

Sustainable Healthcare

Inspire, Empower, Transform

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[@SusHealthcare](#)

The National Climate Change Conference, 27th January 2021



How can we reach Net Zero?

Once we have understood the climate emergency it is easy to be overwhelmed.

There is a lot of information to absorb – problems and solutions

Working out priorities for action is hard and takes detailed work.

But, if we can step back sometimes, one of the most important things to do is to help others to engage with the journey.

You are here because you already get it.

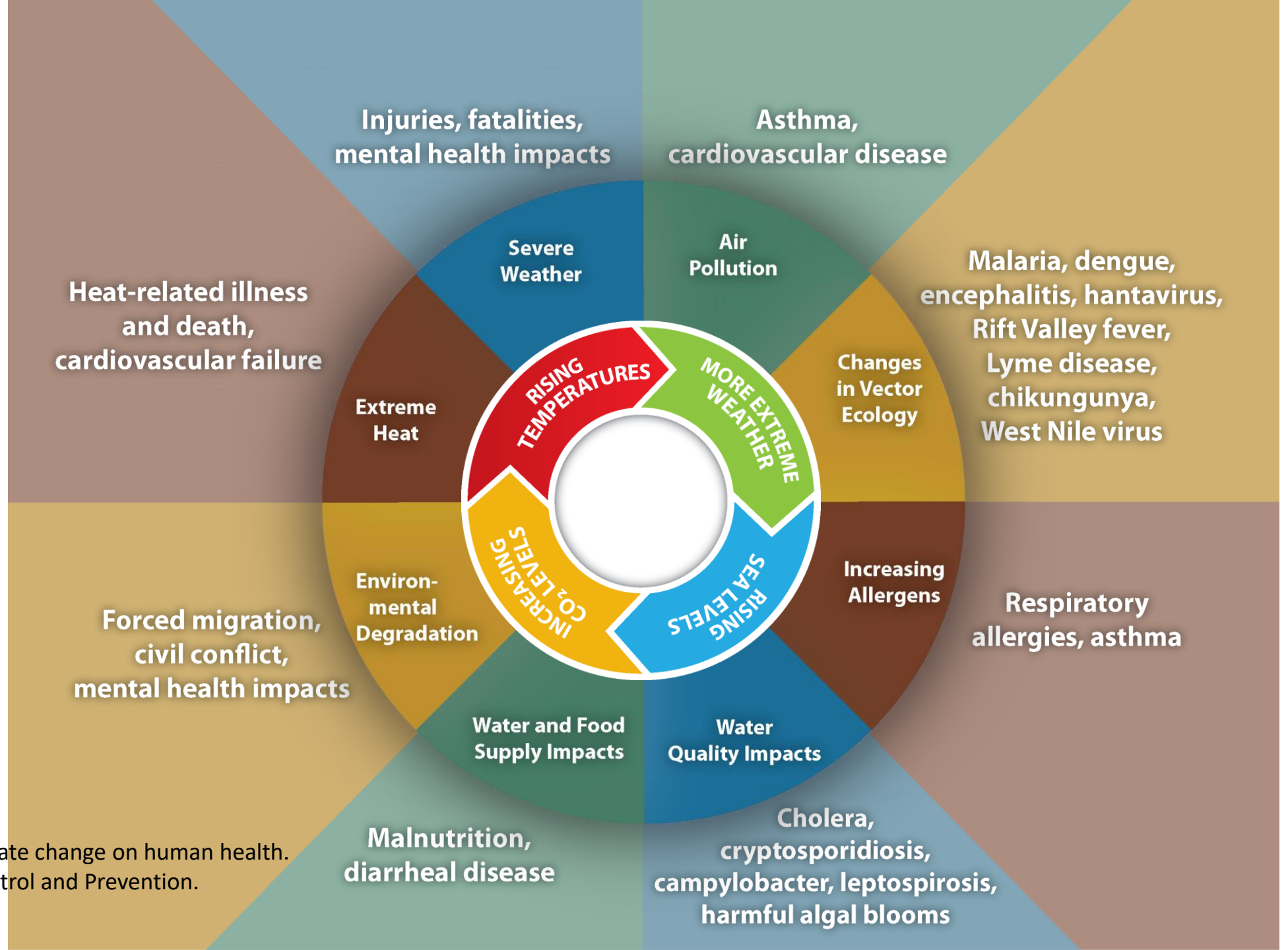
This needs ALL of us.

