

A light blue silhouette of the London skyline, featuring the Tower Bridge on the left, the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben in the center, and the London Eye on the right. The background is white.

**London Estates Delivery Unit**

# **Decarbonising Primary Care**

**Sustainability opportunities for GP practices**

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# Supporting primary care to decarbonise

The NHS is committed to achieving net zero emissions for all direct emissions (its estates) by 2040, with an interim target of an 80% reduction by 2032. Primary care accounts for approximately 25% of the NHS carbon footprint, making immediate and decisive action essential to meet these ambitious goals.

In London alone, primary care estates produce 35,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually, with approximately 70% from electricity and 30% from gas. To meet the targets, emissions must be reduced by 28,000 tonnes by 2032 and brought as close to zero as possible by 2040.

To support this effort, three key measures have been identified for primary care estates.

Together, these actions will help London primary care estates cut emissions, lower energy costs, and contribute to the NHS's net zero ambitions.

1

**Improve energy efficiency:** Reduce energy waste through measures like insulation and modernised systems.

2

**Maximise local renewable generation:** Harness renewable energy sources like solar power.

3

**Eliminate fossil fuel consumption:** Transition to clean, zero-carbon technologies such as heat pumps.

# Decarbonising primary care estates: Sustainability solutions for GPs

As part of the NHS's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2040, the London Estates Delivery Unit (LEDU) are providing tailored support to help GP practices across London reduce their carbon footprint, improve energy efficiency and lower energy costs. Below are the key sustainability solutions available to practices to support decarbonisation:



## Building Retrofits

**Simple upgrades to reduce energy loss in your practice.**

- Insulation enhancements to retain heat and reduce energy demand.
- Double glazing to improve thermal efficiency.
- Heating and cooling management systems to optimise energy use.



## Solar Panel Installation

**Generate your own renewable energy with on-site solar panels.**

- Meet your electricity needs sustainably.
- Reduce reliance on grid power and lower energy bills.
- Contribute to the generation of clean, green energy.



## Heat Pump Installation

**Transition to zero-carbon heating and cooling.**

- Highly efficient systems to replace traditional gas boilers.
- Support year-round temperature control with minimal emissions.
- Move away from fossil fuels to future-proof your practice.

# Logistical and financial support for decarbonising GP practices

Contractual restrictions within the Premises Cost Directions can limit access to NHS funding, particularly for the purchase and installation of sustainability solutions. To address these challenges, we have identified practical and accessible options that enable GP practices to adopt decarbonisation technologies without upfront capital expenditure or burdensome loan interest rates.

LEDU has engaged with a number of reputable sustainability-focused financial providers to offer innovative solutions, making it easier for GP practices to access sustainability technologies through flexible payment plans. These financing options are designed to:

- **Minimise or eliminate upfront costs** for equipment purchase and installation.
- **Spread costs over time** with manageable repayment plans tailored to your needs.
- **Generate immediate energy savings** while significantly reducing your carbon footprint.

## Benefits of taking action now

- Achieve long-term energy savings and cost stability.
- Contribute to the NHS's net zero targets while enhancing the environmental performance of your practice.
- Access cutting-edge technology with minimal disruption to your operations.

# How to get involved in decarbonising your GP practice

1

**Express your interest:** Contact the LEDU Sustainability Manager to schedule a meeting and discuss your practice's decarbonisation goals and options.

2

**Share practice data:** Provide recent electricity and gas bills to help us understand your energy usage and requirements.

3

**Data analysis:** Independent sustainability specialists will review your property and develop a tailored set of decarbonisation solutions.

4

**Receive cost and financing options:** We will outline the cost of the proposed solutions and guide you through available financing options.

5

**Agree on retrofit and financing:** Choose the decarbonisation solutions and financing plan that best fit your practice's needs.

6

**Feasibility study:** Sustainability experts will complete a detailed on-site assessment to confirm feasibility and ensure optimal outcomes, maximising your return on investment.

7

**Contract and installation:** Finalise the contract with your chosen provider and agree on an installation timeline.



# London Estates Delivery Unit

## Contact details

If you are interested in finding out more information about how this programme can benefit your practice, please contact the LEDU Team below to request a call.

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