



CLOSING THE LOOP IN HEALTHCARE

How Loopcycle is supporting healthcare
on its net-zero journey





WHAT TO
EXPECT

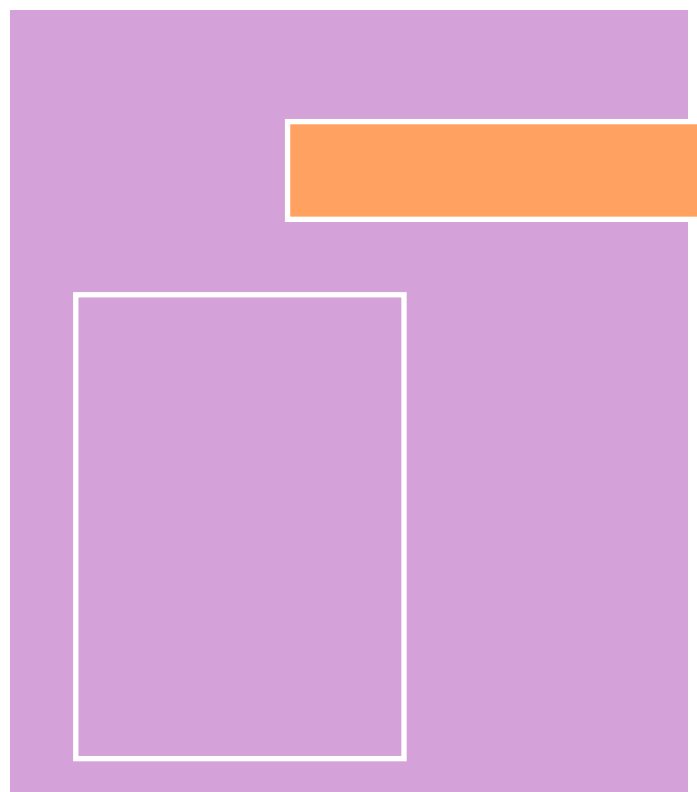


1. HALSTON GROUP X LOOPCYCLE

2. THE POSSIBILITY OF NET ZERO

3. MEDTECH ADOPTION DEMANDS TRACKING

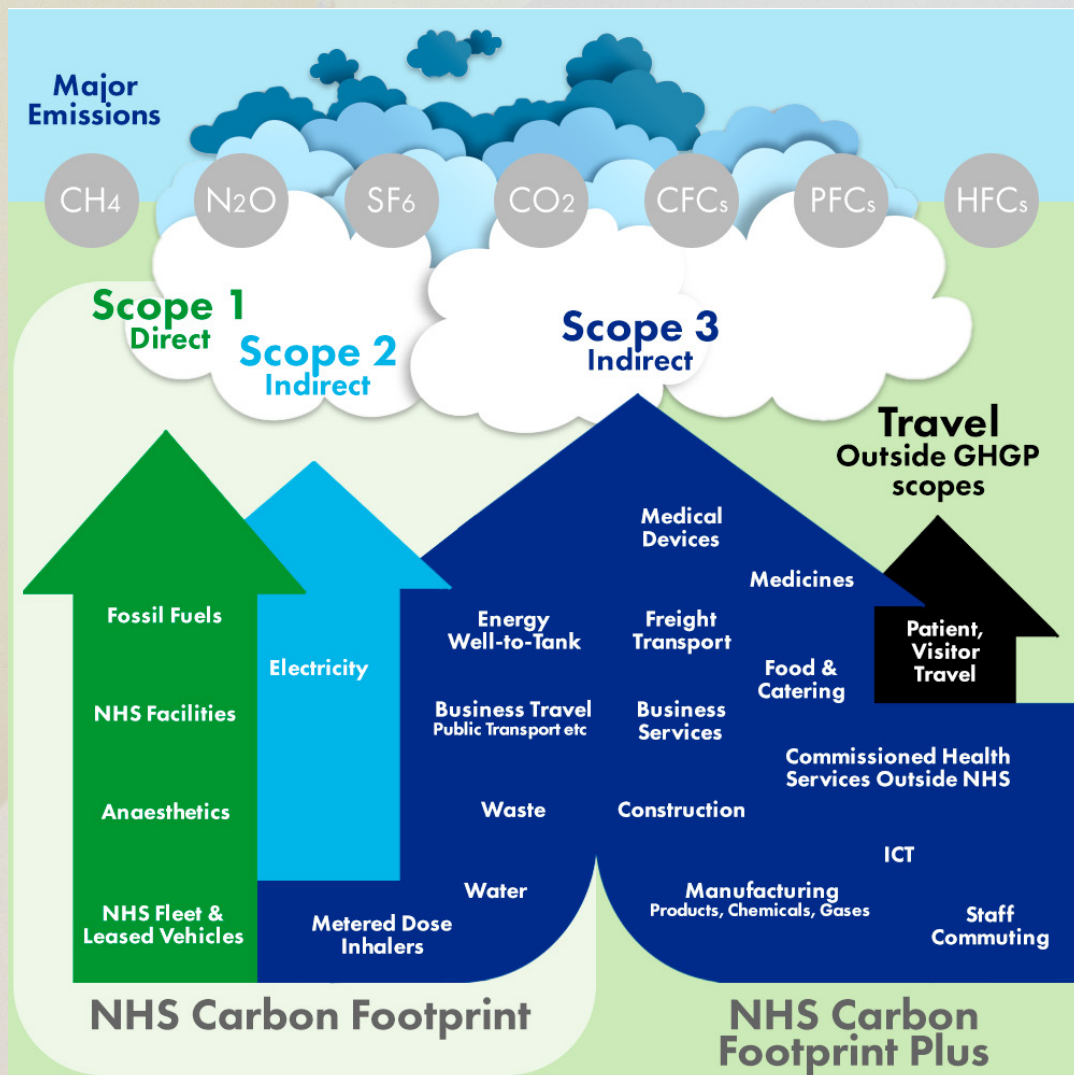
4. DEBUNKING THE COST MYTH



HG As health is so intrinsically linked to the environment, the NHS has an essential role to play in meeting its 2040 net-zero targets. A fundamental part of becoming net-zero is minimising waste, ensuring longevity in the assets and equipment that are utilised, alongside re-using where applicable.

Waste production in the NHS is staggering, as it is in many other healthcare institutions worldwide. However, most of data captured around waste is only focused on clinical waste. Whereas there is little insight concerning equipment or asset waste and the routes of their disposal.

The visibility over those areas will become increasingly important over the coming years, especially to properly account for their Scope 3 emissions. As depicted in the diagram, the manufacture of the goods the NHS consumes will be a crucial element of their net-zero agenda.



Source: [NHS England](#)

HG Loopcycle has developed a disruptive tech platform that highlights the supply chain crisis in commercial environments. By connecting supply chains, they provide solutions that prevent waste from landfill, grow relationships, and allow data-driven decisions for sustainable procurement.

We spoke with Lauren Hunter, Commercial Director at Loopcycle to discuss how their solution supports healthcare facilities in their net-zero goals.

LC *Healthcare, arguably, is one of the most important industries for proper maintenance and quality of equipment due to the critical nature of providing care, emergency or otherwise, to people who need it. When lives rely on equipment, it is imperative that they function properly and with the most up-to-date quality. For example, if the same product across the country continues to fail at similar points in its lifecycle, this is important to both the healthcare provider and the manufacturer to address the cause and prevent its consequences.*

Further, the consistent innovation of healthcare procedures and equipment means that active

and efficient asset management is critical for relevant upgrades and refurbishment. Mismanagement of lifecycles could result in premature removal of assets, producing excess waste and costs.

