



<b>Organisation</b>	Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
<b>Category</b>	Waste
<b>Please detail your project below</b>	<p>Healthcare services create a huge amount of waste, and processing this waste is a significant cost pressure on health services. In 2012/13, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust spent over £1.3m on waste management, and NHS providers across England and Wales spent a total of £86m. With the financial pressures NHS organisations face, improving waste management is not confined to environmental responsibility, it's a strategic priority.</p> <p>The Trust has established a partnership with Bywaters for a total waste management service, which has resulted in a 15% waste reduction at a value of over £200,000 per annum. The services involve the collection, storage, transportation and safe disposal of all wastes produced from Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals, including the Evelina London Children's Hospital, York Road Education Centre, and a number of community sites located across South London. This includes clinical waste and sharps, radioactive, chemical/flammable, domestic, recycled, and confidential waste streams.</p> <p>There is an on-site operational structure that allows quick communication channels and responses to issues. Bywaters provides the trust with a dedicated on-site contract sustainability manager, who is responsible for delivering this contract on a day-to-day basis. This role manages and tracks sustainability goals and implements new initiatives that increase recycling, and reduce carbon emissions. The contract sustainability manager is supported by an experienced on-site portering manager, administrator and contract support team and there is access to a senior member of trust staff at all times.</p> <p>All dry recyclables are processed through Bywaters' Material Recovery Facility (MRF). This state of the art facility is highly automated with a 98% recovery rate. Materials are separated, baled and transported to local and UK based reprocessing partners. Furthermore by utilising a tagging system, with bags and bins tagged to link them to departments, if contamination is spotted at our partner Bywaters' MRF this can be reported back to the Trust and dealt with accordingly.</p>
<b>How has your project improved sustainable development within your organisation or community setting?</b>	<p>The Trust reduced high temperature disposal by 11%, in 2013/14 compared to 2012/13 and now only have 176 tonnes of incineration waste a year – approximately 3% of our waste. Recycled waste has increased from 23% in 12/13 to 28% in 13/14.</p> <p>The improvements have saved nearly £200,000 – a 15% reduction - over the course of 2013/14, contributing significantly towards the Trust's environmental and financial objectives.</p> <p>One of the innovations established since the partnership began has been to contribute used cooking oil from our catering services, as a sustainable alternative to powering London's black cabs, as well as One Embankment Place – a building accredited with the highest BREEAM rating in the world.</p>



Each month the trust supplies around 400 litres of used cooking oil to Uptown Oil, based just one mile from Guy’s Hospital. It is then blended to make biofuel. As well as reducing waste disposal costs and lowering the risk of drain and sewer blockages, this initiative creates one of the most environmentally sustainable, low-carbon fuels available.

Other food waste is collected from the central kitchens and anything left over after meals on each ward is transferred into a food recycling bin. These are taken off-site three times a week to Bio Collectors who turn this into compost - eliminating the need for landfill and costly synthetic fertilisers.

The Trust has a target of reducing carbon emissions by more than 34% by 2020 and complements this aim by keeping its waste within the M25. All non-recycling material is sent to the energy from waste (EfW) facility at Belvedere by barge down the Thames; this takes the equivalent of 40 vehicles off the road per week and keeps in line with the ethos of ‘London for London; Keeping London’s waste within London’.

The use of barge transportation has not only reduced road congestion, but facilitates a zero to landfill solution for the trust. The strategically placed riverside-based waste management facility processes 670,000 tonnes of waste from across London and exports around 470,000 MWh of electricity to the National Grid - enough to power 100,000 homes.

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.

**What role does sustainable development play within patient and staff services within your organisation?**

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.

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 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?**

Waste management 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).

**First Image**

<http://nhssustainabilityawards.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/formidable/Yellow-gold-fuel-to-biofuel.jpg>



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