



Northern Health



AHSP0 Presentation

Creating a Greener Northern Health

October 2010

Creating a Greener Northern Health

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- **Five sites**
- **2500 EFT (about 3800 employees)**
- **Large # tenants and contracted services**
- **Acute, sub acute, community health and ambulatory**
- **One of the busiest emergency departments**
- **Major site has undergone 3 expansions within the last 7 years**
- **Major site to triple in size within next 5-10 years (1000 beds)**
- **Average activity growth 8% per annum**



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Our Sustainability Journey

- Commenced with water savings
- Water awards
- Board and Executive interest
- What else could we do
- Wanted to be a leader in our field



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NH Environmental Steering Committee

- **Multi disciplinary**
 - **Representation from all sites**
 - **Clinical and Non-Clinical representatives**
 - **Tenant and contractor representatives**
- **Commitment to environmental sustainability**
 - **Identifying issues and areas for improvement**
 - **Securing funding and resources for approved environmental activities**
 - **Legislative compliance**
 - **EPA**
 - **DoH**



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Our Green Purchasing Journey

- **Recognized need to green our purchasing practices**
- **Supply Services are provided by Melbourne Health via a Shared Services Service Level Agreement**
- **Opportunity came up to join ECO-Buy in October 09**
- **Phase One - Two workshops held to identify opportunities**



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Organisational Risk-Spend Analysis

- **Analysis undertaken in May 2010 based on spend in 2008/09**
- **Aim to develop a set of spend categories that are priorities for Northern Health**
- **Methodology took into account environmental risk, potential to influence suppliers and the actual scope to improve environmental outcomes**



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08/09 Spend Profile

Radiology/Pathology \$13,000,000	Pharmacy \$11,000,000
Medical and surgical supplies \$9,000,000	Patient Brokerage Services \$8,100,000
Prosthesis \$7,000,000	Repairs/maintenance/operating leases/minor equipment \$5,500,000
Food \$5,000,000	Insurance \$4,000,000
Cleaning 3,400,000	Fuel – light & power \$2,400,000
Linen services \$1,800,000	Patient Transport \$1,400,000
Aids and appliances \$1,300,000	Interpreters \$1,200,000
Printing and stationery \$1,171,400	



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Top Five Priorities

- **Food (high)**
- **Stationery (high)**
- **Cleaning (medium-high)**
- **Linen (medium-high)**
- **Patient Transport (medium-high)**



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Product Evaluation Committee

- **Currently under review**
- **Membership is important**
- **Expand the role**
- **Complete life cycle analysis**



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Challenges & Barriers – Green Purchasing

- **Green products are more expensive**
- **Myths vs. Truth**
- **General resourcing of the program**
- **Evaluation of products sometimes a challenge**
- **Support for green procurement varies**
- **Measurement of green spend/tracking and reporting of green spend limited**
- **Broader staff education required**
- **HPV**



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Are Greener Products Always More Expensive?

Example - Rubbish Bags

- **27 & 72 litre rubbish bags**
- **Looked at options to reduce in first instance**
- **Wanted to be more sustainable**
- **Looked at various options and trialled them**
- **NH chose to go with a degradable bag which will save \$41,246 per annum**



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Lessons Learnt



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Support

- It takes a long time to gain support
- Chip away at it
- Start with the low hanging fruit – easy wins
- Take baby steps
- Passionate People
- Executive support is desirable
- Overall organizational support is required
- Network Forums



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Communication

- Awareness days
- CEO fortnightly newsletter
- Northern News
- Awards
- Media articles
- Intranet
- Email
- Staff Flyers
- Competitions
- Focused campaigns



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Staff Response

- It is an organizational journey
- Need staff participation and ideas
- Eco-Warrior email address
- Consistently send out the messages
- Educate staff to make changes at home and at work
- New generation is 'green' conflicts with the older generations



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What Can You Do?



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Successes to date

- **Environmental Steering Committee in place**
- **EMS – completed and endorsed**
- **Incorporated into 09-12 strategic plan**
- **Contractor and tenant engagement**
- **5-15% environmental weightings in tenders**
- **Environmental clauses in contracts and tenders**
- **Green office program trials**
- **Fleet management using Victorian Government green rating tool**
- **Commenced investigating alternative products**



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Successes to date

- **Stationery review complemented**
- **Recycling programs in place**
- **Investigating other reuse/recycling options**
- **Recycled content paper purchased**
- **Agreed minimum ratings for water and energy consuming appliances**
- **Staff awareness campaigns**
- **Activities promoted both internally and externally to broader community.**



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Outcomes February 2008 to February 2010

Number of batteries sent to landfill	Reduced by 20,000
Landfill	Reduced by 33.99%
Recycled waste	Increased by 32.14%
Paper	Reduced by 34.52%
Water	Reduced by 31.36%
Electricity	Reduced by 21.55%
Gas	Reduced by 27.13%



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Future Actions:

- **Strategic framework**
- **Contracts/tenders/opportunities**
- **Stakeholder engagement**
- **Product/service assessments**
- **Staff engagement**
- **Supplier engagement and survey**
- **Processes**
- **Tracking and reporting**
- **Target top 10 suppliers**



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Further Information

Sharon McNulty
Director Facilities Management
Northern Health
(03) 8405 8383
sharon.mcnulty@nh.org.au

