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Issued monthly, NPAG News provides information on recent events and forthcoming NPAG activity. Please forward NPAG News to all of your colleagues who may have an interest in any of our activities.

<b>THIS MONTH</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Achieving a Lean NHS Organisation</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Achieving a Resilient Organisation - SOLD OUT</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Changes to Arrangements for Regulating NHS Bodies in Relation to Healthcare Associated Infections for 2009/10: Consultation</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Snippets</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>NPAG Activity Programme</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Murphy's Law</b>

## **ACHIEVING A LEAN NHS ORGANISATION**

Lean is becoming an accepted framework for service improvement across all service areas within healthcare although it is still a relatively young methodology within the NHS. NPAG is committed to supporting NHS staff in increasing operational standards, service quality, and continuous professional development. NPAG recognise that many people require greater Lean knowledge, both in terms of vocational, as well as practical application.

NPAG is pleased to announce its new partnership with Alturos Ltd who are Lean specialists with considerable experience of developing staff and assisting trusts in successfully applying Lean within various NHS settings.

Over the coming months, NPAG and Alturos will be hosting a series of events where NHS staff at all stages of Lean knowledge and practical application, from beginner to advanced level will be able to access further specialist knowledge. These events will provide Lean education, training and further development and practical application knowledge. Case studies in Lean and organisational change will be presented by the NHS staff who have been actively involved, from acute, mental health, primary care and shared services organisations.

## **IMPLEMENTING WEEE LEGISLATION IN THE NHS**

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive came into force in January 2007 and aims to reduce the amount of WEEE being produced and encourage everyone to reuse, recycle and recover it. Recovered materials from WEEE items can produce a range of items, such as stationery, garden furniture, soft drink cans/bottles and copper wiring and pipes. Current UK recycling of paper, glass, plastics, aluminium and steel is estimated to save more than 18 million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year through avoided primary material production which is the equivalent to the annual use of five million cars.

This seminar provides health sector managers, and others, with the opportunity to review their understanding of WEEE; confirm its implications for the NHS; receive case study examples of good working practice; and examine opportunities for reusing and recycling hospital equipment in the community and overseas.

The seminar will be held in London on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The programme includes the following presentations: -

- *Understanding the Legislation: WEEE Made Easy:* WEEE Advisory Panel
- *The Implications for the NHS:* Environment Agency
- *Implementing WEEE in Practice:* Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- *Yorkshire & Humber Commercial Procurement Collaborative*
- *Reusing WEEE in Your Community:* Mill Race IT Ltd
- *Recycling Hospital Equipment:* Aid to Hospitals Worldwide

For full details, please visit the NPAG website: [www.npag.org.uk](http://www.npag.org.uk) or email sally Harris, [sally.harris@npag.org.uk](mailto:sally.harris@npag.org.uk)

# NPAG News

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## **ACHIEVING A RESILIENT ORGANISATION – SOLD OUT**

The first 'Achieving a Resilient Organisation' workshop developed by the NPAG to be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 is **over subscribed**. In addition, a number of people who were unable to attend on 11<sup>th</sup> September have also indicated their desire to attend a future workshop.

The course leaders, Brian Dobinson, Essex Health Emergency Planning Adviser and John King, NPAG Associate Consultant, will meet to review the first workshop and agree a date for the next. Both Brian and John have extensive experience of Emergency, Contingency and Business Continuity Planning.

Full details of the second workshop date will be announced as soon as they are available. For further information, please visit the NPAG website: [www.npag.org.uk](http://www.npag.org.uk) or email: Gemma Bergamini on [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk)

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## **CHANGES TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR REGULATING NHS BODIES IN RELATION TO HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS FOR 2009/10: A CONSULTATION FOR THE NHS**

- **Launch date:**

11 August 2008

- **Closing date:**

20 October 2008

The current inspection programme against the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) by the Healthcare Commission, provides reassurance to the public and patients that the required standards are being met in relation to infection control. It also reassures organisations that they are taking the necessary measures to prevent and control infections, highlighting any steps that need to be taken to improve their services and patient care.

From April 2009, the Care Quality Commission will take over responsibility for health and social care regulation. It will continue to monitor compliance on HCAI by the NHS, but will be able to use additional enforcement powers and take prompt action where patients are at risk.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August 2008, the Department of Health released a document to launch a ten-week consultation with the NHS on proposals for how the Care Quality Commission will carry out these functions in 2009/10 and improve services for patients across England.

