

NPAG News

Issue 29 October 2008

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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.

THIS MONTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Have Your Say on the proposed NHS Constitution
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	From Waste to resource Management in the NHS: Challenges and Opportunities
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	District Nursing Best Value Group
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS – DATE CHANGE
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Achieving a Resilient Organisation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Snippets
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NPAG Activity Programme
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Murphy's Law

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE PROPOSED NHS CONSTITUTION

The proposed NHS Constitution has the aim of safeguarding the Services' future, core principles and values for the next generation.

It will establish the principles and values of the NHS in England setting out commitments to patients, public and staff in the form of rights to which they are entitled and pledges which the NHS will strive to deliver, together with responsibilities that the public, patients and staff owe to each other to ensure that the NHS operates fairly and effectively.

All NHS bodies and private and third-sector providers supplying the NHS will be required by law to take account of this constitution in their decisions and actions.

To find out more about the consultation process download 'A consultation on the NHS Constitution' from the DH website: www.dh.gov.uk For further details on how to submit your comments on the proposed NHS Constitution go to the section 'Have your say'. Comments can be submitted until 17th October 2008. Send comments to: nhsconstitution@dh.gsi.gov.uk or write to NHS Constitution, Room 611a Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A2NS

FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE NHS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

This seminar, organised jointly by the NPAG and the University of Northampton, gives delegates the opportunity for delegates to hear the views of organisations which are meeting the challenges and opportunities of introducing waste minimisation and segregation in the NHS.

Did you know...87million tonnes of solid waste goes to landfill each year?

Cutting waste can be a really effective way to save money for your organisation, and you'll be benefiting the environment at the same time.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday 25th November 2008 in Leeds. The programme includes the following presentations: -

- *Green Procurement:* NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency
- *Minimisation and Segregation of Hazardous and Non-hazardous Healthcare Waste:* Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
- *Waste Tracking and Monitoring:* Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- *Auditing, Labelling and Consignment of Healthcare Waste:* Environment Agency
- *Energy and Carbon Management:* Waterman Sustainable Energy
- *Management of Catering Food Waste:* IMC

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DISTRICT NURSING BEST VALUE GROUP

The District Nursing Best Value Group (BVG) holds the last meeting of its current annual meeting round on Thursday 20th November 2008, in the Midlands. At their last meeting in September, members agreed to extend membership and review the group's future activity. It was agreed the BVG be renamed the **Community Nursing Services Best Value Group** when it reconvenes for the first meeting of the 2009 round.

Members extend an invitation to those interested in the future Community Nursing Services Best Value Group to attend the meeting on 20th November and learn more about their current activities and participate in the development of their future plans.

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: gemma@npag.org.uk

IMPLEMENTING WEEE LEGISLATION IN THE NHS - DATE CHANGE

This seminar is now scheduled for **Thursday 11th December 2008** in **London**.

Originally planned for October, the 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 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 or email Sally Harris, sally.harris@npag.org.uk

ACHIEVING A RESILIENT ORGANISATION

What a success! The first 'Achieving a Resilient Organisation' workshop held in London in September was over subscribed.

Feedback from the first workshop was very positive. Several delegates requested a follow-up session, an onsite training option and the opportunity to hear about case study examples from across the service.

The next opportunity to participate in the '**Achieving a Resilient Organisation**' workshop is on **Wednesday 3rd December 2008** in London, with a further workshop scheduled for Thursday 12th March 2009 in Leicester.

The course leaders, Brian Dobinson, Essex Health Emergency Planning Adviser and John King, NPAG Associate Consultant, have met to review the first workshop and agreed dates for the next two workshops, as stated above. Both Brian and John have extensive experience of Emergency, Contingency and Business Continuity Planning.

For further information, please visit the NPAG website: www.npag.org.uk or email: Gemma Bergamini on gemma@npag.org.uk

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SNIPPETS

Prime Minister Thanks NHS Staff

Gordon Brown has written an open letter to the NHS to congratulate them on their success in going beyond the Government's target of halving MRSA bloodstream infections across England. As latest quarterly figures published on 18th September show, the number of MRSA bloodstream infections has fallen by 57% compared to the level in 2003/4 when the target was set. Alan Johnson also paid tribute to the tremendous efforts of NHS staff which have made this significant improvement in patient care

Annual health check ratings for 2007/08

On Thursday 16 October 2008, the Healthcare Commission will publish the annual health check ratings for every NHS trust in England on its website. Introduced in 2005, the annual health check is the Healthcare Commission's system for assessing NHS organisations in England. It aims to measure the things that matter to patients, while minimising the unnecessary burden for providers of healthcare.

CBI presses for faster health reform

On 11 September, the CBI's public services director Susan Anderson spoke alongside health minister Ben Bradshaw and shadow health secretary Andrew Lansley at the CBI's *Think:Public* conference on the future of the health service. Reminding both of them of the huge amounts spent on the health service - much of it raised from business taxation - she pressed them to commit to further and faster reform, to deliver a health service that matched the best in the world and made more effective use of the independent sector's skills and focus on customer service. For more information contact chris.heathcote@cbi.org.uk

NHS Trusts feel the Heat

Healthcare Investor has reported the NHS is expected to face a £165 million price hike on its energy bill in 2008-09. The news has fuelled fears that a number of trusts could struggle to deliver services due to increasing fiscal pressures. "Inevitably there is a real concern that there will be knock-on effect on hospital budgets which could impact on patient care," said Norman Lamb, health spokesman for the Liberal Democrats. Several health trusts have predicted they will overspend as a result of rising utility costs. Yet the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency figures, which were obtained by Channel 4 News Online, also reveal that only a fifth of the sector has signed up to the flagship NHS Carbon Management Programme. Launched in 2006, the programme set a benchmark of reducing NHS carbon emissions by 15 per cent by 2010.

