



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2020



East Grampians Health Service (EGHS) continues to demonstrate our commitment to a more sustainable environment. EGHS has a program of recycling appropriate waste, reducing energy consumption, reusing equipment and supplies and considering sustainability when purchasing these items. Recognition of the link between the health and wellness of people and the health and wellness of the environment, is in keeping with the EGHS mission statement: *“EGHS will improve our community’s health and quality of life through strong partnerships and by responding to changing needs.”* The CEO and Management of EGHS recognise the importance of and are committed to sustainable environmental management by reducing landfill waste, reducing energy usage and promotion of energy efficient behaviours.

## About East Grampians Health Service

The core business of East Grampians Health Service (EGHS) is a rural health service with campuses located at Ararat and Willaura in Western Victoria.

EGHS offers a wide range of services including:

### Inpatient/Acute Services

These are services that the public access for short term health care needs, for example, an operation or treatment of an acute illness that requires a short hospital stay.

The Inpatient Unit accommodates medical, surgical, pediatric, midwifery and palliative care patients in a 24 bed unit. There are 6 surgical day procedure beds and a six chair dialysis unit operates six days per week. EGHS continues to accept a wide range of surgical patients with the visiting surgeons operating five days a week. The Central Sterilising department services all areas of the health service as well as the local Medical Centre and East Wimmera Health Services.

The Ararat campus offers 24-hour urgent care service and Oncology one day per week.

### Aged Care Residential Services

EGHS provides quality care for older people who require aged care in spacious modern accommodation. Ararat campus offers 69 aged care beds and Willaura campus offers 12 aged care beds and 8 acute care beds. Other Aged Care Services offered are Day Centres at both campuses.

### Community Services

Community Services are delivered by EGHS to support people to improve their health and remain living independently in the community. We encourage awareness and provide education to enable community members to play an active role in improving their own health

The Community Health Centre hosts services including Dental, Physiotherapy, Exercise Physiology, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Speech Pathology, Dietetics, Diabetes Education and Social Work. We offer outreach services to Willaura as well as the Bush Nursing Centres in Lake Bolac and Elmhurst. Our clinicians support other clinical areas including our acute and residential aged care patients. The Centre also hosts speciality clinics such as consulting suites for visiting surgeons and Maternal Child Health Nurses.

The Patricia Hinchey Centre offers community outings, healthy eating, education, support and centre based activities to improve mental health and increase the independence of participants.

Community Nursing services include Palliative Care, District Nursing, Hospital in the Home, Hospital Admission Risk Program (HARP), Home Care Packages and specialist nursing programs. Our Community Nursing service provides regular phone calls to check in on people and helps to avert unplanned admissions into hospital.



# INITIATIVES AND IMPROVEMENTS

## Takeaway Containers and Cutlery

During COVID-19 restrictions the Café continued to provide meals to staff as takeaway only using disposable containers. To reduce the impact of the increased waste the Café expanded the environmentally friendly takeaway container and utensil options.

In addition to the sugarcane pulp clamshell takeaway containers and biodegradable drinking straws introduced last year, 2020 saw the inclusion of:

- Wooden cutlery made from sustainably sourced and FSC certified birch wood.
- Paper coffee cups sourced from managed plantations with a bioplastic lining made from plants, not oil.

Furthermore all foam cups and plastic straws have been replaced across the health service.



## Waste Management

Due to the increase in single use personal protective equipment (PPE) such as face masks, the volume of clinical waste around the hospital has increased. To meet this demand and reduce the risk of contaminating recycling bins, additional clinical waste bins were set up in key locations, such as staff amenities.

We utilised C64 bins on a trolley that allows the lid to be activated with a pedal so it can be operated hands free. This reduces the risk of contamination of handling by multiple staff and allows the bin to remain closed while not in use to reduce any odour.

Posters were displayed around the bins to clearly identify which items can go in the recycling and the clinical waste.



