



Environment and Sustainability Framework 2020-30

Supporting the delivery of safe, patient-centred and environmentally sustainable healthcare.



LEADERSHIP

Prioritise sustainable health

WACHS has clear and strong leadership to ensure that environmental health and sustainability initiatives are key organisational priorities.



BUILDINGS

Support environmentally sustainable facilities infrastructure and operations

WACHS aspires to reduce its carbon footprint across its services by:

Supporting facility management personnel to achieve carbon-neutral operations at sites;

Adopting National Australian Built Environment Rating Scheme (NABERS) practices to support environmental considerations in design, construction and operations for new and existing facilities and buildings.



ENERGY

Implement energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy generation

WACHS has policies and support systems that promote energy efficiency, reduction of emissions, and transition to renewable energy sources where possible.



WATER

Reduce health facilities' water consumption

WACHS strives to achieve this through:

Water consumption efficiencies;
Working collaboratively with all staff and contractors to minimise water usage.



WASTE

Reduce, treat and safely dispose of healthcare waste

WACHS has strategies in place to:

Segregate the various categories of waste to support the protection of public health;

Reduce the volume and toxicity of waste produced in healthcare settings;

Implement sustainable waste management and disposal options.



TRANSPORTATION

Improve transportation strategies for patients and staff

WACHS promotes improved transportation choices with key service providers/contractors and encourages alternate transport options for employees.



FOOD

Purchase and locally source sustainably grown food products

WACHS works in conjunction with cook fresh sites, pre-prepared food suppliers, and staff to support the provision of healthy food options from sustainable sources.



PHARMACEUTICALS

Safely manage and dispose of pharmaceuticals

WACHS provides appropriate care in line with international best practice and national standards and supports the safe management, appropriate prescribing and suitable disposal of pharmaceuticals by ensuring suitable waste disposal strategies are in place.



CHEMICALS

Substitute harmful chemicals with safer alternatives

WACHS commits to addressing chemical exposure in healthcare settings to ensure the health of patients, employees and site users.

WACHS promotes safe management of chemicals, including item substitution where possible and introducing policies for the disclosure of chemical ingredients.



PURCHASING

Buy safer and more sustainable products and materials

WACHS works with the procurement and purchasing teams to support the development and implementation of green and ethical purchasing policies.



Strategic Alignment: WACHS Strategic Plan 2019-24: *Priority #7 - Delivering value and sustainability*

