



Organisation	Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
Category	Procurement
Please detail your project below	<p>Medical instruments, used to treat and heal patients in the UK, have been shown, in some cases, to be produced in environments where employees are at risk of injury and labour rights violations, such as sexual harassment, poor working conditions and unfair wages.</p> <p>Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, supported by the British Medical Association (BMA), has embarked on a programme of working with key suppliers to understand the impact of its £600m supply chain to improve conditions, and establish clear standards for suppliers that can be used on a national or even international level.</p> <p>Guy's and St Thomas' recently employed a dedicated member of staff to work directly with suppliers to fully understand their approach to responsible sourcing and human rights. The Trust Sustainability Governance Committee, chaired by Sir Hugh Taylor, Trust Chairman, has given its full support to working collaboratively with the supply chain to improve standards across the board. Using the Ethical Trade Initiative's Base Code as a foundation, the Trust has developed a supplier Code of Conduct, which incorporates ethical as well as environmental standards. This code of conduct was ratified by the directors of procurement for the Shelford Group of NHS Trusts, representing the 10 largest teaching hospitals across the UK, and over 10% of the UK healthcare market, and has been incorporated into procurement documentation for the group.</p>
How has your project improved sustainable development within your organisation or community setting?	<p>Along with ratifying the Supplier Code of Conduct, and embedding this into the procurement process of the 10 largest teaching hospitals across the UK, Guy's and St Thomas' has engaged with several medical instrument suppliers with the intention of improving transparency, safety and human rights within the supply chain.</p> <p>A dedicated resource in the hospitals' sourcing team is now responsible for making sure that this issue is raised and addressed within the supply chain, and the Trust is working directly with suppliers to ensure that standards are improved and the benefits of ethical procurement are realised. The ambition of this programme is that it will set a standard for use across the global healthcare supply chain.</p>
What role does sustainable development play within patient and staff services within your organisation?	<p>Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust believes that the best healthcare runs efficiently, uses resources wisely, fosters healthy living and provides patients with the best possible care.</p> <p>Our Trust puts sustainability at the core of its purpose, and has not only integrated energy and carbon management into its estate, transport and procurement services, but also prioritises the importance of engaging people to make sustainability relevant to everyone.</p> <p>Our sustainability programme aims to continue to improve staff and patient engagement, and to deliver further savings through this insight. We aim to have over 75% of departments represented by Local Environmental Representatives (LERs) by the end of 2015 (currently at</p>



46%), and will continue our efforts to engage with our community around environmental management.

Who has led the way on sustainable development within your organisation?

Ethical and sustainable procurement is a key pillar of our board approved, award winning, Sustainability Strategy, and is overseen by the Trust's Sustainability Governance Group, a sub-committee of the Trust Management Executive, and chaired by Sir Hugh Taylor, Trust Chairman. The sustainability programme is led by Alexandra Hammond, Associate Director, Sustainability and by William Holden, Sustainability Support Officer, with the vital help of our many local environment representatives (LERs) from across clinical and non-clinical departments.

First Image

<http://nhssustainabilityawards.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/formidable/Ethical-procurement.Mahmood-Bhutta.jpg>
