

# Why an environmental management plan?

The ANMF (Vic Branch) promotes action on climate change and environmental sustainability because:

1

health and wellbeing, and the environment in which we live, are interlinked.

2

climate has an impact on food production, water availability, and living conditions. Climate change is having a negative impact on our health and the demand on our health systems.

3

nurses and midwives are at the forefront of providing care to the community, including individuals affected by climate change.

4

ANMF (Vic Branch) delegates passed a resolution at the 2012 Delegates Conference requesting that the Branch become more involved in policy debate on climate change and environmental issues.

ANMF (Vic Branch) has developed sustainability initiatives and resources that support our members. One of the priorities in our 2018-23 Strategic Plan is to produce an environmental management plan.

Love  
OUR  
Planet



## What is the plan's aim?

The ANMF (Vic Branch) environmental management plan 2019-23 captures what we are already doing and what we propose to do to reduce our carbon footprint and to contribute to climate mitigation, healthcare resilience and environmental sustainability.

PROTECT  
what  
YOU  
LOVE



## The plan's scope

The plan addresses ANMF (Vic Branch) sites, organisational activities and the delivery of services, including:



a. corporate offices and facilities



b. support services (e.g. catering, cleaning)



c. education/ research



d. delivery of campaigns/ programs/events



e. facilities operations



f. new capital works.

# What have we done so far?

The plan builds on the Branch's considerable body of work promoting action on climate change and environmental sustainability. Actions include:



1. **2013:** Launched the ANMF (Vic Branch) Health and Environmental Sustainability Conference (HESC). This conference is held annually, covering issues related to links between health and the environment, providing education, networking opportunities and showcasing member achievements.
2. **2014:** Created the ANMF (Vic Branch) Green Nurses and Midwives Facebook page - a connection, communication and resource hub.
3. **2015:** Employed an environmental health officer to:
  - a. connect members to sustainability groups within health networks and establish new ones
  - b. drive new policy
  - c. network with nurses and midwives and promote the work of green champions through ANMF (Vic Branch) publications and events
  - d. liaise with government and other stakeholders.
4. **2016:** had environmental sustainability written into the service delivery partnership plans of the 2016–20 public sector enterprise agreements.
5. **Education:** We conducted environmental education seminars and in 2017 began delivering a 'Nursing for the environment' workshop. Conducted twice a year, this workshop supports participants to integrate climate change risk mitigation and environmental sustainability into their work settings.
6. **2017–20:** We successfully lobbied the Andrews Government to create a new waste education officer role. Eight interventions have been developed and are being rolled out across Victorian public hospitals. ANMF (Vic Branch) sits on the project working group supporting this role.

**In 2020** we are working with the Victorian Therapeutics Advisory Group in developing a Victorian Framework for Handling and Disposal of Pharmaceutical Waste.

## How will we measure the plan's effectiveness?

ANMF (Vic Branch) will measure our environmental footprint through the collection of our energy, water, waste and emissions data. Our baseline year is 2019-20. We will work to reduce our footprint through activities and targets.

Energy consumption - electricity

Energy savings

Greenhouse gas emissions

Water consumption

Waste

## Environmental targets

We anticipate developing targets from 2021-23, in consultation with CitySwitch. The targets will be in line with the environment policy and focus on...

A

minimising water and energy consumption, and waste generation,

B

procurement preferencing of sustainable products and services,

C

the integration of environmental assessment into key decision-making processes.



## ANMF (Vic Branch) Environmental Management Plan 2019–23

### Governance and compliance

- Develop an ANMF (Vic Branch) environmental management plan (EMP).
- EMP reviewed at start of each year to identify that year's priority areas.
- The Environment Committee will oversee the implementation of the EMP.
- Maintain sustainability-related professional memberships and relationships:

- promotes projects of mutual interest.
- ANMF (Vic Branch) is a member of Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH).
- CitySwitch signatory.
- Take 2: founding members 2016.
- ANMF (Vic Branch) engages selectively with environmental advocacy groups around areas of mutual concern.
- Australian Council of Trade Unions - Climate Action Group.
- Participates with Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC) in climate related initiatives.

- Comply with legislation and reporting requirements including mandatory and elective.

