



Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2024–2027

The HHS has set ambitious and measurable targets in accordance with Queensland Government and Queensland Health climate risk strategies, in preparation for a transition to a net zero emission future by 2050, and improving the sustainability of system wide healthcare delivery.

In support of these commitments the South West Hospital and Health Service will, by 2027:



Install electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Roma, Charleville and St George



Develop and begin execution of a renewable energy roadmap



Objectively measure our current clinical and non-clinical waste, consumables and emission footprint to support identification of lower impact alternatives



Embed climate change considerations into our procurement processes and wider business considerations



Become an active partner in the state, national and global movement towards a more healthier and sustainable planet



Replace aging technology and appliances with 4-5 star energy rating



Ensure new builds and renovations have a 4 star energy rating

We are

Throughout the period of this plan the South West HHS is:

- Actively implementing controls for climate change adaption and transition risks within our rural and remote context
- Building expertise in matters relating to climate change across the Queensland Health system and wider sector
- Investing and proactively seeking further opportunities to introduce renewable energy and storage solutions across our facilities, offices and residential accommodation, including:
 - Electric vehicle infrastructure
 - Solar panels
 - Battery power
 - Transition away from gas and petrol where possible
- Further embed sustainability considerations into routine processes and factor these considerations into future planning
- Through our actions, and working alongside our partners, encourage a measurable reduction in direct and indirect carbon inputs.

We will

Our initial strategy will best position us to make further long term changes by allowing us to:

- Better understand and measure our waste and emission footprint – including for clinical services
- Build resilient and carbon neutral infrastructure whenever possible
- Work with community partners to build markets, experience and support for sustainable activity, drive broader community action
- Embed climate considerations into business as usual
- Continue to join and contribute to local, state, national and global sustainability networks, including the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals
- Establish and empower working groups and enable staff champions.

Our focus areas

Across the horizon of this first strategy, South West HHS will primarily focus on the following key drivers:

- **Infrastructure:** Retrofitting existing infrastructure where possible, and ensuring that new infrastructure is built according to green principles and incorporates renewable energy systems
- **Process improvement:** Identifying opportunities to improve internal processes to reduce waste and emissions
- **Data generation:** To inform initial benchmarks and assist in determining and measuring appropriate targets

