

# Regional partnerships for health and sustainable development in Yorkshire and Humber

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**Sustainable**  
Development Commission

# Progress in Practice

**Regional partnerships for health and sustainable development in Yorkshire and Humber**  
An overview of how regional organisations in the Yorkshire and Humber region are working together, with the NHS, on health and sustainable development

## Summary

The Yorkshire and Humber region has developed effective joint working, on health and sustainable development, between the various regional bodies, and the NHS.

Alison Patey, Health Strategy Manager for the Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Group is co-located with the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly, which has helped the two organisations to link up and ensure that health is embedded within key regional strategies. The Regional Sustainable Development Framework includes a vision for improved health and wellbeing in the region, and an aim of creating “conditions and services engendering good health”; the Regional Economic Strategy includes aims on health, social inclusion and communities; and the region’s delivery plan for sustainable farming and food stresses the role that farming and food can play in developing healthy communities and reducing health inequalities.

Embedding health in these strategies has helped set the context for putting sustainable development into practice in the NHS. The Public Health Group has identified procurement, employment and capital development as the three areas in the NHS with the most significant contributions to make to sustainable development in the region. The region’s three Strategic Health Authorities have now each taken on responsibility for advancing one of these. The Regional Development Agency – Yorkshire Forward – is currently funding two projects on sustainable procurement and employment in the NHS.

The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly’s Sustainability Commission is also taking forward a work programme on health, to provide support to NHS Trusts in the region to help them address sustainable development issues. The region’s delivery plan for sustainable farming and food – *Farming and Food: A Framework for Change* – includes recommendations for public sector sustainable food procurement, and the Sustainability Commission hopes to follow this up by developing a project on sustainable food procurement in the region.

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**Links and organisations involved:** The key regional organisations working on sustainable development and health in Yorkshire and Humber are: the Government Office for Yorkshire and Humber ([www.goyh.gov.uk](http://www.goyh.gov.uk)); the Regional Assembly ([www.rayh.gov.uk](http://www.rayh.gov.uk)); Yorkshire Forward (the Regional Development Agency – [www.yorkshire-forward.com](http://www.yorkshire-forward.com)). The three Strategic Health Authorities in the region are: South Yorkshire SHA ([www.southyorkshire.nhs.uk](http://www.southyorkshire.nhs.uk)); North and East Yorkshire & Northern Lincolnshire SHA ([www.neynlsha.nhs.uk](http://www.neynlsha.nhs.uk)); West Yorkshire ([www.wysha.nhs.uk](http://www.wysha.nhs.uk)).

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