

THE CLIMATE PATH

Turning sustainability education into measurable NHS social value



The NHS Social Value Playbook explicitly identifies climate change training for the contract workforce as an example of social value where it is additional to the core contract deliverables. PPN 002 also recognises training and education as mechanisms for influencing staff and supply chains.

The Climate Path, hosted on CPDmatch, provides a structured way to build climate and environmental capability, monitor participation and progress and deliver evidence. It can form part of the infrastructure through which suppliers deliver and demonstrate credible environmental social-value commitments in NHS tenders and contracts.

The Climate Path alignment to PPN 002

PPN 002 criterion	What it seeks	How The Climate Path can help
Outcome 4b Climate & nature influence	Influence staff, suppliers, customers and communities to support climate and nature protection. Training and education are explicitly cited.	Deploy structured climate/environmental education to the workforce or wider value chain; record completion and support behaviour change.
Outcome 4a Additional environmental benefits	Deliver additional environmental benefits through the contract, including progress towards net zero, cleaner energy and green technologies.	Build the capability needed to identify and implement contract-related environmental improvements; link education to resulting actions.
General award criteria Measurement and delivery	Specific, measurable and time-bound commitments, with metrics, monitoring tools/processes, governance and a timed plan.	Use organisational participation and completion data as evidence that a defined capability-building commitment has been delivered.
Outcome 2a Skills for growth	Learning and skills development relevant to the contract where an identified skills gap exists.	Address a defined climate/sustainability capability gap where it is relevant to successful delivery of the NHS contract.

Example tender commitment

“During the first 12 months of the contract, we will provide foundational climate and environmental education to 100 employees involved in delivering the NHS contract, targeting at least 90% completion, to strengthen workforce capability to identify and support additional environmental improvements. Participation and completion will be monitored and reported, alongside the contract-related actions supported by this capability.”

From commitment to evidence

COMMITMENT	EDUCATION	CAPABILITY	ACTION	MEASUREMENT	EVIDENCE
Important: A subscription or education activity is not automatically indicative of social value. The commitment must be relevant and proportionate to the contract and, where treated as social value rather than a core requirement, deliver benefit/s additional to the core contract.					

The proposition

The Climate Path can help NHS suppliers turn sustainability education into measurable social value. Organisations can develop climate and environmental capability across their workforce, monitor participation and completion, and evidence delivery of defined educational commitments. A workforce which understands why action is required can strengthen NHS tender responses and help catalyse delivery of additional environmental value throughout the contract.