inspire

Poll

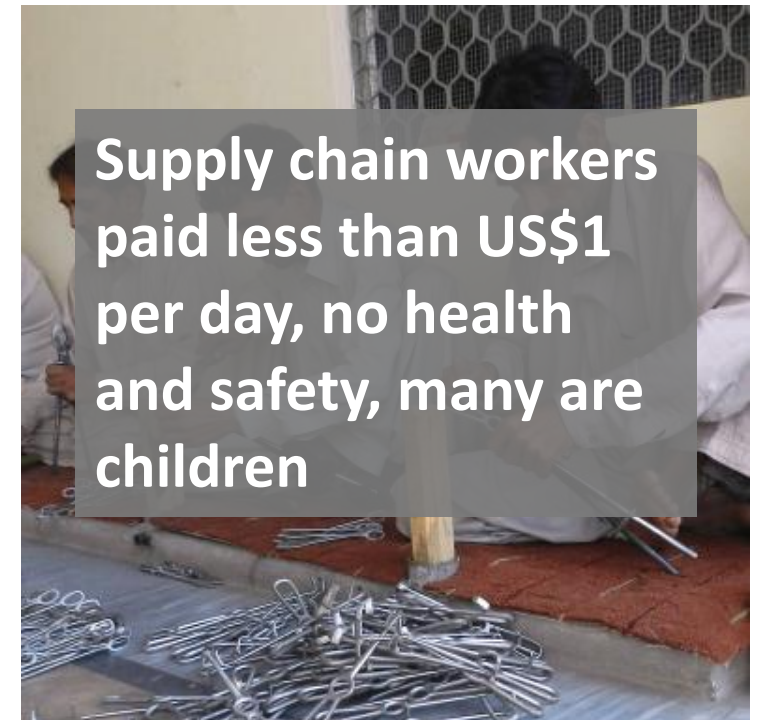
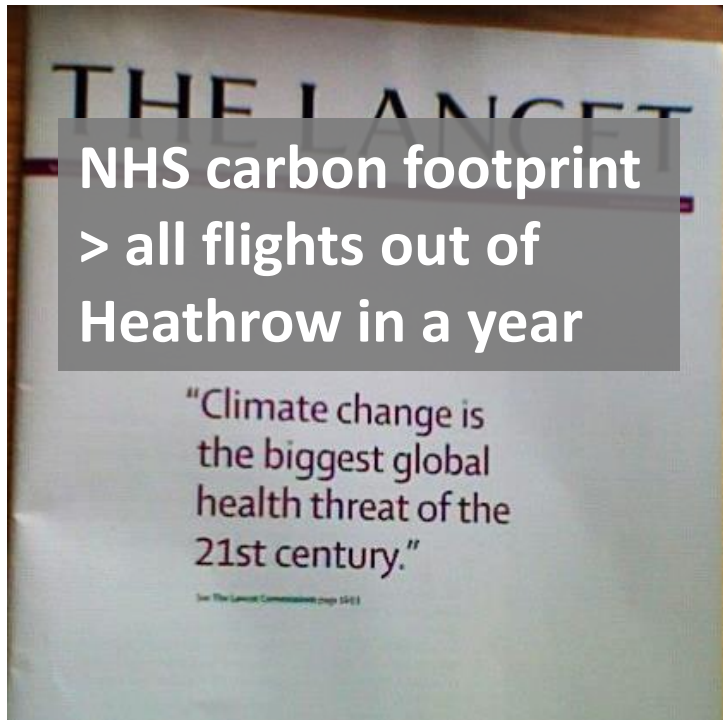
What inspires you most to act on carbon reduction?