#### Detail:

- Achieved 5 green star rating: May 2018.
- Pursue NABERS rating.
- Sustainability clauses are included in tenancy contracts.
- We meet our CitySwitch signatory obligations and annually report on our energy, water waste and emissions.
- This plan will establish baseline and capture annual energy, water, waste and emissions.

- Professional submissions: Keep abreast of government initiatives impacting environmental health, write submissions and promote environmental health issues impacting on nurses, midwives and carers.

Submissions are available to read on the ANMF (Vic Branch) website: [anmfvic.asn.au/sustainability](http://anmfvic.asn.au/sustainability)

## People and places

### Communication and engagement

- Each calendar year the Environment Committee will select one environmental event to promote and support within the organisation.
- Each year the EC will select environmental events and days to support and promote.
- The EC will work with staff to identify operational areas for sustainability review and improvement.

### Energy

- Consider life cycle costs and energy use, not just purchase price for plant/equipment purchases.
- Maintain energy strategy:

- 120 photovoltaics capable of generating 177 kilowatts of power per days.
- Insulated pipes.
- Energy efficient chillers, fans and pumps with variable speed drives, CO2 sensors, BMS controls, and economy cycle. (This means the system self-adjusts to the buildings requirements)
- High performance building fabric plus shading fins to reduce solar gains and glass with outer pane: 6mm monolithic glass, air gap:12mm, inner pane:10mm monolithic glass.
- Collect and analyse sub-meter data on a monthly basis to better understand building performance.

### Water

- Maintain water strategy:

- 36kL (36,000 litre) rainwater harvesting system to reduce mains water consumption.
- rainwater storage tank to service toilets and urinals and
- Fire system test re-use- means water gets recirculated and don't have to clear and refill for pressure testing
- Water efficient fixtures and fittings.
- Condensing boilers which recover heat that would otherwise be wasted.

### Procurement

- Capture existing achievements.
- Explore opportunities for improvement.
- Revise the existing principles of procurement.

### Travel and transport

- Provide end of trip facilities for staff and visitors to encourage active travel eg: secure bike lock-up, showers and lockers.
- Located close to public transport.
- We include fuel efficient and hybrid vehicles in our fleet.
- Carpark carbon monoxide monitoring has an air replacement system 50% above code.

### Indoor environment quality strategy

- Low VOC paints, sealants, adhesives, and carpets used throughout the base building and fit-out.
- Windows to provide natural light and access to views.
- Carbon dioxide monitoring and control for the mechanical system/extraction systems.
- Optimal illumination levels from electrical lighting. (LED)
- Base building services noise levels are design to not exceed 'satisfactory' noise levels.
- Tenant exhaust riser to exhaust toilets, kitchenettes, computer, and print rooms - improves air quality.
- High performance glazing and building fabric, plus shading fins to reduce to solar gains.
- We implement chemical free steam and microfibre cleaning.

### Capital works

- Consider whole life costing in the design and construction of member accommodation and refurbishment projects.

## Waste strategy

### → Organics:

- ANMF (Vic Branch) has an industrial grade organics composter - CLO 50, to divert organics from landfill.

### → Other waste streams:

- Conduct a waste audit based on the CitySwitch guidance documents and template
- Incorporate this into baseline data and staff education.
- Develop a system to capture data on other waste streams recycled / diverted from landfill including:
  - printer cartridges
  - furniture
  - comingle
  - office paper
  - confidential paper.
- E-waste
  - Capture volumes diverted from landfill and include in reporting. Offer staff a collection of small e-waste items twice a year.

## Sustainable healthcare

### → ANMF (Vic Branch) remains committed to supporting and resourcing members sustainability progress through

- Annual health and environmental sustainability conference
- Regular wellness conference
- 'Nursing for the environment' workshop
- Developing 'Nursing for the environment' online modules based on Global Green and Healthy Hospitals.
- Green Nurses & Midwives Facebook Group
- Advocacy and mediation

## Industrial

- Mediate between members and management as needed.
- Advocate for the environment to remain within Healthcare Statement of Priorities.

## How will we monitor the plan?

The plan's progress will be reviewed by the ANMF (Vic Branch) Environment Committee biannually. Progress will be reported to Branch Council.



Further information about ANMF (Vic Branch) environmental sustainability and climate action can be found at [anmfvic.asn.au/HES](http://anmfvic.asn.au/HES)



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