

Remade South East in partnership with Surrey County Council



Waste Market Development Project Delivery for Surrey County Council



Frimley Park Hospital

February 2009

Executive Summary

In 2007 Frimley Park Hospital entered a Surrey County Council 'Green Makeover' competition to raise the profile of the recycling programme at the hospital. The support given to the Trust through the competition led to the creation of this project to assist the further improvement of existing recycling facilities and to minimise waste being generated on site.

Surrey County Councils main aim of the project was to work with the Trust to create a model of best practice in waste management that other Hospital Trusts in Surrey could emulate.

The Council set two main objectives to be achieved through the project:

1. To carry out a waste audit of the hospital in order to identify key waste streams
2. To create a business case for improving on site recycling facilities and facilitate the provision of an effective hospital wide recycling system

To complete these objectives the Council engaged Remade South East to carry out the management of the project.

Objective 1: Waste Audit

The Frimley Park Hospital Trust signed a five year waste and recycling contract in 2006 with Veolia Environmental. During the first two years of the contract the hospital increased their recycling rate and implemented strong recycling segregation systems within the administration areas of the hospital. The hospital also employed a full time Environmental Officer and a Waste Manager whose roles are to implement waste reduction as outlined in the Trust Environmental Policy.



The Trust and Veolia worked together to implement a system to segregate office paper, cardboard, cans, plastics bottles and toner cartridges for recycling from the waste generated by staff in the administration areas. Systems have also been set up to collect and recycle plastic film and metal from other areas of the hospital.

Through its data monitoring, Remade identified that between April 2007 and March 2008 the Trust produced 1,264 tonnes of general waste, recycling, clinical and hazardous waste. In total 438 tonnes of general waste were sent to landfill and 220 tonnes sent for recycling, with 553 tonnes of clinical waste and 52 tonnes of hazardous waste also being sent to landfill. Taking into account the clinical and hazardous tonnages generated this gave the Trust a recycling rate of approximately 17%.

There was also a large amount of waste generated through other areas of the hospital that need recycling development especially in patient waiting areas, restaurants and wards. It is anticipated that these areas will generate similar materials to those collected from the administration areas (i.e. paper, plastic bottles and cans) that could be collected, segregated and stored with the current recyclable materials. The Trust has the necessary resources to collect additional materials and the space available in the waste management area to store the materials. The highest priority for the Trust was to identify a funding/sponsorship source in order that containers to segregate the materials at source can be purchased. The Trust requires bins that meet infection control standards which are more expensive than the cardboard bins located in the administration areas.

It was therefore concluded that the next stage in the development of the hospital's recycling scheme would be dependent on identifying areas of funding or sponsorship to purchase additional bins to roll out the existing collections into public and patient areas.

Objective 1: Recommendations

- Identify opportunities to expand the current recycling service to include segregation of paper, cans and plastic bottles from the restaurant, patient waiting areas and wards.
- Arrange a meeting with Veolia to discuss the expansion of the current recycling service and explore the possibility of gaining this service at no extra cost.
- Explore other possible routes of funding/sponsorship to expand the current recycling service.

Objective 2

Remade met with Veolia, the Trust, and Surrey County Council to identify areas they could assist the Trust to expand the current recycling provision at no extra cost. As a result of the meeting, Remade and Surrey County Council sought to explore potential funding opportunities to purchase the containers.

The search identified a new initiative to encourage public place recycling for people on the go which seemed to fit the requirements of the project. Coca Cola and the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) were funding a 3 year project, which started in early 2008, to install 80 new recycling zones throughout the country. Contact was made with Recoup, the organisation managing the programme on behalf of Coca Cola and WRAP, to understand the project further and discover if the scheme could provide funding to meet the projects' objectives.

Discussions took place at the meeting regarding funding to purchase bins and signage. It was estimated that the total budget needed for the project would be around £10,000 and that Coca Cola and WRAP would provide 50%, Surrey County Council would provide 25% and Frimley Park would provide 25% of the funding.

In total it was decided that the Trust would require 72 bins of various sizes (55ltr, 100ltr, and 140ltr) collecting plastic bottles, cans, paper and general waste through 12 areas of the hospital. The programme gave the Trust the opportunity to purchase additional bins for the administration area as well as for public/patient areas. Once all the bins were ordered a date was sent for the launch which took place on 10th December 2008.

The success of the project has prompted Surrey County Council and Recoup to approach the other 5 Hospital Trusts in Surrey and offer the same support to expand their recycling schemes. Ashford St Peters Hospital, Epsom General Hospital and East Surrey Hospital have all agreed to take part and the scheme was commenced in March/April 2009.



Conclusion

The initial assessment of the recycling expansion at the hospital has been very encouraging with low levels of contamination being found. This demonstrates that the signage on the bins is clear, the promotion undertaken by the Trust to educate staff is working and visitors/patients are willing to participate in the scheme. The next stage of the scheme's implementation was to monitor how much material was being segregated and recycled, and to compare how the scheme has affected the Trust's overall recycling rate, which measured 21% for 2009-10.