10 years progress, but does healthcare value the environment?

Jerome Baddley
SDU Head of Unit

First do no harm!

C3m staff in HSC, 10% of workers. 98% NHS staff want greener NHS

Health 3-5% all road traffic - 6,440 Life years lost and £345m economic cost

NHS £34bn goods and services- 23% of all NHS waste is plastics

21.7mt of CO2- Societal cost of Climate Chg. up to £2bn each year
Footprint for Health and Social care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>27.1M</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>18.5% (++ if inc. inhaler CFCs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>2.2B</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Pollution</td>
<td>7,285t NO\textsubscript{2}; 330t PM\textsubscript{2.5}</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Baseline year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>(was 66%)</td>
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</tbody>
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Substantial progress on estates measures with cashable benefit
Now need to value impacts in clinical service + product specification. e.g.
- Health cost of air pollution in service delivery
- Plastics waste impacts of single use products
- Cost of climate change impacts from clinical gases and propellants
Patient engagement - Inhalers

6.7m UK inhaler users
**UK 70% Metered Dose Inhalers**, Sweden 10%

**MDI**
- Current F-gas Propellants 1,500-3,350 x GWP impact of CO₂
- Equivalent to all carbon from [NHS business travel](#)
- **UK Treasury** damage costs for carbon £33-£99
- **Damage cost per inhaler**: £1-3 vs typical unit cost of £2-4

**DPI**
- DPI- No propellants, less CO₂
- Often clinically equivalent as delivery mechanism
- Lowest cost equivalents can be cheaper than MDI
- If +costly MDI damage cost can exceed DPI price difference

**Role for both**- But, should we be accounting and valuing the environmental damage cost? Providing informed patient choice? Encouraging industry innovation?

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