## Microfiber Mops

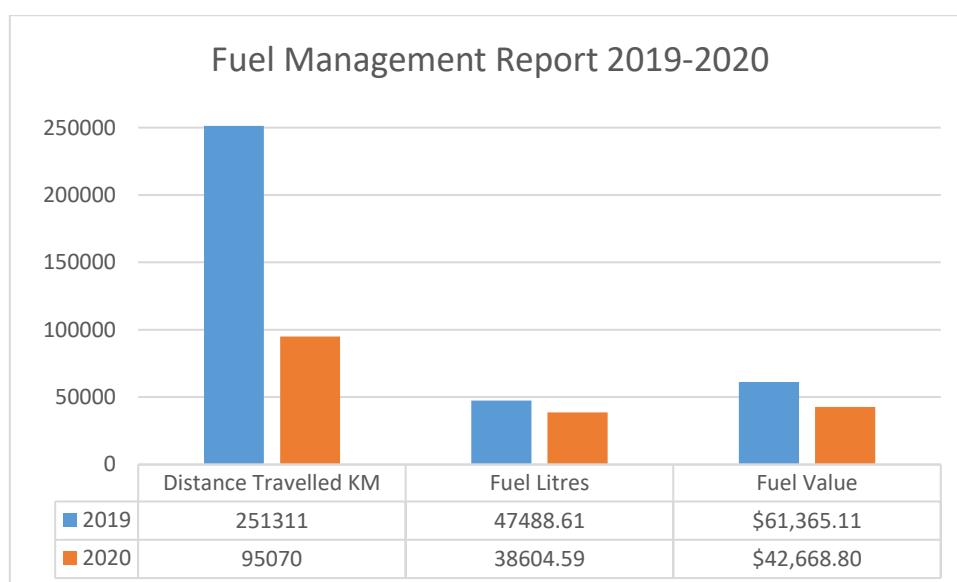
Cleaning rounds have been increased in all public facing areas. Disposable mops were used for deep infectious cleans, but microfiber mops were used for routine cleaning. By using microfiber in place of traditional cleaning materials, EGHS has been able to save water and reduce the use of chemical cleaners.

## Café Courtyard Marquee

A 6m x 12m marquee was installed in the courtyard opposite the café and staff have been encouraged to use this outdoor area rather than eating in their offices. This reduced the feeling of isolation during COVID-19 restrictions and improved mental wellbeing of staff while adhering to physical distancing rules. The marquee has walls on 3 sides and flooring to ensure staff can enjoy the outdoors in all weather conditions. While staff are out of their office they are encouraged to turn off appliances, air con and lighting to reduce energy consumption.

## Fleet Vehicle Fuel Reduction

EGHS has recorded a significant reduction in fleet vehicle use and fuel consumption due to the social distancing rules and restriction of movement across Victoria. Many staff have utilised online options such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom to attend meetings, as an alternative to meeting face-to-face or travelling.



## Vegetable gardens

We have introduced additional vegetable patches across the site for residents and clients to look after as an outdoor activity. Some of the produce has been utilised for jams and sold at the day centre fates. The veggie gardens are located at 70 Lowe Street, Garden View Court, Patricia Hinchey Centre and Willaura.



## Shade Sails

Shade Sails have been installed at the Patricia Hinchey Centre, Toy Library outdoor play area, Garden View Court and Willaura. These encourage staff and clients to enjoy the outdoors in a sun-safe manner and allow for socialising while observing physical distancing instructions.



## New buildings / renovations


During redevelopment projects, we have been able to repurpose and recycle many items, which has not only assisted with large cost saving to the health service but has also assisted in less wastage which minimises the impact on the environment. Repurposing materials reduces the need for virgin materials and waste disposal such as landfill.

Items that have been utilised in recent redevelopment works are:

- Internal framework – wood & steel
- Relocate desks / bookshelves
- Reuse windows and doors

## Sustainability in Projects

The Victorian State Government Supplier Code of Conduct includes clauses to ensure companies engaged commit to ethical, sustainable and socially responsible procurement. <https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/supplier-code-conduct>

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### F. Environmental management

The State is committed to promoting environmental responsibility. Suppliers are expected to minimise the environmental impact of their operations and maintain environmentally responsible policies and practices.

#### Environmental impacts

Suppliers must comply with all applicable laws and regulations relating to the environment, including any management and reporting obligations. Suppliers are expected to manage the environmental impact of their operations by:

- (a) ensuring the safe storage, transportation and disposal of hazardous substances including hazardous waste;
- (b) maintaining policies and practices for the efficient use of energy, water and natural resource consumption; and
- (c) maintaining policies and practices that reduce the risk of pollution, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, damage to ecosystems and greenhouse gas emissions.





## Solar Panel Project 2019/2020



The installation of 938 solar panels was completed in September 2020 at Ararat and Willaura, on time and on budget. The project ran very smoothly with great workmanship from both the solar and safe roof access installers.

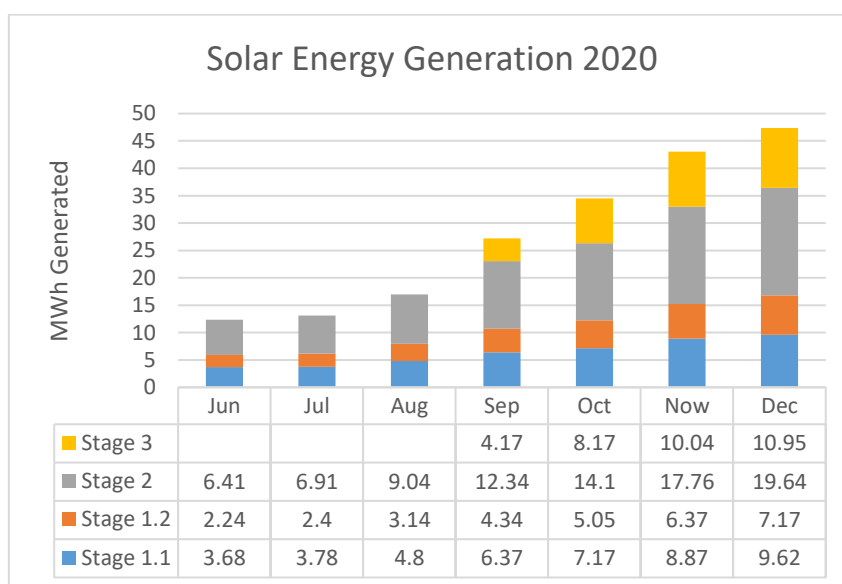
**Stage 1.1 (Willaura)** – 100 panels = 40kw

**Stage 1.2 (CHC, Support Services, NEST, PHC)** – 302 panels = 99.66 kw

**Stage 2 (Psych Services, Main Hospital)** – 340 panels = 111 kw

**Stage 3 (70 Lowe St)** – 196 panels = 64.5 kw

So far the seasonal solar yield has met the production targets set by Cola Solar and EGHS is on track to hit the expected yearly average.



# Energy and water performance report

## 2019-20

### East Grampians Health Service

#### Expenditure

	2018-19 (\$ thousand)	2019-20 (\$ thousand)	Change from previous year
Electricity	\$497	\$445	-10.6%
Natural Gas	\$98	\$111	13.9%
Liquefied Petroleum Gas	\$30	\$32	6.9%
Potable Water	\$44	\$32	-26.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$669</b>	<b>\$620</b>	<b>-7.2%</b>

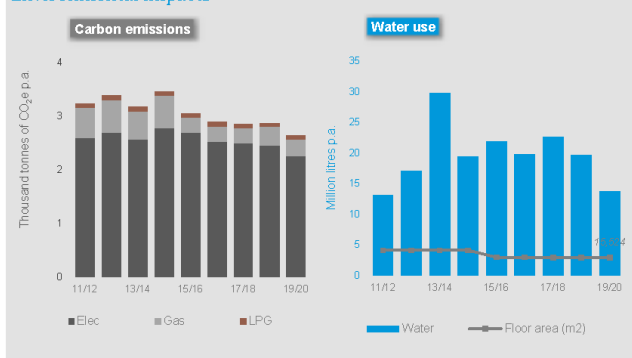
#### Questions?

For assistance with the interpretation of this report please contact the Department at [sustainability@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@dhhs.vic.gov.au)

#### GST

All values are GST exclusive.

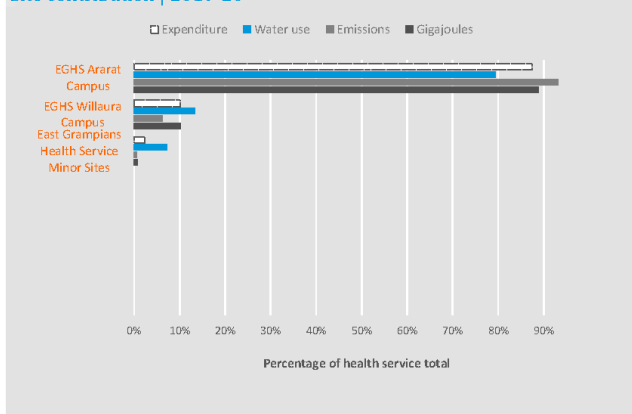
#### Environmental impacts



#### Carbon emissions

Carbon emission values represent total Scope 1 and 2 carbon emission from stationary energy (energy used in buildings).

#### Site contribution | 2019-20



#### Detailed information

Information on individual hospitals and values used in charts is available on separate site specific performance reports.



# Energy and water performance report

## 2019-20

### East Grampians Health Service

#### Environmental impacts & energy use

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
<b>Energy use</b>			
Electricity (MWh)	2,312	2,287	2,211
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (kL)	45	43	48
Natural Gas (gigajoules)	5,546	6,796	6,004
<b>Carbon emissions (thousand tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>			
Electricity	2	2	2.26
Liquefied Petroleum Gas	0	0	0.08
Natural Gas	0	0	0.31
Total emissions	3	3	2.64
<b>Water use (millions litres)</b>			
Potable Water	23	20	13.68

#### Factors influencing environmental impacts

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Floor area (m <sup>2</sup> )	15,541	15,524	15,524
Separations	5,420	5,639	5,043
In-Patient Bed Days	10,957	11,083	11,173
Aged Care Bed Nights	28,559	28,473	28,423

#### Benchmarks | 2019-20

	Average for peer group	Your value	% above/below ave.
<b>Carbon emissions</b>			
CO <sub>2</sub> e(t) per m <sup>2</sup>	-	-	N/A
CO <sub>2</sub> e(t) per OBD	-	-	N/A
CO <sub>2</sub> e(t) per Seps	-	-	N/A
<b>Water use</b>			
kL per m <sup>2</sup>	-	-	N/A
kL per OBD	-	-	N/A
kL per Seps	-	-	N/A
<b>Expenditure rates</b>			
Total utility spend (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	N/A
<i>Additional measures (not included in benchmarking chart)</i>			
Total utility spend (\$/Separations)		123.03	
Total utility spend (\$/In-Patient Bed Days)		55.53	
Total utility spend (\$/Aged Care Bed Nights)		21.83	

#### Expenditure rates

Expenditure rates are calculated by dividing total expenditure with total consumption (usage). Rates exclude GST.

#### General notes

- Information in this report is sourced from data provided by retailers and in some cases data manually uploaded by health services into Eden Suite. Data has not been externally validated. All annual values represent a year ending 30 June.
- Emissions are calculated using the carbon factors for the year in which the emissions were generated. For health services provided with energy (electricity and steam) under the co-generation ESA (energy services agreement) carbon factors provided by the energy retailer are used.
- Electricity consumption values exclude line losses; some energy retailers include losses in reported values.
- Occupied bed days (OBD) include both Inpatient and aged care data, unless stated otherwise.

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# Waste Management Performance Report

## 2019-20

### East Grampians Health Service

#### Waste costs (collection & disposal)

	2018-19	2019-20	Change from previous year
Clinical waste	\$25,648	\$27,891	8.7%
General waste	\$18,648	\$28,323	51.9%
Recycling	\$13,514	\$22,657	67.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$57,811</b>	<b>\$78,871</b>	<b>36.4%</b>

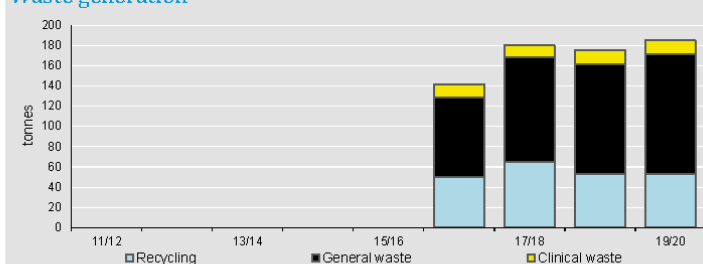
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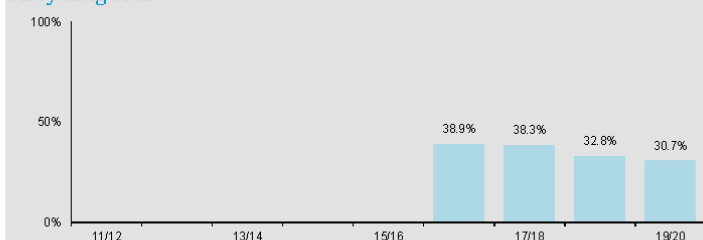
#### GST

All values are GST exclusive.

#### Waste generation



#### Recycling rate



#### Waste per patient treated



#### Recycling kg

Batteries	✓	28
Cardboard	✓	17,160
Commingle	✓	22,013
E-waste	✓	300
Fluorescent tubes	✓	49
Grease traps	✓	344
Mattresses	✗	-
Metals	✗	-
Mobile phones	✗	-
Organics (food)	✗	-
Organics (garden)	✓	8,811
Other recycling	✗	-
PVC	✓	122
Packaging plastics/films	✗	-
Paper (confidential)	✓	3,785
Paper (recycling)	✗	-
Polystyrene foam	✗	-
Sterilization wraps	✗	-
Toner & print cartridges	✗	-
Wood	✗	-
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>52,612</b>

#### Recycling

The list of recycling types includes those potentially available to public hospitals. It is noted that some waste providers in rural and regional Victoria may not deliver these services. The kilograms of recycling reported is for the reported year only.

#### Recycling rate

The recycling rate is calculated by dividing the kilograms of recycled materials by the kilograms of recycled materials plus kilograms of general waste. It excludes clinical waste.

#### Per patient treated

Per patient treated is an aggregation of occupied bed-days (inpatient and aged care), ED departures and separations.

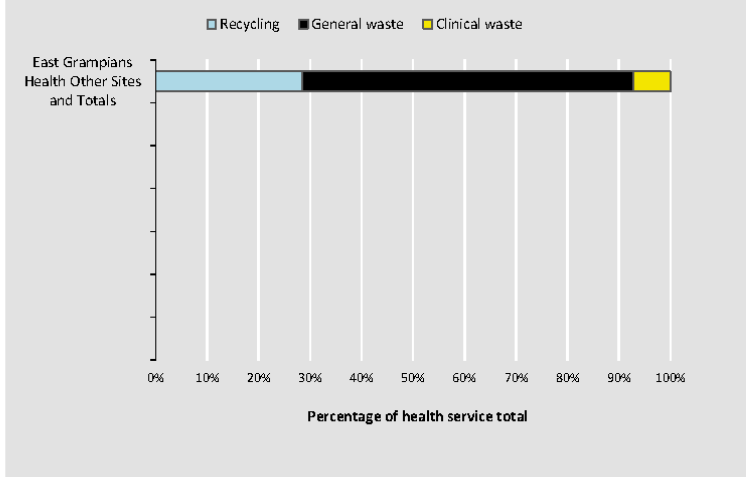


# Waste Management Performance Report

## 2019-20

### East Grampians Health Service

#### Site contribution | 2019-20



#### Site contribution chart

The site contribution chart works best where health services collect waste data at the facility level. Where waste data is collected at the health service level only one bar is shown. For further information on collecting waste at the facility level please contact the Department at [edms@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:edms@dhhs.vic.gov.au).

#### Waste generation

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
<b>Clinical waste</b>			
Clinical waste - incinerated (kg)	1,155	1,494	1,237
Clinical waste - sharps (kg)	104	237	590
Clinical waste - treated (kg)	10,178	12,283	11,574
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,438</b>	<b>14,015</b>	<b>13,401</b>
<b>General waste</b>			
General waste - bins (kg)			
General waste - compactors (kg)			
General waste - skips (kg)	104,009	108,441	118,834
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104,009</b>	<b>108,441</b>	<b>118,834</b>

#### Waste costs

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Clinical waste (\$/PPT)	0.39	0.57	0.62
General waste (\$/PPT)	0.53	0.41	0.63
Recycling (\$/PPT)	0.34	0.30	0.51

#### Carbon emissions (Scope 3)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Carbon (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	138	146	158

#### Factors influencing waste

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Aged Care OBD	28,559	28,473	28,423
ED Departures			
LOS	10,957	11,083	11,173
Separations	5,420	5,639	5,043
<b>Per patient treated</b>	<b>44,936</b>	<b>45,195</b>	<b>44,639</b>

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