

## **Sustainable Development Guidance for the NHS NHS Estates**

NHS Estates provide advice, information and guidance to Ministers, the Department of Health and the NHS in England. They wanted to prepare comprehensive guidance on how sustainable development is relevant to the activities and operations of the NHS, and in particular how NHS estates could be planned, designed and managed in a more sustainable manner. A key requirement was that the guidance would draw from existing NHS procedures and support the implementation of Department of Health Greening Government targets.

The Entec team of planners, environmental management, and sustainable construction consultants conducted interviews with representatives of different types of health facility, architects, and construction and services companies. We also conducted a comprehensive review of international best practice for healthcare and other types of estate. A draft definition of sustainable development for the NHS was proposed supported with data on how the NHS currently impacts sustainable development in the UK.

The second part of the guidance contained detailed advice on incorporating sustainability throughout the estate lifecycle into:

- planning;
- design and construction;
- operations (EMS, energy and water management, transport and waste minimisation);
- procurement; and
- establishing partnerships.

A third section of the guidance contains a bibliography and comprehensive sources of further information.

The guidance will be used in evaluating approaches to sustainability in new hospital projects. It is available through the NHS Estates website:

<http://www.nhsestates.gov.uk>

*Guidance on sustainable development for the largest property portfolio in Europe*

