

# Progress in Practice

## Nottingham City Primary Care Trust, pioneers in sustainable procurement

As the first PCT to test the model, Nottingham City PCT found it useful. It helped them identify their good practice, including their involvement in a new sustainable procurement hub, and it provided inspiration for future action. Good practice was exemplified by the lunch, provided by a local not for profit organisation and delivered in an electric car!

### Summary

Nottingham City Primary Care Trust was the first PCT to test the good corporate citizenship assessment model.

The workshop participants included people from the Trust's partnership 'the Nottingham Health Action Team' including organisations such as the BEST (Business Efficiency and Sustainable Technology) Network, HIYE (Health in Your Environment – a voluntary sector forum) and the Greater Nottingham Transport Partnership, highlighting the Trust's engagement in delivering good corporate citizenship across the community. In general, participants found the model easy to use, applicable and useful in providing ideas and resources to enable future action.

Participants focused on transport, procurement, community engagement and new buildings and some highly innovative and artistic visions of the future for the Trust were presented.

The model sparked a wider discussion around sustainable development and as a result will be championed by a Non-Executive member of the Trust at an upcoming learning day.



### Hub Wars

Procurement in the East Midlands will never be the same again. Driven by the Sustainable Procurement Taskforce, *Choosing Health* and the Gershon Review, Nottingham City PCT has become a receptive centre to the ideas of sustainable procurement.

With an annual spend of £1.1 billion, the NHS organisations in the East Midlands have come together to form a procurement hub.

They have invited Forum for the Future to inject the principles of sustainable development into their decision-making. They will rewrite the financial standing orders and be supported by a regional centre of excellence based at Nottingham County Council, ensuring more sustainable procurement across the region.

*'[The model] is useful because it's far reaching and you can see where it fits in with the bigger picture e.g. LSPs, as opposed to just a health silo.'*

Phil Lovett, One City Partnership Nottingham

**Links and organisations involved:** Nottingham City PCT <http://www.nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk/welcome>

### Contact:

Helen Ross, Public Health Development Manager, Nottingham City PCT, 1 Standard Court, Park Row, Nottingham NG1 6GN; 0115 912 3382; [helen.ross@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.ross@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk)

## Progress in Practice

### Food Initiative Group (FIG)

In the dark days of Nottingham City PCT's past a multinational coffee shop chain was a considered bidder to provide the cafes in the new LIFT sites, cream cakes were served at Board meetings and fizzy drinks were sold in vending machines.

Then FIG came along, the Food Initiative Group, a partnership of voluntary sector organisations, food producers, the NFU, local authorities and Nottingham City PCT. Spurred on by the public health and health promotion teams and *Choosing Health*, and in support of Jamie Oliver's campaign, FIG are working to support social enterprises and provide healthier, locally produced and more sustainable food to the Trust.

As a result of this, the workshop's lunch was provided by a local not for profit organisation and arrived in an environmentally friendly electric van. [See picture below]



*'This model really focuses you on sustainable development. It involves conscious thought about the use of crucial resources.'* Betty Higgins, non-executive member, Nottingham City PCT

### Reducing Car Use in the PCT

Nottingham City PCT can see the benefits of reducing car use. These include the time and money saved and the health gains from reduced congestion, fewer car parking problems and meeting the edicts from the Department of Health to have a travel plan and act upon *Choosing Health*.

In response they have a travel plan in place with a cycle allowance and scratch cards for staff work travel (=local public transport tickets). Considering that the Trust spends £50,000 a year on taxis, often for short distances, there is a real incentive for the Trust to promote walking/cycling and the use of public transport. In comparison an all-day travel pass costs just £2.30.

The Trust hopes that in the future everyone in the organisation will be cycling, walking or using public transport 2-3 times a week.

*'A measure of success for the NHS will soon be how well it maintains and improves health and wellbeing rather than how quickly it treats illness.'*

Michael Varnam, Vice Chair of Nottingham PCT & PEC

### Contact:

Helen Ross, Public Health Development Manager, Nottingham City PCT, 1 Standard Court, Park Row, Nottingham NG1 6GN; 0115 912 3382; [helen.ross@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.ross@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk)