

## Information sheet

### Recycle on the Go Wales – Hywel Dda University Health Board



- Recycle on the Go units located across the four acute hospital sites
- 24.77 tonnes collected in first year
- 163 bins in 54 locations
- Expected number of site users : 540,000

### Why have they implemented a Recycle on the Go project?

Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) already provided basic recycling facilities for staff, to ensure that waste was being dealt with cost effectively. It received a suggestion via its Sustainability Champions Group to expand the service to provide public facilities at its hospitals.

HDUHB was able to do this thanks to a Recycle on the Go grant. The new facilities will help increase the recycling rate from 23% in 2012/13 to 30 per cent in 2013-2014 and a targeted 50 per cent by 2015-2016.

#### *What was implemented?*

Recycling stations were created in areas accessed by staff and visitors across the four acute hospital sites; Bronglais General Hospital, Glangwili General Hospital, Prince Philip and Withybush General Hospitals.

#### *Communication tools used*

HDUHB utilised a range of communications tools: – (see appendix for images)

- Item on HDUHB website promoting the new scheme
- Wider awareness was undertaken via the HBs twitter feed
- Awareness was raised with staff via the internal publication 'Hywel's Voice'
- Posters were produced to encourage recycling – located above the recycling units and above domestic waste bins in the vicinity.
- Branding is primarily on the front of the units themselves however in some locations the posters have been used which also raise awareness of the scheme. The aim is for this to continue to develop as part of ward waste management reviews and implementation plans.



## *Benefits*

Segregation on all hospital sites, particularly in ward areas has been very good, with very little contamination noted. Bins in areas widely accessed e.g. main reception, corridors and the canteen, have shown good segregation but slightly higher levels of contamination.

The overall recycling rate at the Hywel Dda Health Board, including staff recycling rates, has increased.

*'We were really pleased to have these facilities. We are keen to recycle at home and it great that there are now more opportunities to recycle in the hospital.'* Sister, General Ward

The addition of the recycling units has ensured the general waste bins are not overflowing which has improved the appearance of these areas.

## *Feedback from site users*

HDUHB has received requests from members of staff who have seen the recycling bins and want them in their area of the hospital, including in non-public facing areas, which has highlighted areas where additional 'staff recycling facilities' can be provided. It has also received positive feedback about the facilities' ease of use and clear labelling.

## *Challenges*

There were concerns about the lack of space at two sites so the containers were moved to different locations. Although the units are now elsewhere, there was potential to collect more material in their original locations.

*'It is very difficult to meet all the waste segregation requirements when space on wards is a premium. Using central facilities is a good solution as it provides the opportunity to recycling without introducing 19 additional mixed recycling bins.'* Nurse, ACUDU

## *Are there any expansion plans/ next steps?*

HDUHB is considering putting a section on recycling facilities in the patient and relative bedside handbook which outlines the services and facilities available to those in hospital.

HDUHB is developing its own environmental management website, which will include information on the scheme. It also initially planned small posters close to the domestic bins in wards, which will be implemented as part of a wider waste awareness initiative that is to be introduced to wards areas at all acute hospitals during 2014-2015.

There are also plans to ensure that all bins are placed in the most advantageous locations.

## Appendix

*Predicted tonnages:*

	Paper & Cardboard	Cans	Plastic	Mixed Recycling	Total
<b>Year 1</b>	26.73	2.81	4.68	1.25	35.47
<b>Year 2</b>	26.73	2.81	4.68	1.25	35.47
<b>Year 3</b>	26.73	2.81	4.68	1.25	35.47
<b>Total</b>	80.19	8.43	14.04	3.74	106.4

*Tonnages to date:*

	Total
<b>July-January '14</b>	<b>14.45</b>
<b>tonnes per month</b>	<b>2.06</b>
<b>tonnes per year</b>	<b>24.77</b>

*Although materials are collected separately the weights are reported as mixed recyclables.*

*Four hospital sites:*

- Bronglais General Hospital, Aberystwyth
- Glangwili General Hospital, Carmarthen
- Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli
- Whithybush General Hospital, Haverfordwest

*Locations included:*

- Waiting rooms
- Dining rooms and canteens
- Entrances to wards
- Outpatients,
- A&E
- main reception
- general admission

