

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Actions taken

- Developed a joint consensus on [practical measures for environmental sustainability in endoscopy](#) with the Joint Accreditation Group and Centre for Sustainable Healthcare
- Dr Sandeep Siddhi, the BSG's Climate and Sustainability Lead, contributed to the publication of the [Green Surgery Report](#), published in 2023 in collaboration with the UKHACC
- Has a sustainability working group that meets regularly
- Single use plastics are banned
- Cycling to work is incentivised with the Cycle to Work Scheme and provision of weatherproof bike storage and changing/showering facilities
- A plant-based food option is always offered at meetings and educational events
- Encourages event organisers to arrange UK-based in-person speakers (international speakers are asked to present virtually)
- [Annual conference organiser](#) has a sustainability pledge
- Has an equality, diversity and inclusion action plan

Next steps

- Decarbonisation plan: measure your carbon footprint; differentiate between scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions; set short, medium and long-term targets; and publish an annual progress report
- Employ a climate lead with allocated funding
- Have a policy that decisions made by the senior management team must consider the impact on climate change and the environment
- Improve the [energy performance of your building](#) (currently EPC rating F)
- Use energy from a supplier that generates their own green energy and does not trade REGO certificates, and/or generate your own renewable energy
- Develop a green procurement policy, which includes only procuring goods and services from organisations that follow a social value model
- Stop reimbursing flights for business travel. This may include all flights which could be replaced by trains with a journey time of under 6 hours
- Incentivise the use of low carbon travel by reimbursing active or public transport at higher rates than for journeys using cars
- Increase the proportion of the food that is plant-based and locally-sourced, and remove red meat from your menus
- Display carbon and environmental impact labels on your menus
- Introduce a digital transformation plan to reduce carbon emissions
- Switch to the search engine [Ecosia](#)
- Make a climate change adaptation plan to mitigate the risks or effects of climate change and severe weather conditions on your work

FINANCE 

Actions taken

- Publicly divested from direct investments in fossil fuels

Next steps

- Publicly divest from indirect investments in fossil fuels, or commit to doing so
- Publicly divest your pension funds from fossil fuels
- Invest in climate solutions that consider local communities and align with climate justice goals
- Financial transparency: publish a full list of investments and pension holdings
- Move to an ethical bank that does not finance companies opening new fossil fuel reserves (currently with NatWest). Although Natwest have pledged to stop funding new customers looking to finance fossil fuel projects, they remain one of the least ethical banks, investing in companies that manufacture nuclear weapons. They have also been criticised for excessive remuneration - in 2022 its highest paid director was paid £5.25 million - as well as its ethical approach to animal cruelty, tax avoidance strategies, and anti-social finance.
- Move to an ethical insurer (currently with Aviva who continue to underwrite and invest in fossil fuels)

EDUCATION & TRAINING



Actions taken

- In the process of developing an e-learning module in collaboration with the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare entitled Sustainable Endoscopy
- Sustainability Symposia run during annual conference (BSG Live) in 2022 and 2023
- Ran several [webinars](#) on the Climate Emergency and healthcare
 - [Climate Course for Global Gastroenterology](#)
 - [Sustainable Healthcare in the Context of Liver Disease](#)
- A dedicated [webpage](#) on Climate Change & Sustainability with a published position statement and resources

Next steps

- Embed planetary health into your exam curriculum
- Embed deprescribing into your curriculum
- Provide climate and nature training to all of your staff
- Take steps to achieve climate and nature literacy amongst all your members
- Fund a climate and nature fellowship or scholars programme
- Promote strategies and policies that have a positive impact on both planetary health and population health, including:
 - Preventative medicine and early diagnosis
 - Social prescribing and nature-based therapies
 - Reducing inequalities, for example by improving access to green space and improving standards of housing
- Promote sustainable quality improvement

ADVOCACY



Actions taken

- Signed an open letter [urging MPs to attend a briefing on climate change](#), June 2022
- Signed a [letter to the then-Prime Minister](#) Liz Truss asking for stronger climate leadership, Sept 2022
- Signed a [letter from health leaders to Alok Sharma](#), Nov 2022
- Declared a [climate emergency](#) in 2021 strategy on climate change and sustainability
- Member of the [UK Health Alliance on Climate Change](#)
- Contributed to [RCP View on Healthcare Sustainability and Climate Change](#) by providing a Case Study of positive action, published March 2023

Next steps

- Sign the [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#)
- Engage with communities disproportionately impacted by climate change, ecological degradation and pollution, in order to shape policy
- Encourage members to take climate action outside of work