

Environmental Sustainability Statement

November 2019

The HFMA takes environmental sustainability very seriously. Our aim is to provide our range of services to our members in the most environmentally sustainable manner possible. We strive to continually improve environmental performance wherever practicable and prevent pollution by reducing the environmental impacts associated with our operations. Our current actions are set out under three categories.

Environmental Impact of Our Operations

We aim to make the most efficient and effective use of all resources, encouraging all staff to develop a sustainable approach to their work.

Headquarters

At our headquarters in Bristol, the HFMA has already implemented the following measures in order to manage the building and staff in an environmentally sensitive manner:

- the majority of our lighting uses motion sensors in order to maximise energy efficiency
- we use hand-dryers rather than paper towels in order to minimise waste
- we have removed plastic cups and are minimising single use plastics
- room temperatures are monitored and set to an energy efficient level
- while seeking to move to a paperless office, where paper is essential follow-me printing is used to keep printing to a minimum
- we have switched to rechargeable batteries where possible
- recycling points are available within the office, with tetra recycling being investigated
- food packaging is either biodegradable or re-usable
- staff are encouraged to use sustainable modes of transport to commute to work, for example there is a cycle to work scheme.

Additionally, our impact on the environment will be included as part of our review process when we consider potential new headquarters.

Activities at 110 Rochester Row

At our conference centre, 110 Rochester Row, we have taken a series of steps to improve its environmental sustainability, including:

- Forest Stewardship Council pencils are now provided instead of plastic pens
- food waste is minimised, but where there is any it is composted
- we use a zero to landfill waste management service collected in carbon-neutral vehicles
- we participate in the Meetings Industry Association #20percentless initiative to reduce single use plastic by 20% with a view to eliminating by 2025

- water is filtered, chilled and bottled (glass) on site
- we aim to avoid single use plastic, for example we use compostable cutlery and dessert pots
- we invest in new technologies to host virtual meetings and allow our clients to avoid unnecessary travel
- we choose ethical and environmentally friendly suppliers wherever possible
- we work with ethical and “Food Made Good” awarded caterer
- we use “Too Good To Go” to avoid food waste and support the local community
- we follow the Green Tourism Business Scheme recommendations in an effort of continuous improvement

HFMA conferences

Whether at 110 Rochester Row, or at other venues, we will be reducing the use of single-use plastics and printed materials at our conferences. To do this will be focusing on:

- encouraging exhibitors to reduce their paper and plastic offerings
- reducing the paper in the annual conference delegate bags
- increasing the use of the HFMA events app to reduce the paper on seats and tables
- using environmentally sourced paper where paper is considered essential

Healthcare Finance

We have stopped using plastic packaging around posted issues of Healthcare Finance magazine, replacing it with recyclable cardboard packaging. We have changed the way the magazine is produced to eliminate transport being required between the printer and the distribution house. The magazine is also now printed using 100% renewable energy, using chemistry-free plates with low levels of waste going to landfill.

HFMA meetings

We have invested in technology to enable virtual meetings to take place and to reduce travel time and the impact of travel. We recognise that as an Association we need to be able to support members to network, but we will be encouraging our committees to have at least one virtual meeting a year.

Webinars

We have invested in our programme of webinars to ensure that, where possible, members can access CPD without having to travel.

Helping our members to reduce the environmental impact of their organisations

Through our Environmental Sustainability Special Interest Group, the HFMA works to highlight good practice in embedding environmental and social sustainability in the NHS and the wide range of benefits this offers, including operating within safe financial and environmental limits, to developing robust, resilient and future proof models of prevention and care.

Meeting regularly to discuss and promote environmental sustainability within the NHS, the Group’s membership includes representatives from provider and commissioner bodies in the NHS, as well as

the Sustainable Development Unit, NHS England and NHS Improvement, the Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project, the International Integrated Reporting Council, and independent consultants.

We also produce a regular briefing to keep our members up to date with the latest environmental news, best practice and innovations within the healthcare sector.

Environmental impact of our suppliers

As part of our wider corporate social responsibility the HFMA encourages its suppliers to work towards maintaining effective policies and procedures to manage their environmental impact and manage their carbon footprint.

We also aim to work with suppliers to help achieve sustainable and socially responsible procurement aspirations in the delivery of products and services, including paper from sustainable forestry. We support the principles of fair trade and aim to make fair trade purchases where possible, including our complimentary refreshments at meetings and events.

If you have any suggestions about how the HFMA could further improve its environmental sustainability please email policy@hfma.org.uk.