For details of the announcement and to download the consultation and impact assessment documents go to: [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_086926](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_086926)

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## **SNIPPETS**

### **University Of Northampton – Wastes Management Distance Learning**

The University of Northampton is internationally renowned for its range of Wastes Management courses with top level academic teaching and support standards leading to a wealth of employment opportunities. Distance learning courses offered include: -

- HNC Wastes Management
- Foundation Degree in Wastes Management
- BSc (Hons) Wastes Management pollution Control
- MBA (Wastes Management) e-learning

For further information telephone: 0800 358 222 or email: [study@northamptonac.uk](mailto:study@northamptonac.uk)

# NPAG News

## Care Quality Commission

As reported in the Health Service Journal, Care Quality Commission (CQC) chair Baroness Young, has pledged to crack down on NHS organisations that fail to adopt National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance. The tougher approach will reflect the emphasis on quality and expanding NICE's standard-setting role described by health minister Lord Darzi in his next stage review.

The CQC operates in shadow form from October 2008, before its official launch in April 2009. The CQC brings together the Healthcare Commission, Commission for Social Care Inspection and Mental Health Act Commission.

## Government's 'Operational Efficiency Programme' Launched

The government has launched its 'Operational Efficiency Programme' which aims to cut public spending, focusing on five areas: back office and IT, collaborative procurement, asset management and sales, property and local incentives and empowerment. Launching the programme, Chief Secretary to the Treasury Yvette Cooper said: "The Gershon Review saved the government £23bn and we are on course for £30bn more savings over the next three years. But we need to go further". The scheme will operate alongside the 'Public Value' programme, launched by Cooper in the Budget, which is looking for value for money in areas such as road-building and **healthcare commissioning**.

## MedicAlert

MedicAlert is a non-profit making registered charity which provides a vital life-saving service for children and adults with medical conditions, allergies and advance wishes. Members wear either a bracelet, necklet, wristband or watch, known as an emblem, which bears the international symbol for medicine and is engraved with important medical details and any other main medical conditions or allergies, a personal ID number and a 24 hour emergency telephone number providing access to the member's medical records and personal details from anywhere in the world in over 100 languages. For more information, visit [www.medicalert.org.uk](http://www.medicalert.org.uk)

## Department of Health/Social Enterprise Investment Fund

The Department of Health is looking for a contractor to take over the management and operation of the £100m Social Enterprise Investment Fund (SEIF). A notice for the three-year contract has been placed in the Official Journal of the European Union. It is believed to be the first time the Department of Health has outsourced a fund on a commercial basis.

## Flu pandemic tops risk register

The BBC has reported that flu pandemic is considered the gravest risk to UK security, according to the latest National Risk Register being published. The document, commissioned by the prime minister, aims to publicly set out the potential impact of a range of different risks for the first time. Other issues examined include terrorism and flooding.

## HFC splits from the NHS Confederation

The Health Service Journal reports that the NHS Confederation has decided to separate off its specialist facilities support company, the Healthcare Facilities Consortium. The move follows an extensive market review lasting 18 months and is aimed at allowing the consortium to develop and better respond to the needs of the NHS.

## PCT moves towards Social Enterprise

Social Enterprise has reported that a south London NHS trust is recommending to set up a separate social enterprise to take over the running of key services including district nurses, school nurses and speech therapists.

A review of the Kingston PCT's services - carried out by consultancy Newchurch - concluded these services could be offered by a sustainable business, which is 'clinically, economically and managerially viable'.

The move follows health minister Lord Darzi's influential report High Quality Care For All, which last month supported social enterprises as a means of running frontline NHS services.

During this financial year, all PCTs are required to carry out reviews of their provider services and to agree plans for their future development and management.

# NPAG News

## Resource Saver Programme Ends

Resource Saver programme, which matches unwanted business waste to the community sector, will no longer be supported by the East of England Development Agency from 1/9/08 and therefore all activity will cease at the end of August 2008. It was intended originally to carry on with the programme after August but there has been a change in government strategy, and business waste related projects have been significantly cut from the government's original funding plans.

## Five steps to better print practice

Up to 27% of pages printed out in the UK are never used, either remaining on the printer tray, getting lost on desks or heading straight for the bin. This is costing UK businesses some £222million. In London and the South-East alone this is costing businesses £76.5million.

