



Sustainability is here to stay, or we may not be.

Niall FitzGerald

The healthcare sector is in one of the biggest contributors of greenhouse gas emissions, with the NHS accounting for 4.6% of the UK's total carbon footprint and approximately 25% of the public sector's footprint.

Operating theatres have a disproportionate environmental impact because of their energy-intensive processes, consumption of resources, and production of waste.

They are estimated to produce approximately 50–70% of the total hospital waste.

Our Green Plan

Stockport NHS Foundation Trust has a major new plan to become carbon neutral and to help build a sustainable future by reducing its carbon emission by 85% by 2032.

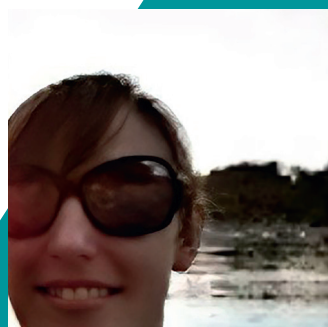
Additionally, cutting out sending waste to landfill sites, phasing out single use plastics and achieving a 'net zero' carbon footprint should be achieved by 2040. "Our Green Plan – a strategy for a sustainable future".

We've already made a positive start by introducing Vanguards Remanufacturing service to our theatres. Remanufacturing is the process whereby a used product, which otherwise would be disposed, is returned to the original high quality

manufacturer's performance specification.

This opportunity presents significant benefits in sustainability. The programme was introduced to Stockport NHS Foundation Trust in July 2022 and has contributed to our Green Plan by significantly reducing the hospitals waste stream and greenhouse gas emissions via medical remanufacturing.

Along side the environmental benefits Vanguards service also provides financial incentives as well. To date Stockport NHS Foundation Trust has generated savings of approximately £33,000 during fiscal year 22/23 and received an additional £350 via the collections service.



"We are committed to sustainability and have found the VANGUARD devices a good way of reducing our waste and carbon footprint from new devices. I have had no problems using the devices and plan to continue to use them going forward."

CLAIRE HALL – Consultant Surgeon

"Within the NHS we are constantly striving to maximize resource efficiency without sacrificing functionality or performance. VANGUARD has allowed us to tick both those boxes without compromising the standard of care that we deliver. It's also been really easy for our staff to get to grips with as they are using products they are already familiar with."

TIM NUDDS - Principal Operating Department Practitioner



What's next for Stepping Hill Hospital?



"Switching products is usually difficult as surgeons always have preferred medical devices. The beauty of this switch is taking that same product they are used to and using it more than once, which helps with our sustainability objectives and reduces cost."

BOB UNWIN

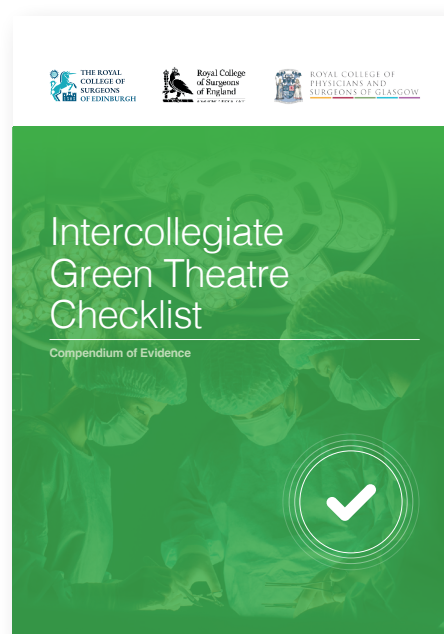
Directorate Manager, Theatre and Critical Care at Stepping Hill Hospital

Medical Device Remanufacturing

Remanufacturing is prevalent in other parts of the world and has been a solid presence in healthcare markets such as the US and Germany for over 25 years.

It's recently been recognised as a valuable contributor to the UK's sustainability targets. NHS England have supported the adoption of remanufacturing by creating their own 'How to Guide' further detailing steps a Trust needs to take to set up a remanufacturing programme.

The 'Intercollegiate Green Theatre Checklist', a compendium of peer-reviewed evidence, guidelines and policies which lists the need to opt for reusable, hybrid, or remanufactured equipment instead of single-use devices produced by the Royal Colleges further supports remanufactured device usage.



About VANGUARD

VANGUARD Medical Devices Limited is a medical technologies company that specialises in the restoration of complex medical devices enabling circular economy within the healthcare sector.

Remanufactured products extend the product life cycle of a single-use medical device which helps to protect the planet and its valuable resources and helps to make hospitals and clinics more

resource-efficient while keeping costs low, without compromising on safety or performance.

VANGUARD assumes the full legal responsibilities and liabilities of a manufacturer. All products are CE marked and meets all appropriate criteria of the relevant medical devices directive in terms of performance and safety. There is no upfront investment required to establish the remanufacturing programme with VANGUARD.



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