

Policy Applies to:

All Mercy Staff.

Credentialed Specialists, contractors and suppliers will be actively assisted in achieving compliance with this policy.

Related Legislation:

- Health and Safety at Work Act, 2015
- Resource Management Act 1991 Reprint 2019
- Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016
- Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017
- Building Act 2004
- Local Government Act 2002
- Health Act 1956 Reprint 2012
- Radiation Safety Act 2016
- Fire & Emergency Act 2017
- DCC 2GP District Plan (current on line)
- Conservation Act 1987
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996

Rationale:

Mercy Hospital is committed to taking an active role in caring for the environment by demonstrating continuous improvement in its environmental performance.

Objectives

1. Minimise or negate any environmental impacts created by Mercy Hospital, with a focus on and commitment to continual improvement.
2. To comply with all applicable NZ Health, Safety and Environmental legislation.
3. Work with our suppliers and clients to encourage, coerce and empower them where possible to reduce their environmental impact.

Cultural Considerations:

Environmental management should promote kaitiakitanga, and work in partnership with local iwi on matters pertaining to the mana, tapu and mauri. Consider cultural implications of new sustainability projects and the effects this will have on the land.

Definitions

Pollution includes all harmful discharges to land, air or water.

Carbon Emissions is the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions associated with all the activities of a person or other entity (e.g., building, corporation, country, etc.).

Kaitiakitanga is the exercise of guardianship by the tangata whenua of an area in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to natural and physical resources; and includes the ethic of stewardship.

Implementation

To achieve our desired outcomes (Rationale/Intent) Mercy will:

- Promote staff engagement in environmental sustainability targets and actions
- Systematically assess/reassess activities and their effects on the environment
- Update Mercy's Environmental Impacts Register and its Legislative Compliance Register;
- Identify required actions needed to minimise or mitigate each effect;
- Set targets based on identified planned actions;
- Monitor progress against established targets.
- Use GreenStar framework (where appropriate) and sustainable and cultural building guidelines for any new build projects (referenced in Appendix 1)

Key environmental management goals include:

- Minimising waste by evaluating operational activities, ensuring they are efficient and effective;
- Minimising emissions through efficient design and use of discharging plant (boilers and generators), along with consideration of staff travel frequency, mode and purpose;
- Actively promoting involvement in sustainability projects and practices both internally and amongst its customers and suppliers base;
- Improve education, accessible to all staff, relating to environmental sustainability policies and practices
- Being mindful of factors such as product lifecycle, supplier environmental policy and transport-related emissions when engaging in product selection and purchasing functions;
- Complying with all environmental legislation that relates to Mercy Hospital;
- Considering carbon absorption and biodiversity factors in the planning and maintenance of Mercy's 4 hectare campus grounds.
- Maintain and monitor data on key indicators such as water, energy use and waste weights

Facilitation of staff engagement may include (but is not limited to):

- Maintenance of an 'Environmental Management Steering Group' (EMSG) that:
 - a. Meets not less than five times per year;
 - b. Identifies and promotes the implementation of 'green' projects: projects to be prioritised based on the impact significance rating within the Mercy Environmental Impacts Register;
 - c. Reviews a bi-annual report on compliance with relevant legislation;
 - d. Reports to Mercy Executive and provides written reports to the Board of Directors at least annually
- Inclusion of appropriate wording regarding 'working in a way that protects the environment and prevents pollution' in to relevant employment documentation when HR processes permit.
- Regular communication/information to all staff, credentialed specialists and contractors on environmental matters and Mercy's achievements and aspirations/targets, through newsletter, staff meetings etc.
- Environmental Sustainability topic at new staff orientation day

Evaluation:

- Evidence of staff project team meeting 5 times a year (or more)
- Evidence of regular compliance reports with recommendations
- Evidence of communication to staff, credentialed specialists and contractors on environmental matters
- Evidence of annual review of Mercy activities and their effects on the environment

Associated Documents

External

- Enviromark Checklists
- Legislation as defined
- EQulP NZ guide: Standard 3.2.3 'Waste and environmental management supports safe practice and a safe and sustainable environment'

Internal

- Appendix 1 Sustainable and Cultural Building Guidelines
- Environmental Impacts Register
- Legislation Compliance Register
- Health and Safety Policy
- Hazardous Substances Policy
- Hazard Management Policy
- Relevant Infection control policies
- Radiation Policy
- Cytotoxic Safe Handling and Disposal Policy
- Section 3 Recruitment, Selection and Appointment, Human Resources Guidelines

- Organisational Risk/Hazard register
- Hazardous Substances Inventory
- Product Evaluation Process
- Radiation Policy
- Waste Management Policy
- Environmental Cleaning Policy