

## OUR PLEDGE

# To reduce waste

### Why does this matter?

England alone generates around  
**77m tonnes**  
of waste every year



This is a poor use of resources and costs businesses and household's money. It also causes environmental damage, for example, waste sent to landfill produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.

The UK Government  
aspires to move towards a  
**'zero waste  
economy'**

This doesn't mean that no waste exists - it's a society where resources are fully valued, financially and environmentally. It means we reduce, reuse and recycle all we can, and throw things away only as a last resort.

To help people and organisations make the most of opportunities to save money by reducing waste, The Waste Prevention Programme for England has been launched. The programme sets out to:



Working with the food and drink sector to prevent food waste.



Making it easier for organisations to recycle more.



Making businesses responsible for what they produce so a proportion of materials they manufacture can be easily recycled.



Working with the waste industry to make it easier for organisations to recycle.



Working with local councils to improve waste collection services and infrastructure projects.



Supporting energy from waste where appropriate.



Addressing waste crime such as fly-tipping and the operation of illegal waste management sites.



Regulating landfill sites.



Working with the Environmental Agency to control hazardous waste.

## Where are we now?

NHS Property Services has been developing its waste management systems. This has included standardising procedures and processes, and ensuring legal compliance.



Standardising  
procedures and  
processes



Ensuring  
legal  
compliance

Waste management training has been provided to key persons in the business so they are able to:



Effectively manage waste compliantly.



Improve waste segregation.



Introduce recycling.



Identify key cost savings initiatives.

We have worked with our waste contractors to ensure that our waste is legally and morally disposed of.

**95%** of our general waste gets diverted from landfill 

This is either recycled or sent for heat recovery



## What is our goal?

Our goal is to reduce our amount of waste and increase the amount of recycling as much as possible.

## How are we going to get there?

We are going to build on our current procedures and processes by:



Increasing the use of dry mixed recycling on our sites.



Ensuring that waste is segregated as much as possible.



Reducing clinical waste where possible.



Carrying out bin sizing exercises to ensure that sites have the correct bin.



Introducing internal recycling bins in sites.

**We will also be encouraging our employees to take an interest and active part in working towards our company goal.**

## Top Tips: How you can help reduce waste

- Ensuring that colleagues and those around you dispose of waste in the correct waste receptacle.
- Raise any issues around incorrect waste segregation.
- Help introduce recycling at your home or place of work.
- Do not use single use items such as water bottles, coffee cups and plastic bags.