ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

NHS National Services Scotland is committed to operating sustainably in relation to the delivery of effective national and specialist services which enable and support improvements in the health and wellbeing of all the people of Scotland.

Accordingly, we shall carefully consider the impacts of the business decisions and choices we make to ensure that we proactively manage our resources, continuously improve our environmental performance and minimise our impact on the environment.

To achieve this we will comply with and strive to exceed all legislative and other requirements and will as far as is reasonably practicable:

- use energy and water efficiently and promote and implement improvements and initiatives designed to conserve supplies and minimise our consumption of natural resources, especially where these are non-renewable;
- design, promote and implement sustainable travel plans aimed at increasing environmental efficiency, reducing emissions and educating, supporting and encouraging staff to consider the need to travel and to make more sustainable travel choices;
- minimise waste through the promotion and implementation of methods which reduce, reuse and recycle;
- embed sustainability, life cycle costing, biodiversity and the provision of a healthy working environment at every stage of planning, design, procurement, construction, maintenance, replacement, repair, demolition and disposal of all NSS land and property;
- embed sustainable procurement across the organisation, whereby we work with suppliers and meet our need for goods and services in a way that minimises the impact on the environment;
- assess the environmental impact of any new processes, products or services we intend to introduce in advance;
- provide appropriate training, education and information for all staff, ensuring they understand this policy and how they can support and contribute to our overall environmental performance.

NSS shall implement this policy through the establishment of a framework to effectively identify and minimise our environmental risks and the implementation of an environmental strategy implementation plan, an environmental management system and a number of related environmental programmes.

We shall openly communicate with staff, customers and internal and external stakeholders about our environmental performance. We will also be supportive of any relevant environmental initiatives within the community and will support research and development aimed at improving our overall environmental performance.

Signed on behalf of NHS National Services Scotland

[NSS Executive Lead]  [13th October 2011]