- Fear of climate emergency
- Opportunities for a healthier lifestyle



CDC. 2016. Impacts of climate change on human health. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Do no harm



THE LANCET

June, 2015

www.thelancet.com

Health and climate change



"Tackling climate change could be the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century."

A Commission by The Lancet

'No regret' policies will improve health, enhance resilience, alleviate poverty and address inequality:

- Clean energy
- Active travel
- Housing improvements
- Green spaces

Three min. film:

<http://www.thelancet.com/cms/attachment/2033405756/2049484881/mmc2.mp4>

Tell your story

data is critical, but it is not enough

When we are leading in sustainability a core aspect of our work, especially in a health service under pressure, is to communicate our sustainability message clearly and persuasively in conversation, inviting our audience to take action.

One of the elements of persuasive communication is demonstrating authenticity by telling our own stories and speaking about our own motivations for working for sustainable solutions in healthcare.

Practice your own sustainability story!

Which elements of sustainable healthcare would you most value?

Poll

- More prevention
- Saving money
- Better patient involvement
- More staff less stuff
- Reduced waste
- Reduced air pollution
- Improved green spaces



**65,000 trees planted so far
at 190 NHS sites**



**Aim: 1.7 million
(1 per employee)**

empower

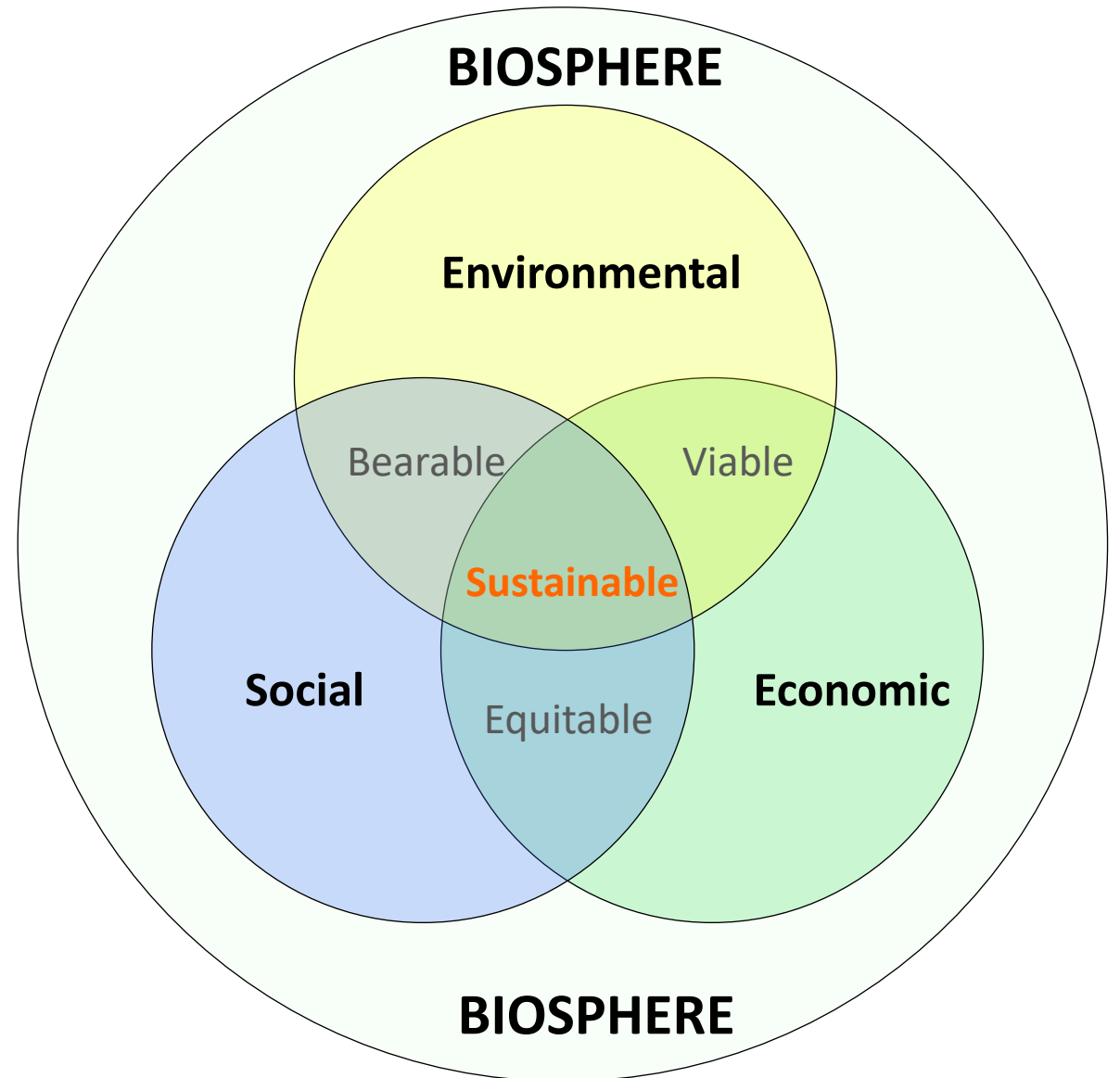
What empowers change?

