**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Staff preparing a Policy / Board Report / Committee Report / Service Plan / Project are required to complete a Sustainability Impact Assessment. Sustainability is one of the Trust’s key Strategies and the Trust has made a corporate commitment to address the environmental effects of activities across Trust services. The purpose of this Sustainability Impact Assessment is to record any positive or negative impacts that this activity is likely to have on each of the Trust’s Sustainability Themes. For assistance with completing the Sustainability Impact Assessment, please refer to the instructions below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Policy / Report / Service Plan / Project Title:** | | | | |
| **Theme (Potential impacts of the activity)** | **Positive**  **Impact** | **Negative**  **Impact** | **No specific**  **impact** | **What will the impact be? If the impact is negative, how can it be mitigated? (action)** |
| Reduce Carbon Emission from buildings by 12.5% by 2010-11 then 30% by 2020 |  |  | x |  |
| New builds and refurbishments over £2million (capital costs) comply with BREEAM Healthcare requirements. |  |  | X |  |
| Reduce the risk of pollution and avoid any breaches in legislation. |  |  | X |  |
| Goods and services are procured more sustainability. |  |  | X |  |
| Reduce carbon emissions from road vehicles. |  |  | X |  |
| Reduce water consumption by 25% by 2020. |  |  | X |  |
| Ensure legal compliance with waste legislation. |  |  | X |  |
| Reduce the amount of waste produced by 5% by 2010 and by 25% by 2020 |  |  | X |  |
| Increase the amount of waste being recycled to 40%. |  |  | X |  |
| Sustainability training and communications for employees. |  |  | X |  |
| Partnership working with local groups and organisations to support sustainable development. |  |  | X |  |
| Financial aspects of sustainable development are considered in line with policy requirements and commitments. |  |  | X |  |

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Sustainability is one of the Trust’s key Strategies and consequently the Trust has made a corporate commitment to address the environmental effects of its activities across all service areas. The purpose of the Sustainability Impact Assessment is to record any positive or negative impacts that a Policy / Board Report / Committee Report / Service Plan / Project is likely to have on each of the Trust’s sustainability themes. The Sustainability Impact Assessment enables any relevant impacts to be identified and potentially managed. When identifying potential impacts, consideration must be made in respect to all relevant stakeholders, for example HYMS/training implications.

The Sustainability Impact Assessment is based on assessing the impact of the activity against a series of criteria covering environmental sustainability issues. It would be most desirable for activities to score positively in as many areas as possible, although it is likely that some areas will score positively against some themes, and negatively against others.

**Using the Sustainability Impact Assessment template**

To complete the Sustainability Impact Assessment template, you should consider whether the Policy / Board Report / Committee Report / Service Plan / Project will have a positive or negative impact on each of the themes by placing a mark in the appropriate column. When you think there is likely to be an impact, please provide some annotations regarding the nature of the impact, and any actions that will be taken to address that impact. Users should note that not every theme will be relevant. Where this is the case the ‘No Specific Impact’ column should be marked. Users should also consider the following tips:

1. Make relative not absolute judgements (e.g. a new energy efficient service would score positively even if it consumes more energy than if no service were provided).

2. Be aware that small positive changes could be outweighed by negative ones (e.g. new energy efficient lighting in the short term may outweigh the benefits of maintaining current lighting).

3. If there are both positive and negative impacts, these need to be recorded in order to give a balanced view. Be objective and unbiased.

4. Concentrate on the most key significant issues - there is the potential to consider the appraisal in a very detailed way. This should be avoided at this stage.

5. Judge a proposal over its whole lifespan and remember that some impacts may change over different timescales.