



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

- Chancellor unveils plans for NHS cost savings
- The Mayor of London announces his intention on the future of the Congestion Charge Western Extension
- From Waste To Resource Management In The NHS: Challenges And Opportunities
- Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS
- Lean Healthcare (Nursing): Sharing in the Experience of Others
- Snippets
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CHANCELLOR UNVEILS PLANS FOR NHS COST SAVINGS

It was announced this week's pre-Budget report that primary Care trusts will be asked to contribute to an extra £5bn of annual public sector efficiency savings by 2010-11. The report also states an extra £100m in capital funds will be spent upgrading up to 600 GP practices into 'training practices' as part of the Chancellor's £3bn attempt to stimulate the economy by bringing forward planned investment from 2010-11 into the next two years.

Mr Darling's report outlines a package of measures designed to stimulate the economy throughout the recession, including £12.5bn of consumer tax cuts and a six-year pause on the government's investment rules. But tax cuts and a growing budget deficit needed to be paid for over the medium term - and Mr Darling's report outlines that part of the payback will come in the form of an increase in the public sector 'recoverable savings' target for 2010-11 from £30bn to £35bn. The Treasury believes there is scope for part of that to come from the £70bn NHS commissioning budget.

The report says, 'As PCTs enhance their commissioning skills over the next years they will develop their strategic and financial plans to ensure they unlock cashable value for money improvements across the £70bn of commissioned health services. The report explains that April's Budget will set out the 'value for money impact' expected from world class commissioning as well as 'report on the scope to increase efficiency further in the hospital sector through the tariff prices paid by PCTs and progress on extending pricing to new areas of the health service.'

THE MAYOR OF LONDON ANNOUNCES HIS INTENTION ON THE FUTURE OF THE CONGESTION CHARGE WESTERN EXTENSION

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, announced on 27th November that he will begin the legal processes required to remove the Western Extension of the Congestion Charging zone, following the non-statutory consultation with the public and stakeholders.

The consultation ran from 1 September to 5 October 2008 and attracted nearly 28,000 responses. Overall, 69 per cent of individuals and businesses responding to the public consultation supported the removal of the Western Extension. Nineteen per cent stated that they wanted the extension kept as it is, and 12 per cent supported changing the scheme to improve the way that it operates.

A draft revision to the Mayor's Transport Strategy reflecting his intention to remove the Western Extension will be the subject of a statutory public and stakeholder consultation scheduled for summer 2009. Following this, TfL would also need to consult the public and stakeholders on a variation to the Congestion Charging Scheme Order to formally remove the Western Extension.

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The Western Extension cannot be removed until these statutory consultation procedures have been concluded and the Mayor has taken into account the views expressed in the consultations and decided whether or not to confirm his decision.

Given the timescales involved in preparing and conducting these consultations, and to ensure there is time for proper consideration of mitigation measures, the earliest that the Western Extension could be removed would be in spring 2010.

Full details on the results of the consultation, including Transport for London's report to the Mayor can be found at www.tfl.gov.uk/westernextension.

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

David Wathey, Head of Sustainable Development, NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PASA) gave a presentation on 'Sustainable Procurement' at the 'From Waste to Resource Management in the NHS – Opportunities and Challenges' seminar on 25 November. The seminar was organised by NPAG in collaboration with the University of Northampton and held at The Met Hotel, Leeds.

David advised delegates of waste programmes currently undertaken by PASA. These include the Forward Commitment Procurement Programme with the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills. Any NHS trust interested in participating has until 30th January 2009 to undertake an Expression of Interest.

Contact: david.wathey@pasa.nhs.uk for further information.

Dr Jeff Evans, Associate Director, Waterman Sustainable Energy advised delegates that the NHS was responsible for 30% of public sector emissions in England. A key target for the NHS was to reduce Carbon emissions by 15% by 2010 on the 2005 level – which is less only 2 years away. Jeff also stated, 'There is no such thing as carbon Neutral'.