HOW are we going to do this? Not just 'this needs doing' or 'we MUST do this'

- Shared understanding
- Concepts that make sense and can be used in different settings
- Metrics and methodologies that can be used to evaluate how we are doing
- What does good practice look like? Let's share, scale, transfer

“Sustainable healthcare is healthcare that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

UN World Commission on Environment and Development



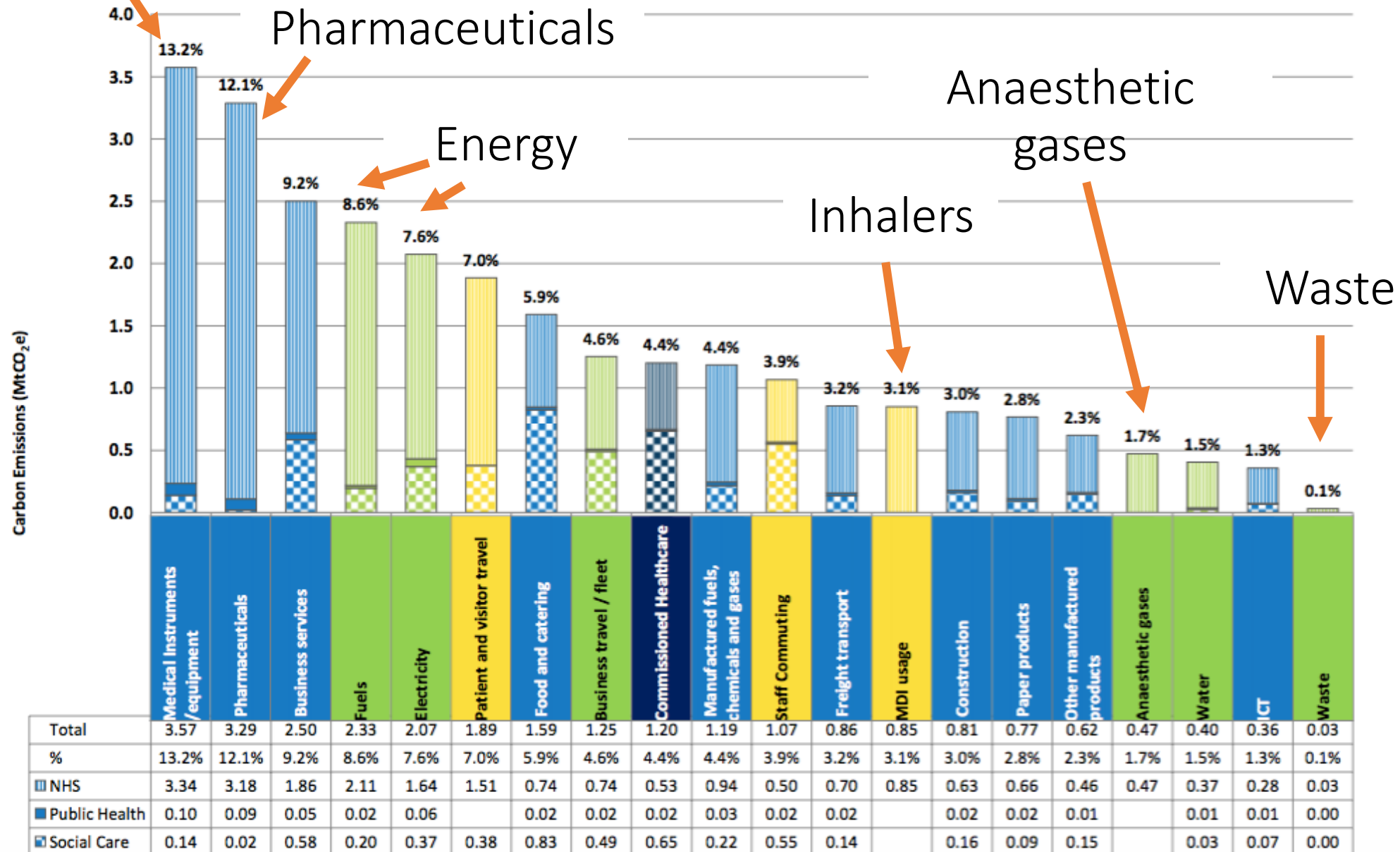
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Sustainability in quality improvement:
redefining value

