

Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP)

Communications Toolkit for NHS Supplier Trade Bodies

February 2023

Contents

	Slide No.
1. Introduction	3
2. Overview	4
3. Communications guidance and considerations	6
4. Social media posts and suggested copy	7
5. Suggested newsletter/ bulletin copy	8
7. FAQs	10
8. Useful links/ contact information	11

Introduction

- The purpose of this toolkit is to support supplier trade bodies to promote the publication of the NHS Central Commercial Function Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) Guidance (the second milestone on the [NHS England Net Zero Supplier Roadmap](#)) to their members who are NHS suppliers, which was published on 14 February 2023 to help raise awareness of what's required and resources available for suppliers to the NHS.
- This guide contains social media copy and creative assets that can be used in external and internal communications.
- The guide includes a list of useful contacts to use in case of further questions or media queries.

- From 1 April 2023, for all new contracts above £5 million per annum, the NHS will require suppliers to publish a Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) for their UK [Scope 1 and 2](#) emissions and a subset of scope 3 emissions as a minimum (aligning with [Procurement Policy Note 06/21](#)).
- A CRP identifies a supplier's current carbon footprint and their plan to achieve net zero emissions. The NHS will require its suppliers to have a publicly available CRP on their website and to share their CRP information as part of the procurement process.
- The [Carbon Reduction Plan \(CRP\) Requirements for the Procurement of NHS Goods, Services and Works guidance](#) outlines how this requirement will be applied in an NHS context and is intended to be used in conjunction with central government's guidance documents on [PPN 06/21](#).

- To best prepare for future NHS roadmap milestones, suppliers are encouraged to set a net zero target of 2045.
- The NHS England Sustainable Procurement team is running regular webinars, specifically to support suppliers, ahead of the 1 April 2023 deadline. The webinars cover:
 - How a CRP will be requested within the procurement process
 - Support available to help suppliers create a CRP, and
 - Time to engage with the team and ask any questions.Suppliers can register to attend on the NHS England events [page](#).
- From 9 February 2023 to 31 March 2023, NHS England will be offering a CRP checking service. Suppliers can access this service by contacting the following email address: england.crp-check@nhs.net.
- NHS England's Sustainable Procurement Team can provide additional support to organisations to help them to understand and meet the CRP requirements. Please contact england.ccf-sustainability@nhs.net

Communications guidance



- The NHS continues to face ongoing system pressures. Therefore, it is important that all communications are handled sensitively and with this in mind.
- We recommend including the guidance on the following channels:
 - Social media – particularly LinkedIn
 - Webpages that target suppliers to the NHS
 - Newsletters and bulletins that are distributed to NHS suppliers
 - Please ensure that the link to the CRP guidance on the NHS England site is included in all communications to suppliers.
 - We would like to showcase suppliers who have successfully developed or are developing their CRP, so please do encourage your members to share these on social media and tag the CCF LinkedIn or reach out to us directly.
- **Should you receive any media queries about the guidance, please refer them to the NHS England Commercial Communications team (ellen.johnson8@nhs.net) and the NHS England press office (nhsengland.media@nhs.net)**

Social media – suggested copy



LinkedIn

From April 2023, for all new contracts above £5 million per annum, the NHS will require suppliers to publish a Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) for their UK Scope 1 and 2 emissions and a subset of scope 3 emissions as a minimum (aligning with [Procurement Policy Note 06/21](#)).

If you're a supplier to the NHS, read more about what this means for you and how you can get support from the NHS England Central Commercial Function [TAG] team, read the guidance via the following link: [NHS England » Carbon reduction plan requirements for the procurement of NHS goods, services and works](#)

Twitter

The NHS England Carbon Reduction Plan guidance has been published. If you're a supplier to the NHS and want to understand what this means for you, visit [NHS England » Carbon reduction plan requirements for the procurement of NHS goods, services and works](#)



From 1 April 2023, for all new contracts above £5 million per annum, the NHS will require suppliers to publish a Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) for their UK Scope 1 and 2 emissions and a subset of scope 3 emissions as a minimum.

Read the CRP Guidance to find out more.