Communication tools used:

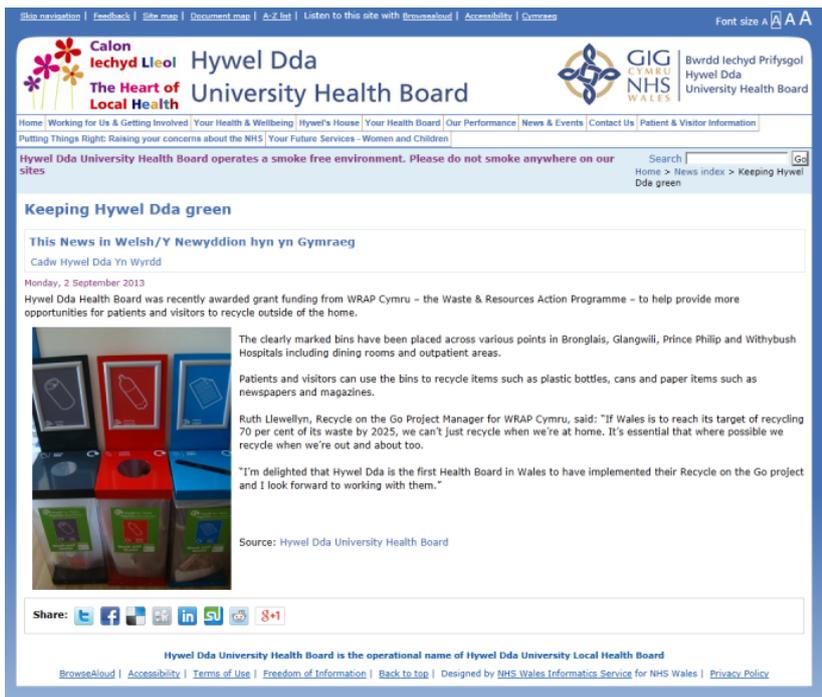


Image 1: HDUHB website promoting the new scheme

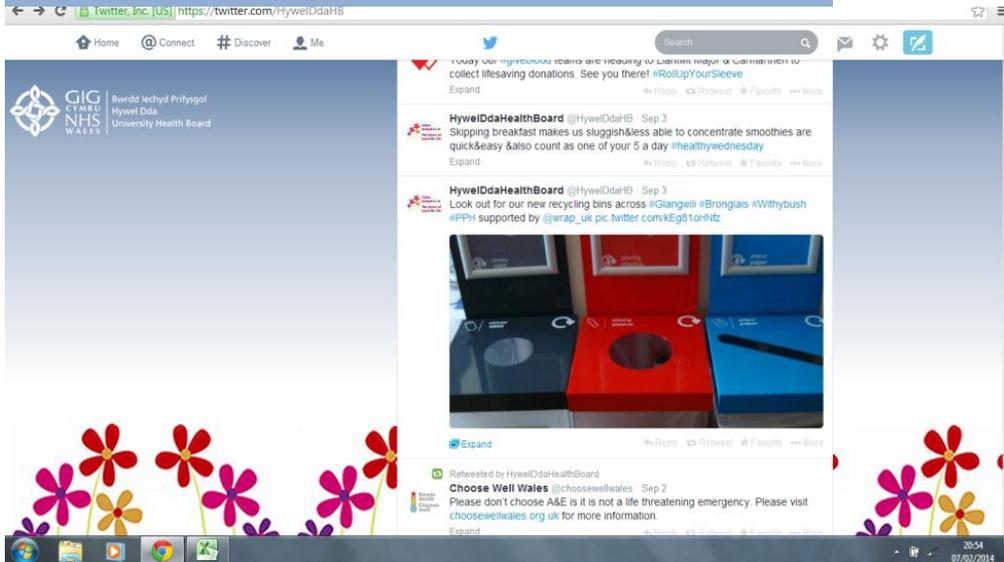


Image 2: HDUHB Twitter account announcing launch of new units



Image 3: Article in HDUHB internal publication 'Hywel's Voice'



Image 4: Poster detailing exact location of recycling units



Image 5: Poster used above the bins to promote the scheme – see image 7 for an example



Image 6: Set of recycling units outside a ward



Image 7: Recycling units and poster

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