Authors: Frances Mortimer,^A Jennifer Isherwood,^B Alexander Wilkinson^C and Emma Vaux^{D,E}

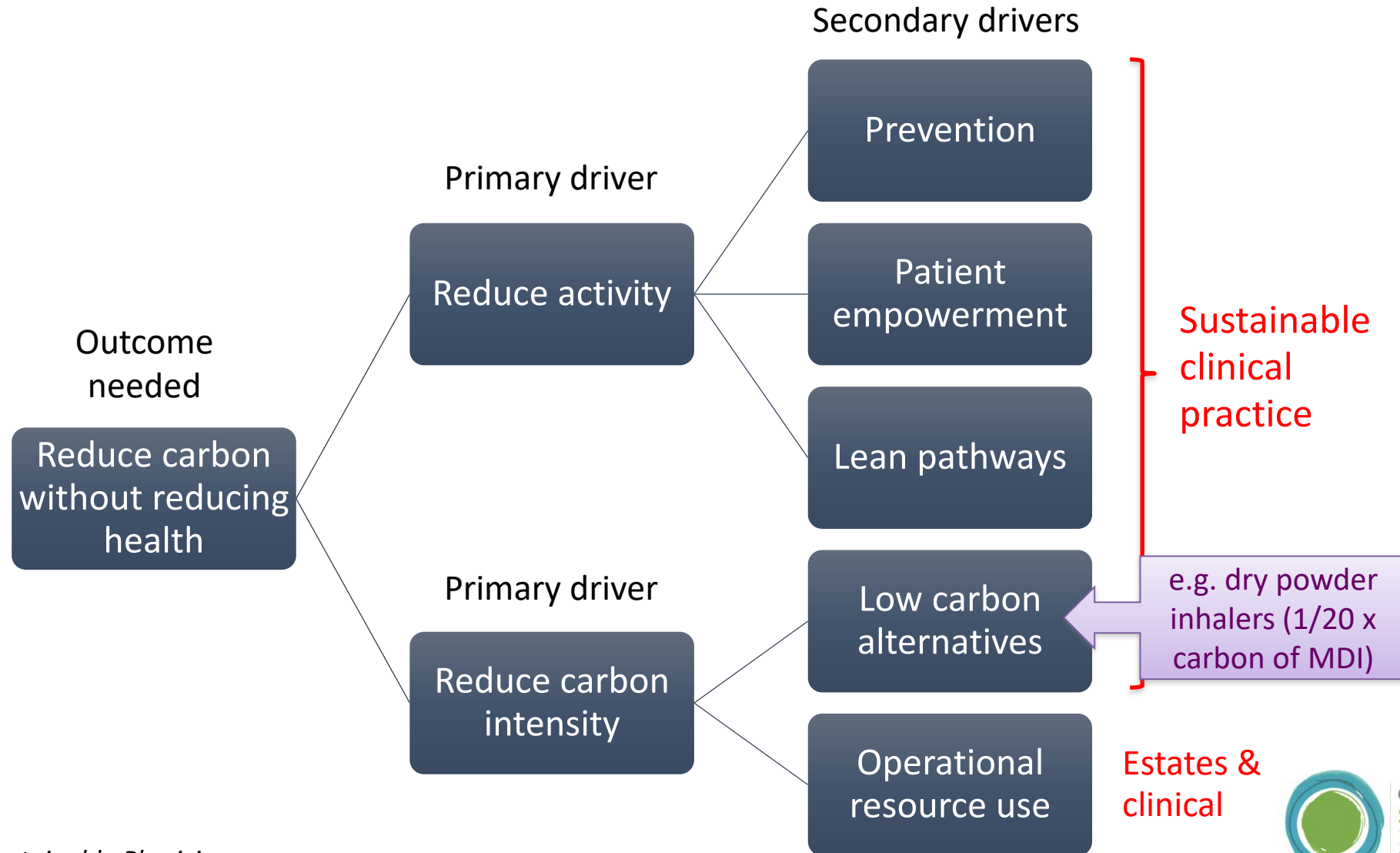
$$\text{Value} = \frac{\text{Outcomes for patients and populations}}{\text{Environmental + social + financial impacts (the 'triple bottom line')}}$$

Medical instruments

Figure 2. Health and Social care detailed breakdown 2017



Concepts: Sustainable clinical practice



Case studies



**GREEN WARD
COMPETITION**
CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE HEALTHCARE



Royal Cornwall Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Trust

Dartford and Gravesham **NHS**
NHS Trust

Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

University Hospital Southampton **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

NHS
Whittington Health
NHS Trust

University College **NHS**
London Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