Richard Bowers, Managing Director, ISYS Computer Systems explained the tracking and monitoring system options available from ISYS Computer Systems on waste. Richard provided two examples of NHS trusts using the *MediWASTE* system.

Chris Lowe, Environment Agency, gave a presentation on 'Auditing, Labeling and Consignment of Healthcare Waste'. Chris explained the EA position in respect of healthcare waste audits and hazardous waste consignment notes.

IMC has pioneered the use of waste macerating and dewatering equipment alongside in-vessel composting to recycle food waste into high quality compost. Paul Tittle, Product Manager, IMC explained the process and gave examples where the process has been adopted.

The NPAG and the University of Northampton thank Grundon, SRCL and SharpSmart for their sponsorship of this event.

IMPLEMENTING WEEE LEGISLATION IN THE NHS

This seminar is scheduled for **Thursday 11th December 2008** in **London**. 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 Marie Baldwin, marie@npag.org.uk

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LEAN HEALTHCARE (NURSING): SHARING IN THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS

This seminar will be held on **Tuesday 10th February** at **Highpoint Conference Centre, Leicester**. The programme includes the following presentations: -

- *An Introduction to Lean in Healthcare*: John Coleman, Director, Alturos
- *Case Study-Good Hope Hospital*: Liz Hamilton
- *Case Study-Northampton Hospital*: Jenny Briggs
- *Case Study- Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospital*: Lisa Tierney
- *Lean Simulation Exercise*: Alturos
- *Next Steps-Open Forum*

For further information, please contact Sally Harris: sally.harris@npag.org.uk

SNIPPETS

Healthcare watchdog welcomes NHS progress in struggle against *C.difficile*

The Healthcare Commission recently welcomed news of a fall in *Clostridium difficile* rates, saying the figures suggest significant progress in the struggle against healthcare-associated infection. Maggie Kemmner, Head of Safety at the Commission, said: "This is good news for patients and good news for the NHS. *C. difficile* has affected too many people in this country, and their families." The Healthcare Commission are inspecting every NHS acute trust in England this year to check on infection control, as part of the biggest ever inspection programme they have undertaken.

CBI members' views sought on plans to change Pharmacy services

The CBI is preparing a response to the Government's Pharmacy White Paper consultation. Most primary care trusts are still under-utilising the skills and experience of pharmacies in expanding NHS services and the CBI will be urging the Department of Health to properly equip them to become local market managers, capable of specifying and overseeing new services in the areas with the worst health outcomes. Members wishing to contribute to CBI response are invited to contact: chris.heathcote@cbi.org.uk

Social Enterprise is not right for everyone

The government's most senior nursing advisor has warned that social enterprise is not the answer for everybody in the NHS and could be risky. Chief Nursing Officer Christine Beasley's comments were made at the Social Enterprise Coalition (SEC) Health and Social Care Conference in November where Ms Beasley recommended that health professionals looked first to forming a partnership with an existing organisation, social enterprise or not, before going it alone. However, Beasley also said that social enterprise health carers were particularly good at reaching excluded people. She gave the example of Open Door in Grimsby which provides GP services to groups such as the homeless, drug addicts and sex workers.

Defra announces six 'Zero Waste Places' across England

New waste and recycling minister Jane Kennedy has announced the first six 'Zero Waste Places', areas which will be expected to demonstrate best practice in waste management across England. The initiative was a commitment within the Waste Strategy 2007, and the six selected 'Places' range from just a few residential streets to the entire West Midlands region. Announcing the selections, Ms Kennedy said: "Across England, we are seeing communities come together with innovative ideas and a shared determination to tackle waste locally. These six zero waste places will test what can be done to make it easier for people and businesses to change the way they view and deal with waste." In the East of England there were 2 places picked: Peterborough City Centre and Kings Lynn in Norfolk. Other places include: The London Borough of Brent, Shenley Church End in Milton Keynes, the London Borough of Lewisham, and the West Midlands.