From a sustainability perspective, hospitals have unique challenges when attempting to introduce sustainability principles or enact upon Net Zero goals. The NHS itself has a Net Zero 2040 goal. Due to the nature of healthcare, including standards such as those around biomedical waste make traditional waste streams inaccessible and typical Net Zero implementations more difficult. Therefore, monitoring the lifecycles of assets can open up new opportunities for end-of-life assets and prevent equipment waste.

THE POSSIBILITY OF NET ZERO

LC *At Loopcycle we do think it is possible for a Net Zero 2040, but actions need to be put in place rapidly to reach that goal. Aforementioned, hospitals and healthcare facilities have unique challenges that exclude them from making the same sustainability decisions as other industries. Therefore, innovative solutions are needed, a lot of which come from GreenTech. Additionally, the often-limited budget of hospitals and healthcare providers suggests that early investment in green solutions and GreenTech will be wise as compared to last-minute rapid change.*

MEDTECH ADOPTION DEMANDS TRACKING

HG The MedTech industry is constantly evolving, with new technology and devices being adopted by healthcare facilities worldwide. From VR headsets to augmented surgical instruments, there is an increasing number of electronic-based devices delivering incredible benefits, but the life cycle of the assets is limited and therefore end-of-life must be considered from the outset.

LC *With the introduction of new devices, processes can be implemented from the start to ensure monitoring and management of assets throughout their lifecycles – it is simpler to engage early on than adopt them later. Additionally, while often medical devices like VR are niche and specialized, their components, high-value electronic materials, can be remanufactured, repurposed or recycled into newer or more generalized products. This requires an end-of-life retrieval program carried out by distributors, collection partners, or the manufacturers themselves. Diverting these components from landfill decreases total material use by the industry and likely decreases total carbon footprints and long-term costs*

HG Not only has the level of assets increased, the areas in which they are located have also grown. A growing trend in clinical settings is the introduction of virtual wards, where devices are distributed to patients' homes so monitoring can take place remotely. In this paradigm shift, asset tracking and recovery will become integral to avoid losing sight of these assets dispersed across huge regions.

LC *A virtual ward is the perfect opportunity to adopt asset tracking and recovery, as the location and status of an asset can be easily recorded through a simple scan of a QR code, or within Loopcycle, a Cyclecode™. A centralized system can hold the data required for the management of virtual wards, making it easy for doctor, patient, and hospital facilities administrators to access healthcare through individual assets.*

DEBUNKING THE COST MYTH

HG For a while, there has been this ongoing sustainability vs profit debate, with misconceptions around cost arising, with many believing that sustainable products or practices will come at a greater cost to their business. When in actual fact, sustainable ways of working have the potential to reduce expenses coming from the wasteful use of resources.

LC *We think the most taboo subject around sustainability is the cost, that it is expensive. The negative narrative around this myth is a huge deterrent and needs to be reversed. Sustainability can be really beneficial financially, not just with energy savings, capex can be reduced by refurbishing equipment and reusing amongst estates, in some cases reducing over purchasing. It's the operational costs that's saved, which in a lot of cases isn't necessarily seen as the cause of capex. By reducing unnecessary operational spend, lifecycles are extended.*

The key thing in reducing operational spend, is the saved emissions, when an engineer has to attend a product for an avoidable fix, it's a Scope 3 emission that was unnecessary. By managing equipment properly, extending its lifecycle and preventing avoidable challenges, operational and capital spend can be reduced, whilst reducing emissions.

**HOSPITALS AND
HEALTHCARE FACILITIES
ACROSS THE GLOBE HAVE
BEGUN THEIR TRANSITION
TO A CARBON-NEUTRAL
FUTURE. THE ADOPTION OF
GREEN TECHNOLOGY WILL
ENABLE THEM TO BRIDGE
THIS GAP AND EMBRACE A
CIRCULAR ECONOMY.**

**HALSTON
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TECH ORIGIN

MERCURY



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