ended, which is wonderful. We will be running another group later this year and we can’t wait to meet our new group!

WellFed Community Food Grower Participant

THE NUMBERS

69%

Cornish practices now working in collaboration with their community on health and climate

9 Cornish practices are working with community growing schemes on food

8 Cornish practices are working with community schemes on green spaces

42%

Cornish practices are working with Cornwall’s community energy charity

6

Cornish practices and our main hospital are working with community artists on engagement with health and nature

4

Cornish practices are working with community cycling schemes

OTHER RESEARCH

Community Connection

READ MORE →

Health Creation Alliance

READ MORE →

Greener Practice UK Resources

READ MORE →

NEXT STEP

2030 TARGET

85%

JOIN IN! →

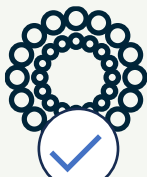
Cornish practices are actively working with their community on climate resilience and health creation

# 14

## Learning and leading

“ You guys are amazing - well done for all your hard work.....found joining in the group really helpful and our new green group in the practice working on silver is using lots of your ideas. Thank you. x  
**Clinical Pharmacist, Derbyshire**

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

UN: "Education is a critical agent in addressing the issue of climate change .... Education can encourage people to change their attitudes and behavior; it also helps them to make informed decisions. "

[READ MORE →](#)

## FEEDBACK

Respondents to our 2024 survey ....

“ 66% say taking climate action gives our team a sense of positive collective effort at a demanding time

67% say taking climate action said it makes them feel part of a bigger, positive network which is uplifting

72% would welcome more, or lots more, climate leadership across the ICS

## THE NUMBERS

# 72%

Cornish practices now working on increasing communication, training and learning as part of their climate resilience leadership role

*"Cornwall is the inspiration for everyone!"*  
*GP, Yorkshire*

# 65%

Of respondents to our 2024 survey say taking action on climate makes them "feel more positive that we can change things for the better"

# 498

Members of our Cornwall Greener Practice Network, sharing learning and expertise locally and nationally

# 90+

Hours of online Learning and Information Exchange delivered to clinical and non-clinical staff

## OTHER RESEARCH

Greener Practice UK Resources

[READ MORE →](#)

RCGP Hub

[READ MORE →](#)

SEE Sustainability

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

## 2030 TARGET

# 85%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Cornish practices are actively investing time in learning, training and communication on climate resilience



# 15

## Advocating for climate resilient health creation

“It just feels like a really good thing to be doing; I love it. It's really good for staff morale. So thank you!”  
Cornish GP

How many co-benefits does this action deliver?:





## KEY FACTS

“Improved awareness will also help health-care professionals to provide leadership in supporting rapid and comprehensive strategies for mitigation and adaptation that will both improve health and reduce vulnerability.”  
World Health Organisation

## THE NUMBERS

47%

Cornish practices are now advocating for change in their organisation, practice, PCN, ICA or beyond

[Join our mailing list →](#)

88%

Of respondents to our 2024 survey agree that the climate and ecological emergency is also a health emergency.

91%

Of respondents to our 2024 survey agree that they are concerned about impact of climate change on patient's health, especially most vulnerable

[Green Rocket Fuel newsletter →](#)

126

Presentations locally, regionally and nationally by the Climate Resilience Team to date

## FEEDBACK

“It is so great to see all the work going on in Cornwall - we are not doing anything like this in the Midlands (yet) but you give us hope. Keep up the great work!!”

“You guys are an inspiration, just brilliant, just amazing positive energy, all the connections I have made thanks to you guys!”  
ICB member (SW)

## OTHER RESEARCH

[Advocacy for Action on Climate Change and Health](#)

[READ MORE →](#)

[How to communicate about climate change with patients](#)

[READ MORE →](#)

## NEXT STEP

**2030 TARGET**

100%

[JOIN IN! →](#)

Cornish practices are actively advocating for climate resilience and health creation

# Glossary

## Carbon footprint

The amount of carbon emitted by an individual or organisation in a given period of time, or the amount of carbon emitted during the manufacture of a product.

## Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

Carbon dioxide is a gas in the Earth's atmosphere. It occurs naturally and is also a by-product of human activities such as burning fossil fuels. It is the principal greenhouse gas produced by human activity.

## Global heating

The steady rise in global average temperature in recent decades, which experts believe is largely caused by man-made greenhouse gas emissions. The long-term trend continues upwards, they suggest, even though the warmest year on record, according to the UK's Met Office, is 1998.