#GreenerNHS

Suggested newsletter/ bulletin copy



NHS ENGLAND PUBLISHES CARBON REDUCTION PLAN (CRP) GUIDANCE

From April 2023, for all new contracts above £5 million per annum, the NHS will require suppliers to publish a [Carbon Reduction Plan \(CRP\)](#) for their UK [Scope 1 and 2](#) emissions and a subset of scope 3 emissions as a minimum (aligning with [Procurement Policy Notice 06/21](#)). A CRP identifies a supplier's current carbon footprint and their plan to achieve net zero emissions. The NHS will require its suppliers to have a publicly available CRP on their website and to share their CRP information as part of the procurement process. NHS England has published detailed [guidance](#) to support suppliers to prepare their CRPs.

Support available to suppliers:

- If you're a supplier to the NHS and want to understand more about what this means for you, further information is available in the [guidance](#), and the NHS Central Commercial Function Sustainable Procurement team is running regular webinars which will cover: how your CRP will be requested within the procurement process and what support is available to help you create your CRP. Register your interest on the NHS England Events [page](#).
- From 9 February 2023 to 31 March 2023, NHS England will be offering a CRP checking service. Suppliers can access this service by contacting the following email address: england.crp-check@nhs.net.
- If you have produced your CRP, please do let the NHS England team know by tagging the NHS Central Commercial Function in your LinkedIn posts or by completing the [questionnaire](#).



**NHS Carbon Reduction
Plan (CRP) Guidance**
**Informational webinars
for suppliers**

Sign up now

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What is the difference between CRPs and the Social Value Model?

Please see the table below that provides a summary of the difference between CRPs and the Social Value Model.

	Carbon Reduction Plans (PPN 06/21)	Social Value Model (PPN 06/20)
Required?	Required for the April 2023 Milestone	Required for the April 2022 Milestone
Stage of the procurement process it is applied	Pre-qualification stage	Tender stage
Organisational level of the policy	Entity Level Sustainability	Contract Level Sustainability
Type of assessment	Pass/Fail	Minimum 10% tender weighting, scored based on the evaluation criteria

What is the difference between CRPs and Evergreen?

Please see the table below that provides a summary of the difference between CRPs and Evergreen

	Carbon Reduction Plans (PPN 06/21)	Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment
Required?	Required for the April 2023 Milestone	Not currently mandated
Compliance level	Minimum compliance	For benchmarking an NHS supplier's organisation, demonstrating leadership, and preparing the NHS supplier for longer term NHS milestones
Length	9 questions in Annex A of PPN Guidance	Approx. 100 questions
Data sharing	Publicly available	Data shared with NHS organisations and DHSC

Does the PPN 06/21 / CRP requirement apply to tenders retrospectively?

No, it only applies to new contracts / frameworks from April 2023.

Is the CRP contract value threshold for £5m total contract value, or £5m per annum (ex vat)?

For 2023, an approved CRP is only required for NHS contracts that are forecasted to be at or above the £5m per annum threshold (ex vat).

What if I am an SME or VCSE and struggle to calculate my emissions?

Please see SME / VCSE section of the guidance.

We strongly encourage all our suppliers to prepare to meet our roadmap milestones, however, we also recognise that we must do everything we can during this period of economic uncertainty to support SMEs/VCSEs.

In exceptional circumstances where suppliers have an acceptable reason for being unable to gather emissions data, they can provide a CRP with the carbon emissions they have available and include the explanation why, if applicable, any data is not available. SMEs or VCSEs with an acceptable reason may use this provision when submitting their CRP. Any supplier's explanation will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the contracting authority. Suppliers are also required to provide the steps they will take to improve the data.

We encourage SME/VCSE suppliers who require further support or guidance on completing a CRP to contact the NHS England Sustainable Procurement Team: england.ccf-sustainability@nhs.net.

Please note: as outlined in PPN 06/21 this provision can apply across small, medium, and large suppliers.

Useful links/ further information



- Please ensure that all content includes a link to the CRP guidance on the NHS England website - [NHSEngland » Carbon reduction plan requirements for the procurement of NHS goods, services and works](#)
- If posting on social media, please tag the following accounts, so that we can engage with your content:
 - LinkedIn – [NHS Central Commercial Function](#)
 - Twitter – [@GreenerNHS](#)
- NHS supplier CRP [webinars](#)
- CRP Checking Service – england.crp-check@nhs.net.

NHS England contacts



CONTACT	EMAIL	NOTES
Ellen Johnson, Communications Manager, Commercial Directorate, NHS England	Ellen.johnson8@nhs.net	Primary point of contact for all communications.
NHS England Central Commercial Function Sustainable Procurement team	england.ccf-sustainability@nhs.net	For specific questions on CRP
NHS England press office	nhsengland.media@nhs.net	For any media queries