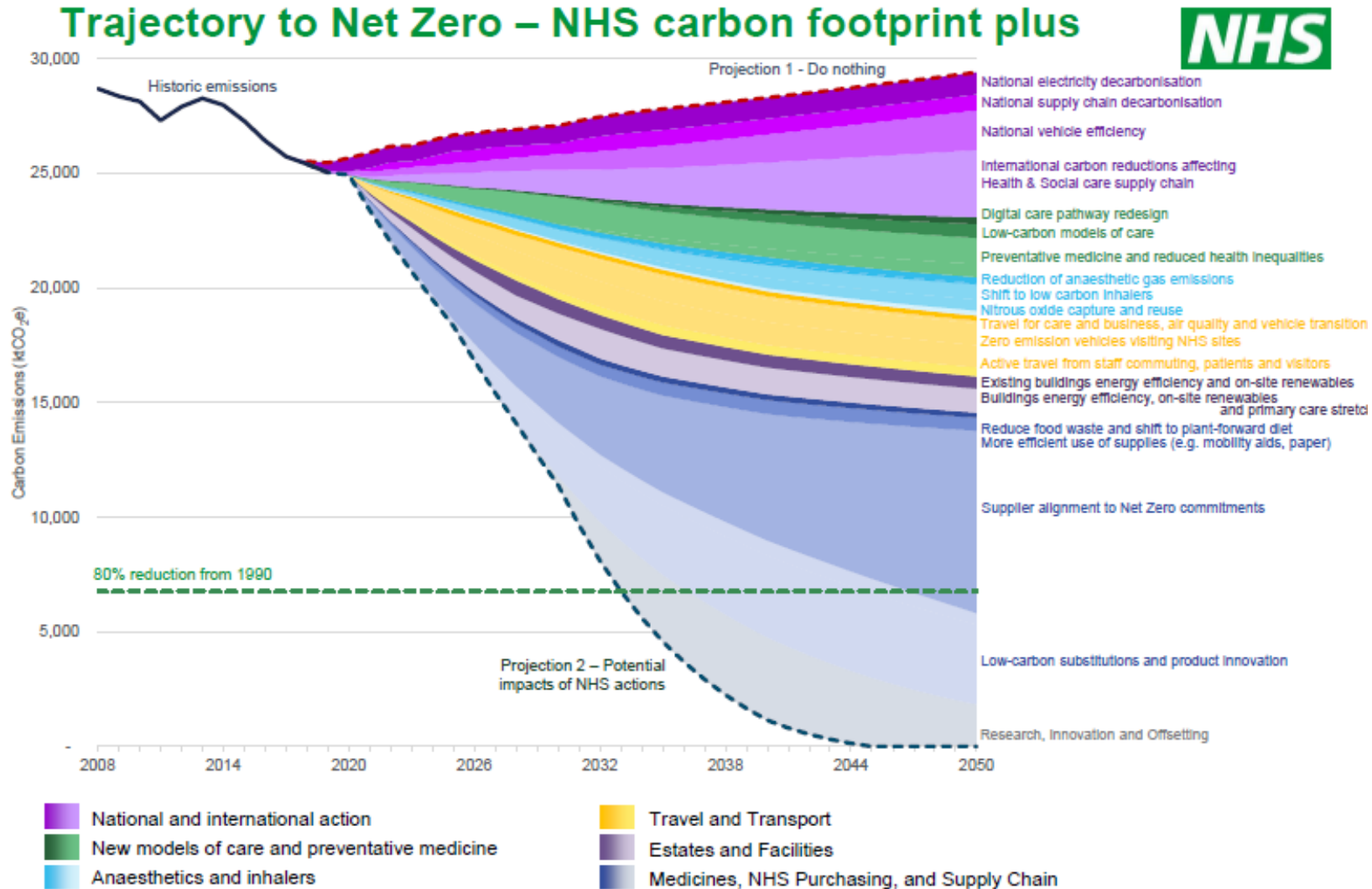
Transform

Targets for a Net Zero NHS

Two clear targets emerge for the NHS net zero commitment:

- for the emissions we control directly, net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032
- for the emissions we can influence, net zero by 2045, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039.

Wedges - how will Net Zero be achieved?





Search

For a greener NHS

National ambition

Net Zero

Get involved

What's already happening



"While the NHS is already a world leader in sustainability, as the biggest employer in this country and comprising nearly a tenth of the UK economy, we're both part of the problem and part of the solution.

