

Green Champions Meetings Feedback – March 2024

- On Friday 8th and Tuesday 19th March, we met with around 40 Green Champions from across Ealing to establish a picture of what is happening, the rewards and challenges of the role and the support staff would like going forward.
- Both meetings were very productive and showed the passion Green Champions have for their role. We heard about some of the projects going on in surgeries such as cycle to work schemes and reducing patient journeys through multiple check-ups in one visit.
- Some good discussions were had around patient record transfer packaging, business recycling costs and recycling inhalers.
- We also discussed the disposal of expired medical equipment and so we are looking in to how this might be able to be organised.
- One particular discussion on the responsibility of pharmacies to recycle inhalers has resulted in the following answer being provided:

'Inhaler disposal is part of The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2023/24

(<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/PRN00176-pharmacy-quality-scheme-guidance-23-24-v2.pdf>)

To summarise, by the end of 31 March 2024, pharmacies must ensure they have educated all patients, carers, or representatives who received inhalers between 1 June 2023, and the declaration date about safe and eco-friendly disposal. Not all pharmacies participate in the voluntary PQS, which has reduced funding this year. However, pharmacies are obligated to accept all pharmaceutical waste. Advising patients to return inhalers to pharmacies for safe disposal is recommended'.

- Mentimeter was used to get feedback on a number of questions, the results of which can be seen below.
- The next step is for Dr Vasu Siva and the Ealing Training Hub, to look at the feedback and implement a plan of how we can respond to this this data to plan a way forward to help the Green ~Champions scheme flourish.

Dr Vasu and I would like to thank you all for giving up your time to meet and discuss your roles. If you were unable to attend either meeting and have some feedback that you would like to share, then please email me at the Training Hub- nhsnwleducation@nhs.net.

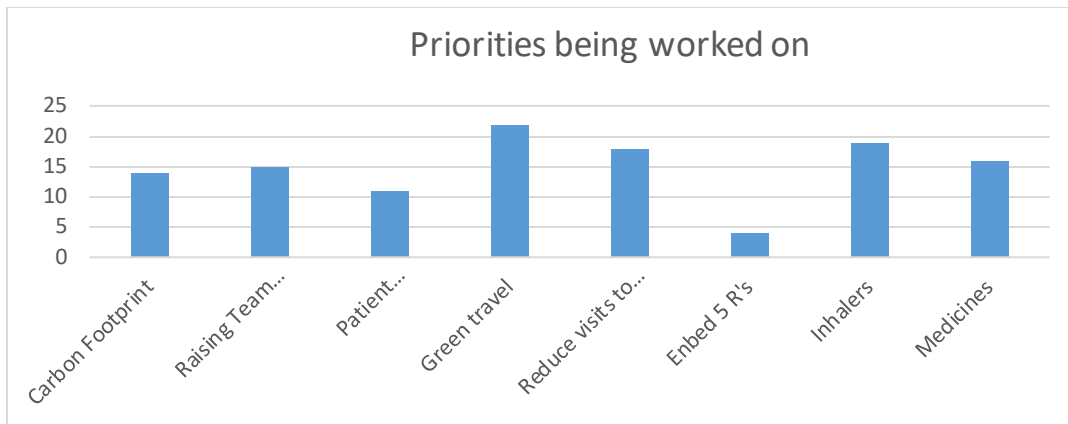
Many thanks

Liz Hornibrook
Ealing Training Hub Project Manager



MENTIMETER FEEDBACK RESULTS

Did you choose to be, or were you nominated to be Green Champion for your practice?	Chose 54%	Nominated 46%	
How many 'Bucket' lists are there on the Ealing Local Primary Care Specification? (Answer 8)	Correct 15%	Incorrect 85%	
How many of these Buckets are you meant to choose to work on? (Answer 5)	Correct 73%	Incorrect 27%	
Do you know the 5 priorities that your practice is working on?	None 0%	Some 62%	All 38%
Which 5 Buckets from the 8 have you chosen to work on from the Ealing standards?	See Graph below		
Have you received any training in your role?	Yes, that I found myself 20%	Yes, that I was offered 4%	No 76%
Have you seen the Green Resources linked on the Ealing Training Hub Newsletter?	Yes 68%	No 32%	
Would you find Green champions catch ups useful?	No 5%	Maybe 24%	Yes 71%



What aspect of your role are you finding most rewarding?

1. On boarding and Education:

Staff engage with the green agenda initiatives by educating others.

2. Small Wins:

Staff find satisfaction in small victories such as learning and sharing information, reducing waste, saving money, and promoting health benefits like walking to work.

3. Importance of Energy Conservation:

Emphasizing the significance of using energy wisely to staff.

4. Environmental Impact:

Staff derive a sense of fulfilment from helping the environment through recycling and finding local recycling options.

5. Medicine Changes:

Staff actively participate in recycling efforts, including switching to eco-friendlier products, discussing changes in medication to reduce waste, and promoting over-the-counter medication availability to decrease waste and patient visits.

What are the challenges you are finding in this role?

1. Time Constraints:

Limited time to complete tasks, facing pushback from patients, and delays due to refusal from external parties like Boots to participate.

2. Workload Management:

Balancing workload while trying to instil new habits and struggling with limited resources and training opportunities.

3. Acceptance and Resistance:

Facing resistance from patients and staff regarding changes, including scepticism about cost-cutting measures and refusal of initiatives like accepting inhalers back.

4. Training and Resource Allocation:

Insufficient training and resources hinder implementation, compounded by excessive paperwork and the need for more efficient communication platforms like WhatsApp.

5. Collaboration and Sustainability:

Difficulty in engaging everyone in initiatives, such as staff sharing transport and proper disposal of small electrical items, while also emphasizing the importance of using energy wisely and addressing the need for time and funding for sustainable business recycling practices.

What support would you like in your role?

1. Staff Training and Education:

Staff stress the need for thorough training to execute green initiatives and educate patients. They seek guidance and resources for successful implementation.

2. Funding for Resources:

Requesting funding to support training and project execution, ensuring adequate resources for environmentally friendly practices.

3. Communication and Collaboration:

Emphasizing the importance of clear communication channels and regular meetings for sharing ideas and coordinating efforts with other teams.

What would you like Green Champion catch-ups to include? (with number of responses indicated)

1. Training (10)
2. Share ideas (4)
3. Staff training (3)
4. Education (Patient and staff) (3)
5. Funding (2)
6. Guidance (2)
7. Clear platforms of information (1)
8. Community involvement (1)
9. Resources for training (1)
10. Green champion role clarification (1)
11. Regular meetings for idea exchange (1)
12. Receiving advice and ideas (1)
13. Timely information dissemination (1)
14. No WhatsApp usage (1)

