

# Reimagining the Future of Healthcare

## Embracing Environmental Sustainability - Workshop Summary

25 people attended the Embracing Environmental Sustainability Online Workshops between the 31 July – 4 August 2023. Mentimeter, an online tool, was used to capture participant responses.

A thematic analysis of responses was completed, and a summary of responses is provided below.

### 1. What do you see as the biggest challenges for environmental sustainability?



### 2. How will the challenges/opportunities of environmental sustainability change your service delivery?

Theme	Participant Responses
<b>Sustainable Healthcare Models</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual hospital models</li> <li>• Telehealth</li> <li>• More preventative measures</li> <li>• Hub and spoke models of care</li> <li>• Proactive rather than reactive</li> <li>• One service multiple sites</li> <li>• Services are easily accessible</li> <li>• Prevention approach</li> <li>• Greater access to public transport</li> <li>• Locate facilities closer to where populations are going to be growing</li> <li>• Decentralisation of health care to improve access</li> </ul>
<b>Changing Ways of Working</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job loss as will be more mechanical</li> <li>• Ensure contracted suppliers have environmental sustainability plans</li> <li>• Attitudes need to change for change to occur</li> <li>• Remote working</li> <li>• Different ways of working for staff</li> <li>• More reliant on computer-based communications</li> <li>• Investment in a futuristic workforce</li> <li>• Educate staff to understand the importance and options available</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active travel options broadened</li> <li>• Whole of health approach</li> <li>• Education to raise awareness</li> <li>• More digital health services</li> <li>• Community collaboration</li> </ul>
<b>Cost Implications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short term it might be expensive to pursue, however will lead to long term cost efficiencies</li> <li>• Increased cost to pay for green energy to reduce emissions</li> <li>• Funding models may change</li> <li>• Funding and grant opportunities for sustainable options</li> </ul>

### 3. How should SWSLHD respond to the challenges/opportunities of environmental sustainability?

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Participant Response</b>
<b>Embed Environmental Sustainability into Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embrace change</li> <li>• Redesign existing workflow and processes</li> <li>• Build more environmentally friendly infrastructure</li> <li>• Lead by example</li> <li>• Ensure messaging is clear to workforce</li> <li>• Reverse logistics</li> <li>• Embrace the change</li> <li>• Connection to climate change national plan</li> <li>• Seek opportunities for sustainable opportunities with cost reduction</li> <li>• Look for best practice examples overseas</li> <li>• Promote our investment in environmental sustainability - will assist with attracting a young workforce</li> <li>• Advocacy on high level</li> <li>• Embed sustainability into redevelopment plans</li> <li>• Forecast and design innovative models for the growing population</li> <li>• One service multiple site</li> <li>• Adopt agile working models</li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration with Partners and Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with PHN and council to spread climate change messaging</li> <li>• Partner with health and community organisations to deliver integrated care</li> <li>• Partner with existing organisations and services</li> <li>• Co-designing with our SWSLHD population</li> <li>• More consultation with the community to look for solutions</li> <li>• Communication and consultation</li> <li>• Consultation / collaboration with front line</li> </ul>
<b>Education and Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work force training</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Education of staff on the necessity and options available to be more sustainable for their units</li> <li>• Give a voice to an many employees as possible</li> <li>• Education and training for our staff</li> <li>• Starting the conversation within our teams/organization</li> <li>• Training and developing staff</li> </ul>
<b>Procedures and Processes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work towards specific quantifiable goals of net zero emissions as a district</li> <li>• Ongoing goals that are regularly reviewed and amended to stay attainable</li> <li>• Good procedure and process</li> <li>• More transparency</li> <li>• Proactive and planning</li> </ul>

**4. What is an innovative approach you or your team could take to respond to the challenge/opportunity of environmental sustainability?**

Theme	Participant Response
<b>Sustainable Workplace Approaches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carpool</li> <li>• Paper reduction in the office</li> <li>• Purchase of recycled products</li> <li>• Sustainable practices in the office</li> <li>• WFH</li> <li>• Incentives carpooling</li> <li>• Compost bins in our offices</li> <li>• Utilise digital platforms in lieu of paper based</li> <li>• Reduce waste</li> </ul>
<b>Embed Environmental Sustainability into Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate sustainability aspects in sourcing of products and services, for example rewarding supplier/products and services that demonstrate and help achieve sustainability goals</li> <li>• Partner with companies with an environmental ethos</li> <li>• Embedding environmental sustainability in redevelopment projects</li> <li>• Reduce waste produced from health care delivery</li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping up to date with research and evidence</li> <li>• Awareness of national and international examples</li> <li>• Advocating for more consumer and community feedback</li> <li>• There is opportunity to have more intra-agency cooperation</li> <li>• Opportunity to work with external organisations</li> </ul>