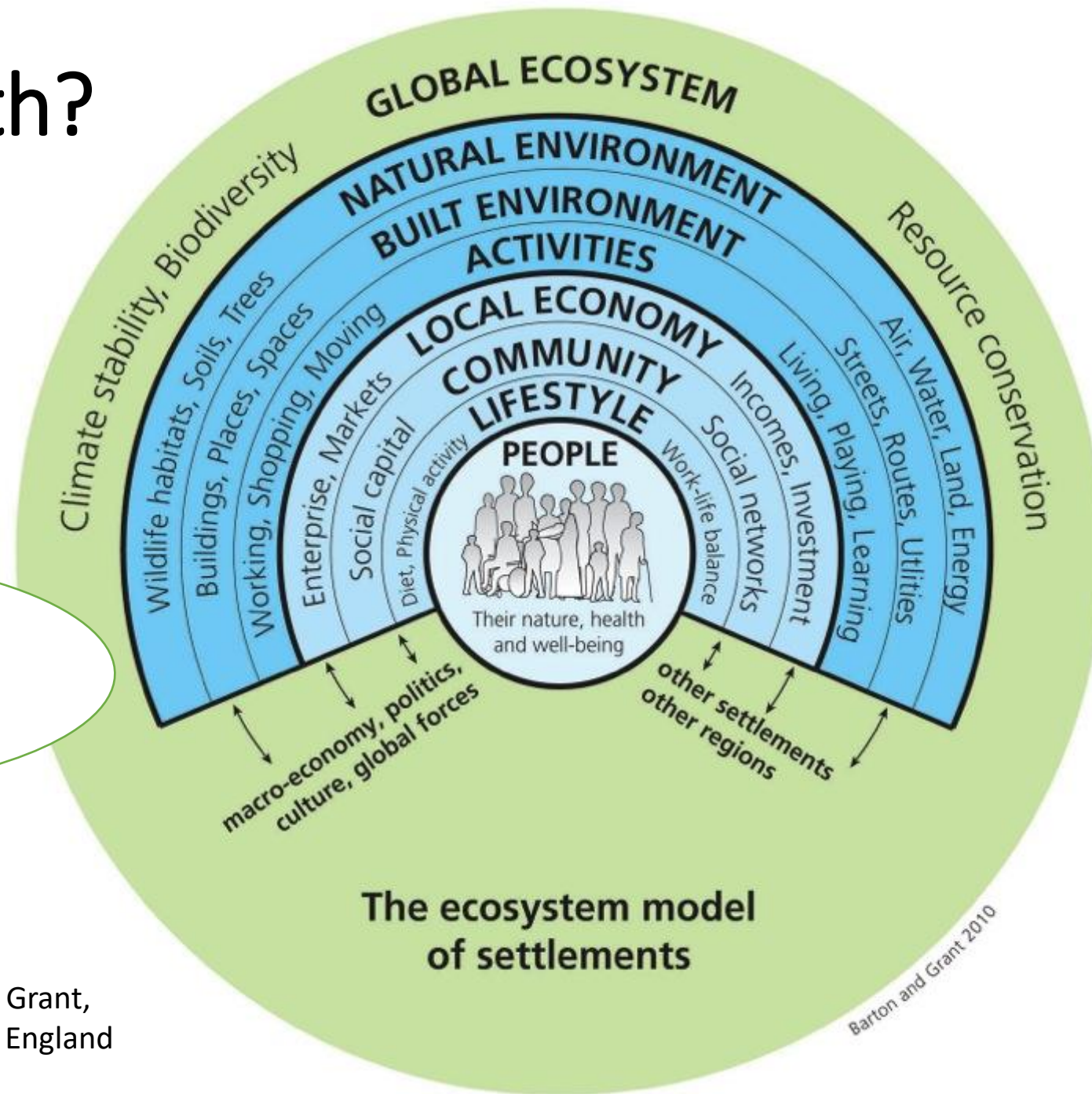
"Indeed if health services across the world were their own country, they'd be the fifth-largest emitter on the planet.

"That's why we are mobilising our 1.3 million staff to take action for a greener NHS, and it's why we'll be working with the world's leading experts to help set a practical, evidence-based and ambitious route map and date for the NHS to reach net zero."

Sir Simon Stevens, NHS Chief Executive.



What is health?



What is the role of the health sector?

- Healthcare
- Public health

Hugh Barton and Marcus Grant,
University of the West of England

Barton and Grant 2010

Role of the health sector

1. Accelerate and shape the response to climate breakdown
2. Model change – show it is possible
3. Use influence in wider society
 - public awareness / culture
 - purchasing power
 - policy (esp. public health)

If you want to learn how to

The Centre runs courses in small groups on:

- Introduction to Sustainable Healthcare
- Leadership for Sustainable Healthcare
- Green Space and health
- Carbon Footprinting
- Sustainable Quality Improvement

<https://sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/courses>



Thank you
@SusHealthcare

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