Dear Colleague

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP ASSESSMENT MODEL FOR NHSSCOTLAND

Summary

1. This letter notifies colleagues of the launch of the Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model for NHSScotland website, which has been prepared by the Sustainable Development Commission Scotland and Health Facilities Scotland in consultation with relevant Scottish Government stakeholders.

Action

2. All NHS Boards are required to register with Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model Scotland and start using the self-assessment tool by 30 June 2010. Boards are also reminded that a member of the Board must be nominated as Sustainable Development Champion, as required under NHS CEL 15 (2009), to drive forward the sustainability agenda within each organisation. The Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model (GCCAM) website is available through the following link: http://www.corporatecitizen.scot.nhs.uk/.

Background

3. GCCAM was initially developed in 2006 by the Sustainable Development Commission and the Department of Health in England and later revised in 2009 in cooperation with the English NHS Sustainable Development Unit. The model has been adapted for use by NHSScotland by the Sustainable Development Commission Scotland, Health Facilities Scotland and the Scottish Government and, has been piloted within NHS Grampian and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde as part of the development process.

4. GCCAM for NHSScotland has been adapted around the Scottish Government’s Purpose, 5 Strategic Objectives and 15 National Outcomes, whilst still keeping in mind the five key principles of sustainable development outlined in the UK Sustainable Development Strategy ‘Securing the Future’.
Further Information

5. Within the six Key Areas of GCCAM, tool users will be able to find reference to those Scottish Government National Outcomes that are indirectly or directly affected by the GCCAM tool.

6. The Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model Scotland website provides practical advice for all NHSScotland organisations on how to develop sustainable practices. This is done through a series of questions relating to all aspects of their organisation from travel through buildings to community engagement. The website also contains extensive support and background information. Further guidance, where necessary, is available through Health Facilities Scotland’s Sustainable Development Manager, contact details below:

   Doug Flint
   Sustainable Development Manager
   Health Facilities Scotland (Engineering and Environment Team)
   NHS National Services Scotland
   Empire House
   131 West Nile Street
   Glasgow G1 2RX
   Tel: 0141 352 5543
   Email: dflint@nhs.net

7. The Assessment Model is designed to be used by all NHSScotland Boards - territorial NHS Boards and Special NHS Boards. The tool’s strength is that it can generate greater awareness and activity around sustainability issues, both amongst staff and with partner organisations. The Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model is a tool to help NHS organisations and individuals within Boards to think about how they can contribute to sustainable development. The six key areas of GCCAM can also form the basis for the development of NHS Boards’ Sustainable Development Action Plans, as required under NHS CEL 15 (2009).

8. The tool is not an official, or formal, accredited auditing process. Rather it is a self-assessment tool which will enable continuous improvement and provide a starting point for peer review and information sharing within NHSScotland bodies on their contribution to sustainable development. The results can be shared with other organisations and compared with guidance on what scores your organisation should be aiming to achieve by 2012, 2015 and 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Baxter
Deputy Director, Capital Planning and Asset Management