

Auckland DHB adopting the UN Sustainability Goals as strategy

In May 2018 the Executive Team set a more challenging and broader strategic direction moving from a focus on carbon mitigation and reduction to a much wider focus on sustainability. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is at the centre of this, along with our partnership with Ngāti Whātua. This gives us a unique lens for how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can work in Aotearoa New Zealand to mitigate the harmful effects on health arising from climate change and health inequity.

This programme will inform our strategic planning and provide assurance to our stakeholders that we have a strategic response to the global sustainable development agenda.



Stakeholder Engagement

Stage one is aligning the Auckland DHB strategy to the SDG Goals. Some goals are more relevant to our role as a DHB than others. To determine which goals are most important to the people who work at Auckland DHB, our patients, whānau and stakeholders we asked them to identify and prioritise which SDGs we should integrate into our future planning.

Our commitment to the aligning the SDGs into our strategy and planning is based on five principles:

Principle 1: Integrated

Sustainability must be integrated into the core business and governance processes. The SDGs will inform strategy which, in turn, contributes to achieving our goals.

Principle 2: Materiality

The materiality assessment takes the organisation through a process to identify these issues and understand why they are the most important, enabling us to tell this story to our stakeholders and the wider community.

Principle 3: Inclusive

We want those who are impacted by the organisation's actions to be included in decision making processes. Stakeholder engagement is being conducted in a deliberate and intentional way to bring about positive outcomes.

Principle 4: Transparency

As an organisation we act with integrity and that means being transparent on material sustainability topics and the impacts they have. This includes reporting on how we are doing on sustainability to our staff, our patients and whānau and other stakeholders.

Principle 5: Future-focused

Aligning to the SDGs requires a future-focus. We need to consider medium and long-term risks, opportunities and challenges for the organisation, the community and environment we operate in. Knowledge of future issues and the ability to operate skilfully under the inevitable uncertainty are key capabilities required by any organisation looking to address sustainability strategically.

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Most relevant SDGs:

