How can we reduce clinical waste?

Did you know that the Trust spent more than £600,000 (just over half a million pounds) last year to dispose of its clinical waste. It costs 10 times as much to dispose of clinical waste than mixed recycling waste so it’s very important to segregate clinical and mixed recycling waste correctly.

Try the quiz and see how well you do…

What goes where?

The diagram below shows sample waste items found around the Trust. Put them in the correct bin (answers follow).

**Answers!**
Guidance provided by Infection Prevention and Control

**Why should we segregate waste?**

There are many benefits to segregating waste:
- Recovery of valuable materials for re-use
- Reducing the amount of waste we incinerate
- Reducing cost of waste operations

All of the above help the Trust to reduce its environmental impact and to be more sustainable, environmentally and financially. We could save **around £65,000 per year** (equivalent to three Band 5 staff’s salaries!) simply by putting paper towels used for hand drying into mixed recycling bins instead of clinical waste bins.

**How can you help?**

There are many simple ways you can help the Trust to make a big difference. Join us on **Thursday, June 28th** for the Trust’s Waste Day of Action. Drop by our stand in the Atrium at Queen’s between 9 and 1pm to try this quiz for real. **There are prizes to be won!**

We will also have a **Bright Idea Suggestion Box** for you to suggest ways of reducing clinical waste. **There will be a prize for the idea that gets used by the Trust.**

**Thanks in advance to our colleagues in Sodexo’s Waste Management Team for their help and support with this event.**

**Sustainability Team’s message**

- **Please share** this message with your colleagues and help raise awareness.
- **All ideas are welcome** - if you know a green tip, green image, heard/experienced a green story which could be published, please let us know by emailing at: daniel.shepherd@bhrhospitals.nhs.uk
- **Why not become a Green Champion?** - It is an opportunity to learn about the sustainability and help the Trust and your colleagues become more sustainable. For more information contact: daniel.shepherd@bhrhospitals.nhs.uk Tel. (79) ext 6213