KPMG Leads Healthcare Project

A KPMG-led consortium has been awarded a Department of Health (DoH) contract to help Primary Care Trusts fulfil their new role as commissioners of healthcare services.

England's household waste recycling rate reached 33.9% according to DEFRA

When compared to figures for the year April 2006 to March 2007 - the last audited figures available - this represents a significant 3% rise. At the same time, total household waste fell from 25.8 to 25.6 million tonnes and average residual household waste per head decreased from 353kg to 334kg. The best performing regions for recycling were the East Midlands and the East, who both reached 41% in 2007, followed closely by the South West with 40%.

Greenpeace Issues New WEEE Report

Greenpeace has just released a new report regarding the enormous amount of WEEE being sent to Ghana in Western Africa. The environmental group compared Ghana to India and China, where working conditions allow children to be exposed to toxic chemicals such as lead and mercury during the treatment of the electronics. The purpose of treating, or burning electronics is to salvage copper and other valuable materials which can be sold for profit.

To download the report see: www.frndiscussions.org/forum/index.php?act=attach&type=post&id=1094

NPSA Patient Safety Alert: Clean Hands Save lives

The NPSA has issued a revised alert to give greater prominence to managing healthcare associated infection in the NHS through better hand hygiene. It is based on the first hand hygiene alert issued four years ago with updated information on the point of care message, risk management and product procurement. The alert issued on 2nd September 2008 will be evaluated in April 2009.

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Catch It, Bin It, Kill It

The Department of Health's CATCH IT, BIN IT, KILL IT campaign aims to encourage correct respiratory and hand hygiene practice to help reduce the spread of germs leading to colds, flu and other illnesses. By following three simple steps, the spread of illness could be reduced: For more information, please visit www.dh.gov.uk/catchit where you will also find a brand new nursery rhyme about coughs and sneezes, available to download.

Savings through Collaborative Purchasing on IT

It was reported in Public that every year, the NHS buys an average of 120,000 desktop and laptop computers. It is one of the largest IT buyers in the UK. OGC buying solutions is working as an intermediary with six procurement hubs, representing 220 trusts in England, to save a reported £6.5m in the first year on IT purchases.

It's not only the NHS that celebrates its 60th Birthday this year.

This year Lotus Cars celebrated its 60th birthday in real style. Close to 20,000 enthusiasts flocked to the Hethel headquarters near Norwich on Sunday September 14. The event was a love-fest for Lotus enthusiasts. The old airfield runway was lined with hundreds of Lotus models, from the popular Elise to the rarest prototypes. Around the factory there were the official displays: cars you've never seen before, cars you'd wished you'd bought when you had the chance, and cars that simply defied their age, such was the brilliance of the Chapman's original concept.

NPAG ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

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

- **From Waste to Resource Management in the NHS: Challenges and Opportunities**
Tuesday 25 November 2008 - Leeds
- **Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS**
Thursday 11th December 2008 - London
- **Sustainability- Workshop**
Autumn 2008, Midlands
- **Emergency Preparedness Development Network – Workshop**
Autumn 2008, London
- **Lean Healthcare Seminar**
Autumn 2008
- **Waste Management– Meet the Contractors**
January/February 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 or gemma@npag.org.uk

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

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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, commencing **November 2008 in Leicester**: –

- 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

- **Achieving a Resilient Organisation**

- Wednesday 3rd December 2008 London
- Thursday 12th March 2009 Leicester

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: gemma@npag.org.uk

- **Business Continuity Plans**

- York – Tuesday 25th November 2008 Warwick – Tuesday 2nd December 2008
- Bolton – Tuesday 27th January 2009 London – Tuesday 3rd February 2009

For further information, please contact Gemma Bergamini: gemma@npag.org.uk

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.

October 2008 to December 2008 meeting calendar: -

- 9th October 2008: Portering Services Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round0)
- 14th October 2008: Bank & Agency Nursing Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)
- 22nd October 2008: Non Patient Transport Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 5th November 2008: EBME (North) Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 6th November 2008: Waste Management Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)
- 11th November 2008: Facilities (North) Meeting 2 of 3 (2008/09 round)
- 12th November 2008: Facilities Meeting 5 of 6 (2008/09 round)
- 19th November 2008: Catering Services Meeting 3 of 4 (2009/09 round)
- 19th November 2008: National Patient Transport Modernisation Group Meeting 6 of 6 (2008)
- 20th November 2008: District Nursing Meeting 4 of 4 (2007/08 round)
- 3rd December 2008: Health & safety/Risk Management Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 4th December 2008: EBME (South) Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 4th December 2008: Sterile Services Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 9th December 2008: Shared Services Development Network Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
- 11th December 2008: Estates Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)
- 16th December 2008: Telecoms Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)

For further information please e-mail: gemma@npag.org.uk or marie@npag.org.uk

NPAG MEMBERSHIP

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

Murphy's Law: There's never time to do it right, but there's always time to do it over.

Telephone enquiries to: 01245 544 600

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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.