## Climate and ecological resilience

The ability to withstand climate breakdown and ecological breakdown impacts such as extreme and changing weather, or damage to wildlife, our water and soil, all of which affect humans, our natural systems, and our health systems

## Health creation

The creation of systems, processes, institutions and partnerships that enable people, and communities, manage their lives and create communities where it is easier to be well, than it is to be sick

## Net Zero

A target of completely negating the amount of greenhouse gases produced by human activity, to be achieved by reducing emissions dramatically, and implementing methods of absorbing the small remainder of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

“*Cornwall & SW Health & Climate Resilience Network have been leading the way in creating not only net zero care but care that also improves communities, focusses on and engages primary care at a challenging time. They have worked well with Greener Practice to share and spread their message amongst our network - creating ripple effects from Cornwall across the country*

*Dr Tamsin Ellis, GP, Director Greener Practice, Associate Centre for Sustainable Healthcare*



# The P word!



## Public Health Team

Our PH colleagues are critical allies in funding activity, such as the Green Genius projects, and contributions to staff roles; working with us on polypharmacy and waste reduction; and ensuring we are aware of new funding opportunities that we can bid into for practical action and equipment for practices, such as for active travel.

## Our community

We're working with huge sectors of our community, and VCSE partners, on Dr Bike sessions, energy vulnerability, wildlife and conservation, green spaces, food growing, preparation, cooking and eating, and health, walking and active lifestyles, community hub spaces and more ...



## Community artists!

We're working with community artists on our Beautiful Day Out Maps, our Breath of Fresh Air Walking Trails map, and our "inside out" illustrated panels showing the fabulous green spaces on site for staff, visitor and patients at RCHT



## Our network!

We're in constant contact with so many fabulous people across the country from across community and statutory sector, and across all parts of the healthcare system, including the Greener Practice UK network and more – a fabulous resource!

## Partnership and collaboration is everything

We work across statutory and community sector to deliver on our climate resilience actions, and across the different sections of the health sector. So many more people than we mention here! It's all about joining the dots....

## Community Energy Plus

We're working with Cornwall's own energy charity to create affordable energy audits for our GP practices, identifying annual savings of thousands of pounds, and carbon! per practice.

## CPFT and RCHT

We're working with our large Trusts on how we create green spaces for health via our String of Green Pearls programme, supporting the CPFT Healing By Nature project and the RCHT Breath of Fresh Air walking routes and green spaces development.



# Our 15 Priority Areas Target by 2030

## How we're going to build on what we've done already to support Cornish GP practices, and the wider health system: and how you can join in!



Climate benefit



Financial benefit



Health benefit



Ecological benefit



System benefit



Community benefit

22% - 85%

1: Declaring a climate emergency

JOIN IN!



22% - 75%

5: Clean and low carbon banking

JOIN IN!



72% - 100%

9: Reducing, reusing and recycling

JOIN IN!



69% - 85%

13: Connecting with our communities

JOIN IN!



81% - 100%

2: Decarbonising our inhalers

JOIN IN!



74% - 100%

6: Optimising our prescribing

JOIN IN!



67% - 100%

10: Toolkit for change

JOIN IN!



72% - 100%

14: Learning and leading

JOIN IN!



29% - 100%

3: Controlling our carbon footprint

JOIN IN!



71% - 100%

7: Engaging our patients

JOIN IN!



35% - 100%

11: Creating green Spaces for health

JOIN IN!



47% - 100%

15: Advocating for health creation

JOIN IN!



42% - 100%

4: Optimising our energy

JOIN IN!



76% - 100%

8: Activating our travel

JOIN IN!



47% - 100%

12: Food for people and planet

JOIN IN!



“Amazing support provided by the team (thank you), and amazing results with a very small budget. We would be lost without you - keep on keeping on! Cornish practice



# so imagine...by 2030:



2025: this is where we have got to. What we're going to do next is even better. We have targets, have a slew of fantastic partnerships, an amazing network and are champing at the bit to crack on. And this is where we are headed by 2030 – imagine:



1: **Our carbon is under control**: every part of our health system is *measuring and managing our carbon impact*, meeting our Net Zero targets and reducing risk from climate impacts, extreme weather and we have avoided the worst dangers to our health and health systems



2: **Our natural systems are thriving** : every part of our health system has *green spaces full of wildlife for staff, visitors and patients* to rest and reconnect, leading to better physical and mental health for all, and we have stopped polluting our air and water with waste, emissions and drugs



3: **Our savings are going UP**: *our efficient buildings and systems* reduce wasted materials, energy and space, saving us money every month, and making our buildings more comfortable for all to use, which means we have more to spend on health creation, such as access to bikes and good food



4: **Our staff are fulfilled in their work**: *staff satisfaction and retention has rocketed* as everyone is able to contribute to positive low carbon, high quality health service; fewer patients with preventable disease are needing care and staff have time to breathe, and enjoy their crucial work



5: **Our collective health is improving**: *focussing on health creation* has ensured more people have access to green space, cycling and walking opportunities, and good food, meaning they don't get as sick from preventable conditions, and so don't need as much health care - a virtuous circle!



6: **Our communities are places that sustain our health**: investing in our communities' strength to sustain health means they *become places where it's easier to be well than it is to be sick*; people keep each other thriving and healthy, avoiding healthcare admissions and appointments

So let's crack on. We're all in this together, and if you haven't joined already – now is the moment! This Atlas shows what we have achieved; and looks forward to where we intend to go. There's no stopping Cornwall now!

**JOIN IN!**