Lexmark and the Woodlands Trust are recommending five simple steps to help cut the costs and impact of wasted printing:

- Print on both sides of the page
- Email printing (4 pages printed on one sheet)
- Presentation handouts (18 / 32 on one sheet)
- Pre-printed forms printed on demand, only when needed
- Default all printers to economy monochrome mode, forcing users to choose colour only if they really need it.

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## NPAG ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

**NATIONAL EVENTS** Programme of forthcoming NPAG events (CPD Approved): -

- **Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS**  
14<sup>th</sup> October 2008 - London
- **Sustainability- Workshop**  
Autumn 2008, Midlands
- **Emergency Preparedness Development Network – Workshop**  
Autumn 2008, London
- **Lean Healthcare Seminar**  
Autumn 2008
- **From Waste to Resource Management in the NHS: Opportunities and Challenges**  
November 2008
- **Waste Management– Meet the Contractors**  
January 2009
- **Evaluating Treatment Technologies for Healthcare Waste**  
March 2009
- **National EBME Conference**  
March 2009, Birmingham

For further information on all NPAG events please e-mail: [marie@npag.org.uk](mailto:marie@npag.org.uk) or [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk)

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## BENCHMARKING

Many NPAG Best Value Groups are conducting national benchmarking surveys to identify areas for potential improvement and financial benefits. If you are interested in participating in any of the following exercises, please contact the named BVG Facilitator.

### TOPIC

**Catering Costs & Trust Profiles**  
**Restaurant Prices**  
**Transport Costs**  
**Health & Safety/Risk Management**  
**Domestic Service /Cleaning**  
**Catering**

### BVG

**Catering**  
**Catering**  
**Non Patient Transport**  
**H&S/Risk Management**  
**Facilities**  
**Facilities**

### CONTACT

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# NPAG News

## TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Programme of forthcoming NPAG training workshops (CPD Approved): -

- **Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses**

A series of six practical training modules over 6 months, commenced April 2008: –

- Spirometry
- Sickness Absence Management Referrals
- Health and Safety
- Management of Physical Hazards
- Pre Employment Clearance
- Audiometry

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk)

- **Achieving a Resilient Organisation - SOLD OUT**

- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 London

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk)

- **Business Continuity Plans**

- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008: Durham, Beamish Hall (Stanley)

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk)

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## BEST VALUE GROUPS

NPAG facilitates a series of national benchmarking clubs/best value groups within the NHS. Each programme of meetings enables peer groups of like-minded managers to have the opportunity to network; benchmark and compare services; review processes; provide networking opportunities; share experience; identify innovative and good working practice; and continuously develop and improve their services.

### September 2008 to November 2008 meeting calendar: -

	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Sterile Services Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Shared Services Development Network Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Facilities Meeting 4 of 6 (2008/09 round)</b>
<b>NEW</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Facilities (North) Meeting 1 of 3 (2008/09 round)</b>
	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>District Nursing Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Security Services Meeting 2 of 3 (2008/09 round)</b>
	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>EBME (South) Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2008:	<b>Health &amp; Safety/Risk Managers Meeting 4 of 4 (2007/08 round)</b>
	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2008:	<b>Telecommunications Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Operating Theatres Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Occupational Health Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Estates Meeting 3 of 4 (2008 round)</b>
	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>Catering Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2008:	<b>National Patient Transport Modernisation Group Meeting 5 of 6 (2008)</b>
	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2008:	<b>Portering Services Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)</b>
	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2008:	<b>Bank &amp; Agency Nursing Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)</b>
	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2008:	<b>Non Patient Transport Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2008:	<b>EBME (North) Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)</b>
	6 <sup>th</sup> November 2008:	<b>Waste Management Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)</b>
	12 <sup>th</sup> November 2008:	<b>Facilities Meeting 5 of 6 (2008/09 round)</b>

For further information please e-mail: [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk) or [marie@npag.org.uk](mailto:marie@npag.org.uk)

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## NPAG MEMBERSHIP

Full details of NPAG Membership options and fees can be obtained from [gemma@npag.org.uk](mailto:gemma@npag.org.uk) or [marie@npag.org.uk](mailto:marie@npag.org.uk) or telephone **01245 544 600**.

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**Murphy's Law:**            **The race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong, but that's the way to bet.**

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The NPAG (National Performance Advisory Group) is an NHS organisation that promotes benchmarking and best value within the NHS, throughout the UK. The NPAG operates as an NHS self-financed, trading organisation, hosted within the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust. If you would prefer not to receive future copies of NPAG News, please reply to this e-mail and write **REMOVE** in the header.