



## Case study

### Waste

### Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

#### Background

Frimley Park is saving more than £6,000 a year and reducing its carbon footprint.

Frimley Park Hospital in Surrey is a 720 bed Trust serving 400,000 people across Hampshire, Surrey and Berkshire.

In partnership with WRAP and Surrey County Council, Frimley Park hospital is the UK's first medical institution to launch a Recycle Zone.

#### Carbon and Financial Savings

As part of the current service agreement recycled waste is removed at no cost so there is considerable incentive to ensure that as much waste as possible is suitably segregated for recycling.

In 2009, as a result of the Recycle Zone project, 47 tonnes of material was collected and recycled at an estimated saving of £6,380 to the hospital. The project also saved 21 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.



Frimley Park Recycle Zone Team

#### How did Frimley Park improve Sustainability?

The council worked with Frimley Park Hospital to increase its recycling rate as part of the 'Recycle Zone' project. This created a partnership which has helped the hospital achieve its recycling target.

From the initial meeting of Frimley Park Hospital and its project partners it took just over six weeks to launch the scheme.

"We're proud to be the first hospital to take on this initiative in the UK. With such a high concentration of people on our site, Frimley Park Hospital has tremendous potential for recycling and Recycle Zone will help us to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. We're confident our visitors and staff will be making full use of these facilities."

Lynne Philip  
Hotel Services Manager  
Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust



Frimley Park now has 72 high quality recycling bins distributed around its wards, administrative and public areas. These act as collection points for cans, plastic bottles and mixed paper.

The hospital is seeing both financial and environmental benefits from recycling and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

Frimley Park has proactively promoted its Recycling Zone project to staff by establishing a waste user group and organising a trip to a Material Recovery Centre to promote recycling among staff. Also, staff members have been provided with a Waste Awareness Book which provides a quick guide to Healthcare Waste Disposal.

## Lessons Learnt

The hospital found it crucial to make sure there was good liaison between project partners and to make sure staff members were aware of the importance of segregating waste properly.

If other Trusts are keen to set up a Recycle Zone, Frimley Park suggests including your organisations Infection Control Team and Fire Officer from the start to ensure regulations are being met.

## Success factors

Besides saving a considerable amount of money and increasing staff awareness, Frimley Park has also seen its recycling rate rise by 21%. This has improved the hospital's reputation with the public since patients and visitors are now more aware of what the hospital is doing to be environmentally friendly since the recycle bins are highly visible in prominent public areas.

## Further information

Frimley Park Hospital Website: [http://gallery.mailchimp.com/bed9824a186285735dbd07209/files/Frimley\\_park120510.pdf](http://gallery.mailchimp.com/bed9824a186285735dbd07209/files/Frimley_park120510.pdf)

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The NHS Sustainable Development Unit develops organisations, people, tools, policy, and research to help the NHS in England fulfil its potential as a leading sustainable and low carbon organisation.