

## How do we make our department more environmentally sustainable?

Improving sustainability in your department can feel like a large task, and it's hard to know where to start. This document contains ideas of actions that can improve your work area's environmental impact.

### Super Simple

- Engage with staff to increase awareness of environmental sustainability and understand what they see as key priorities for environmentally sustainable change
- Introduce recycling bins wherever practicable
- Use recycled and recyclable paper and stationary
- Use signage to encourage staff to switch off appliances/lights/water outlets
- Utilise electric communications and records; print only if you have to

### Diving Deeper

- Centralise the disposal of non-recyclable waste and make recycling bins readily accessible where this is practicable and safe
- Have named environmental sustainability lead staff for your department, and start an environmental sustainability action group to co-ordinate sustainability efforts
- Encourage staff and patients to use more environmentally sustainable travel methods

### Eco Expert

- Include sustainability issues and improvements as a staff meeting item
- Reduce the number of single use items in your departments where this is safe
- Consider environmental sustainability during procurement exercises
- Carry out workplace sustainability audits, and provide recommendations for improvements
- Schedule patient clinic appointments to minimise travel where practicable (e.g. booking appointments when patients would be onsite for other appointments anyway)

**Thanks for reading! Share your successes and ideas with us:**

Find the Environmental Sustainability Group on the IPEM website, IPEM Communities of Interest and twitter:

<https://www.ipem.ac.uk/>

<https://my.community.ipem.ac.uk/home>



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