SUSTAINABILITY GOAL	IMPLEMENTATION CRITERIA	SUSTAINABILITY GOAL	IMPLEMENTATION CRITERIA
 <p>LEADERSHIP Prioritise sustainable health</p>	<p>1.1 WACHS has a clear Sustainability Framework based on WA Government and Health Policy, which drives the systematic implementation of sustainability goals.</p> <p>1.2 All WACHS staff are accountable for implementing the Framework goals.</p> <p>1.3 WACHS fosters education and cultural change around environmental sustainability through education and training for clinical and non-clinical staff across all pillars of the Framework.</p> <p>1.4 WACHS allocates the human and financial resources necessary for all aspects of Framework implementation.</p> <p>1.5 WACHS will implement the Sustainability Goals and initiatives through a baseline audit undertaken across its sites and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of results.</p>	 <p>TRANSPORTATION Improve transportation strategies for patients and staff</p>	<p>6.1 WACHS drives improvements in transportation strategies for patients and staff that avoid carbon emissions.</p> <p>6.2 WACHS will develop transportation strategies that reduce regional healthcare facilities' carbon footprint including carbon offset programs.</p> <p>6.3 WACHS encourages hospital site users to alternative transport options (including bicycles, carpooling, battery operated vehicles/system(s)).</p> <p>6.4 WACHS promotes improved transportation choices with key service providers/contractors and encourages alternate transport options for staff, patients and contractors.</p>
 <p>BUILDINGS Support environmentally sustainable facilities infrastructure and operations</p>	<p>2.1 WACHS aspires to reduce its carbon footprint through the inclusion of innovative design solutions at planning stage for new and redeveloped facilities.</p> <p>2.2 Adoption of guidelines and rating systems of the National Australian Built Environment Rating Scheme (NABERS) to support environmental considerations in design, construction and operations for new and existing facilities and buildings.</p> <p>2.3 WACHS supports the integration of all health care facilities with the natural environment by better utilisation or creation of open spaces.</p> <p>2.4 WACHS seeks to procure and install sustainably sourced equipment – see #10.2.</p>	 <p>FOOD Purchase and locally source sustainably grown food products</p>	<p>7.1 WACHS will source where practical, sustainably grown food products from local suppliers.</p> <p>7.2 Reduce hospitals' environmental footprint by implementing food waste management practices, through the distribution of food to NGO's and in support of community health and poverty initiatives (where appropriate).</p> <p>7.3 Adheres to Healthy Options WA: Food and Nutrition Policy aligned with the Australian Dietary Guidelines.</p>
 <p>ENERGY Implement energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy generation</p>	<p>3.1 For existing buildings, implement an ongoing efficiency program that will minimise energy consumption.</p> <p>3.2 Investigate the purchase and or sourcing of clean renewable energy sources including its on-site generation (or provisions for future generation) in building renewal and refurbishments and potential participation in carbon offset programs.</p> <p>3.3 In new buildings consider the inclusion of renewable energy sources for on-site generation (or provision for future generation) in design and scoping for new buildings.</p>	 <p>PHARMACEUTICALS Safely manage and dispose of pharmaceuticals</p>	<p>8.1 WACHS works collaboratively with clinicians to appropriately prescribe, safely manage and properly dispose of pharmaceuticals.</p> <p>8.2 WACHS aims to minimise inappropriate pharmaceutical waste disposal and promotes manufacturer take-back where possible.</p> <p>8.3 Provides education and training for clinical and non-clinical staff in pharmaceutical waste disposal.</p> <p>8.4 WACHS works with community partners and other organisations to promote and contribute to local, national and international pharmaceutical pollution reduction activities.</p>
 <p>WATER Reduce health facilities' water consumption</p>	<p>4.1 WACHS will develop specific procedures (including the use of Telemetry) to maximise water conservation strategies and works across its facilities.</p> <p>4.2 Consider initiatives including water recycling, minimising waste from leakage through long term maintenance programs that will maximise water consumption efficiencies across the Service.</p> <p>4.3 Incorporate in designs for new building and retrofits; new water saving technologies and opportunities including monitoring systems; water recycling and harvesting; and the use of water efficient appliances and fittings.</p>	 <p>CHEMICALS Substitute harmful chemicals with safer alternatives</p>	<p>9.1 WACHS has a state- wide chemical and hazardous materials policy and protocols to protect patients, staff, community health and the environment.</p> <p>9.2 WACHS will address the use of biologically and environmentally hazardous chemicals (as defined in WACHS Hazardous Chemicals Policy 148); and seek safer alternatives and substitutes.</p> <p>9.3 WACHS will ensure appropriate education and training is available for clinical and non-clinical staff.</p> <p>9.4 WACHS will participate in international, national and local initiatives that aim to reduce and/or advocate for reduce chemical exposure in health facility settings. e.g. <i>World Health Organisation (WHO) Health Care without Harm(HCWH) global Mercury Free Health Care initiative substituting mercury thermometers and blood pressure devices with safe accurate alternatives where possible.</i></p>
 <p>WASTE Reduce, treat and safely dispose of healthcare waste</p>	<p>5.1 Reduce the volume and toxicity of waste (including storage, segregation, composting, transportation, treatment) and disposal options.</p> <p>5.2 Support the Waste Management Committee and regional waste management groups to lead sustainable waste management and disposal initiatives.</p> <p>5.3 Educate staff and the public by providing accessible information on waste management and segregation across WACHS sites.</p> <p>5.4 Promote the reuse and repurpose of surplus products and assets prior to disposal.</p>	 <p>PURCHASING Buy safer and more sustainable products and materials</p>	<p>10.1 Adoption of sustainable procurement policies, strategies and practices that support the procurement of products and services that is compliant with current environmental standards.</p> <p>10.2 WACHS works to source sustainably produced supply chain materials and equipment from socially and environmentally responsible vendors.</p> <p>10.3 WACHS will ensure appropriate sustainable procurement education and training is available for clinical and non-clinical staff.</p> <p>10.4 WACHS seeks to collect information and data on environmental activities through its purchasing contracts.</p>