

## **Environmental Management System**

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### ***Version Control***

v1 – Aug 18

## ***Introduction***

**Southern Ultrasound** provides Managed Ultrasound Services to the NHS and Private Clinics.

**Southern Ultrasound** recognises its responsibility to respect and protect the environment and will strive to achieve environmental best practice throughout its business activity.

**Southern Ultrasound** shall ensure its operations comply with the requirements of environmental legislation and approved codes of practice.

## ***Scope & Range***

To achieve these aims, **Southern Ultrasound** shall routinely analyse the environmental impact of current and planned operations in an effort to improve environmental performance by the reduction of pollutants, emissions and waste, as well as reduced use of energy, raw materials and supplies.

**Southern Ultrasound** shall make all reasonable effort to raise awareness, encourage participation and train employees in environmental matters. **Southern Ultrasound** shall also offer advice to Clients on the use of services in an environmentally-sensitive manner and encourage and participate in discussions on environmental issues.

## ***Policy Aims***

We endeavour to:

- Comply with, and exceed, all relevant regulatory requirements.
- Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- Increase employee awareness and training.

## ***Main Responsibilities***

### ***Directors***

Overall responsibility for **Southern Ultrasound's** environmental impact shall lie with the Director(s),

### ***Environment Lead***

A single named Director has been nominated as Environment Lead, to ensure policies and procedures are implemented, monitored and reviewed as appropriate. Current Environmental Lead is **Kevin Rendell**

In making decisions with regards Environmental Impact of business operations, there is a need to balance responsibilities and desires against any negative impact on business performance and profit.

The Environment Lead is also tasked with identifying how to manage operations in such a way that a win-win situation results, with improving environmental impact (reduced impact) corresponding to, and resulting in, improving turnover and profit figures.

The Environment Lead shall ensure that Managers and Staff are kept informed about Environmental matters, targets and foster a 'healthy planet' ethos.

### ***All Staff***

All staff are expected to operate in such a manner that concern for the environment is a constant consideration. They must be environmentally aware and appreciate that small actions by many can have a bigger impact than single large actions by a few. So simple things such as turning of lights when leaving a room empty, reducing the thermostat level and boiling less water in the kettle all impact greatly over time.

## ***Culture***

We will involve staff in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance.

We will update this policy at least once annually in consultation with staff and other stakeholders where necessary.

We will provide staff with relevant environmental training.

We will work with suppliers, contractors and sub-contractors to improve their environmental performance.

We will use local labour and materials where available to reduce CO2 and help the community.

## ***References***

Climate Change Act 2008

Environmental Protection Act 1990

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Control of Pollution Act 1974

## ***Policy***

Environmental Management requirements are separated in to a number of key factors.

### **Paper**

- We will minimise the use of paper in the office and provide information by electronic means wherever possible.
- We will seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products.
- We will reuse and recycle all paper where possible.

### **Energy and water**

- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible.
- Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use.
- Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind.
- The energy consumption and efficiency of new products will be taken into account when purchasing.

### **Office supplies**

- We will evaluate if the need can be met in another way.
- We will evaluate the environmental impact of any new products we intend to purchase and favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products wherever possible.
- We will reuse and recycle everything we are able to.

### **Monitoring and improvement**

- We will comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- We will continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- We will continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- We will incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- We will increase employee awareness through training.

## ***Sustainable Development in the Healthcare Environment***

This sub-policy relates to **Southern Ultrasound's** healthcare services to patients. The policy is based on the NHS England guidance of Sustainable Delivery

### ***Background.***

"Sustainability" can be defined as meeting the needs of today without compromising the needs of tomorrow. Therefore, by ensuring we become a sustainable organisation, Southern Ultrasound has the best chance of long term survival.

"Sustainable Development" is the process by which we improve both the sustainability of the Company, and the way it provides services and interacts with people in the community. It is about striking the right balance between the three key areas of financial, social and environmental sustainability when making decisions.

Sustainable Development:

- saves money
- benefits staff and patients
- saves resources

Southern Ultrasound achieves it by:

- reducing the amount of resources used;
- recycling resources that cannot be reused;
- reusing resources where possible

### ***Southern Ultrasound commitments.***

**Southern Ultrasound** measures, monitors and is trying to reduce carbon where possible across the organisation.

**Southern Ultrasound** is actively raising carbon awareness at every level of the organisation.

**Southern Ultrasound** will work with Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust in achieving its Sustainable Development Management Plan & Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model.

Good quality healthcare delivered at the right time and in the right place to the right person reduces the use of resources, carbon and improves sustainability. So, in the delivery of our services, Southern Ultrasound continually:

- Ensure that services meet identifiable population needs
- Ensure best available evidence is always considered
- Improve overall efficiency of patient care pathway
- Identify key areas to make the service more sustainable by listening to Staff and patients, who may have ideas that could make a service more sustainable.

### ***Examples of Actions taken***

- Assess the social and environmental impacts of proposed redesigned services alongside financial impacts and health outcomes.
- Consider the needs, risks, strengths and assets of communities served and ensure that services are tailored to support and manage health and wellbeing, particularly for those that are most in need or most vulnerable.
- Review models of care and patient pathways taking into account the overhead use of resources and carbon footprint to identify where resources are used and can be reduced.
- Consider most appropriate service location to minimise travel and facilitate access, including use of mobile technology. Enable service users to access services in different ways.

## ***Training Requirements***

Training requirements as a result of this policy are assessed by the Director(s) and implemented accordingly.

Staff training and awareness of this and associated policies is undertaken at induction and discussed as part of clinical appraisals.

The specific training required is generally initially based of job role, but there is an overlap of responsibilities, and all staff receive identical core training.

## ***Awareness Plan***

Promotion of this Policy is provided by the Environment Lead to Service managers and those staff for whom it each section has direct relevance.

A copy is retained on the company's on-line Staff Governance Folder, which all staff have access to 24/7.

Environmental considerations feature routinely on Team Briefs, and signage is positioned at strategic locations throughout Offices and work locations to remind staff and encourage their compliance with the overall aims and specific requirements.

## ***Approval & Review***

This Environmental Management System and the associated sub-policies have been approved by the Board of Directors and will be reviewed annually and any time there is a material change in company operations or environmental legislation

Policy Created: 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Date of Last Review & Amendment: N/A

Kevin Rendell



Director & Environment Lead

## ***Equality Impact Assessment***

An Equality Impact Assessment has been performed on this policy and sub-policies. The EIA demonstrates the policy is robust; there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

		Yes/No	Comments
1.	Does the policy/guidance affect one group less or more favourably than another on the basis of:		
	▪ Race	No	
	▪ Ethnic origins (inc. gypsies and travellers)	No	
	▪ Nationality	No	
	▪ Gender	No	
	▪ Culture	No	
	▪ Religion or belief	No	
	▪ Sexual orientation including lesbian, gay and bisexual people	No	
	▪ Age	No	
	▪ Disability - learning disabilities, physical disability, sensory impairment and mental health problems	No	
2.	Is there any evidence that some groups are affected differently?	No	
3.	If you have identified potential discrimination, are any exceptions valid, legal and/or justifiable?	NA	
4.	Is the impact of the policy/guidance likely to be negative?	NA	
5.	If so can the impact be avoided?	NA	
6.	What alternatives are there to achieving the policy/guidance without the impact?	NA	
7.	Can we reduce the impact by taking different action?	NA	