Sir David Jason

A recent visit to the East Anglian Air Ambulance service has prompted Sir David Jason to become patron of the Association of Air Ambulances. The association has been set up to represent the country's 18 independent air ambulance charities and the 13 ambulance Trusts in England, Scotland and Wales. The *Darling Buds of May* and *Only Fools and Horses* star said, "They play a vital role within our emergency response service and I'm delighted to support them, particularly as they receive no government funding."

Micromark tower fans

A manufacturing fault on six batches of Micromark tower fans has led to the potential to overheat and ignite. The model numbers are MM30142 or MM53597 and batch numbers ending with 0604, 0611, 0701, 0702, 0703 or 0704.

NPAG ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

NATIONAL EVENTS

Programme of forthcoming NPAG events (CPD Approved): -

- **Implementing WEEE Legislation in the NHS**
Thursday 11th December 2008 – London
- **Lean Healthcare (Nursing): Sharing in the Experience of Others - Seminar**
Tuesday 10th February 2009, Leicester
- **Sustainability- Workshop**
Winter 2009, Midlands
- **Emergency Preparedness Development Network – Workshop**
Winter 2009, London
- **Waste Management– Meet the Contractors**
January/February 2009
- **Evaluating Treatment Technologies for Healthcare Waste**
March 2009, Midlands
- **National EBME Conference**
March 2009, Birmingham
- **Lean Healthcare Event (Operating Theatres)**
March 2009, Midlands
- **Occupational Health Event**
March 2009, Midlands

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

Full details will be published on the NPAG website when available: www.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.

December 2008 to February 2009 meeting calendar: -

3 rd December 2008:	Operating Theatres	Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)
4 th December 2008:	EBME (South)	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
4 th December 2008:	Sterile Services	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
9 th December 2008:	Shared Services Development Network	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
9 th December 2008:	Health & Safety/Risk Management	Meeting 1 of 4 (2008/09 round)
11 th December 2008:	Estates	Meeting 4 of 4 (2008 round)
16 th December 2008:	Telecoms	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
8 th January 2009:	Occupational Health	Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)
13 th January 2009:	Facilities (North)	Meeting 3 of 3 (2008/09 round)
15 th /16 th January 2009:	Facilities	Meeting 6 of 6 (2008/09 round)
15 th January 2009:	Security Services	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
22 nd January 2009:	Catering Services	Meeting 3 of 4 (2008/09 round)
4 th February 2009:	National Patient Transport Modernisation Group	(Meeting 1 of 6)
11 th February 2008:	EBME (North)	Meeting 2 of 4 (2008/09 round)
15 th January 2009:	Bank & Agency	Meeting 1 of 4 (2009 round)
22 nd January 2009:	Portering Services	Meeting 1 of 4 (2009 round)
25 th February 2008:	Non Patient Transport	Meeting 4 of 4 (2008/09 round)

For further information please e-mail: gemma@npag.org.uk or marie@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	BVG	CONTACT
Catering Costs & Trust Profiles	Catering	fwj60@hotmail.com
Restaurant Prices	Catering	fwj60@hotmail.com
Transport Costs	Non Patient Transport	fwj60@hotmail.com
Health & Safety/Risk Management	H&S/Risk Management	john.king@npag.org.uk

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

- **Achieving a Resilient Organisation**

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

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

TRAINING WORKSHOPS: CONTINUED

- **Business Continuity Plans**

- 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

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**.

NAPPY NEW YEAR!

A new name has been added to the NPAG staff establishment. Victoria Combes joined the NPAG in late September as maternity leave cover for Gemma Bergamini. Gemma is expecting her first child in the New Year and will leave us after Christmas on maternity leave.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

All of us at NPAG wishes everyone, a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Murphy's Law: Anything good in life is either illegal, immoral or fattening.

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.