

Progress in Practice

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Trust Chief Executive and Chairman champion good corporate citizenship

A well-attended workshop confirmed the Trust's commitment to good corporate citizenship, with initiatives under way and many more in the pipeline.

Summary

Twenty-six workshop participants gathered at Salendine Nook YMCA to hear Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Trust's Chairman and the Director of Personnel and Development introduce what good corporate citizenship means to the Trust.

This was followed by a lively session assessing the Trust's contribution to good corporate citizenship based on the draft model. Although differing practices have evolved on different hospital sites, due to contractual arrangements with external partners, attempts are being made to ensure that standards are consistent in all areas and the Trust is focusing on implementation of ISO1400 series accreditation in the future.

The Chief Executive attended the workshop and gave her support to the Trust's burgeoning work on good corporate citizenship, having recently signed off their Environment Policy. The motivation was high and action is set to continue through the development of the quarterly Corporate Social Responsibility forum meetings.



"Good corporate citizenship is a good approach that we can do very well. It's what we need to do to be a responsible partner in the community."

Gordon McLean, Chairman

Getting staff on to bikes

Having received planning permission for fewer parking spaces than before, the new building at C&H acted as a catalyst for the Green Travel Strategy. After having passed a car park management paper by the Board, a Travel Coordinator was put in post with a joint staff and management Travel Steering Group. There are now various initiatives in action to reduce single car use travel, all undertaken in partnership with two local authority and three primary care trust partners. Bike week in 2005 attracted 60 cyclists, a threefold increase from 2002 when there were 10 cyclists. Initiatives also include working with the local public transport provider to give staff discounts for public transport, offering payroll help with travel passes, leaflets and events sponsored by trust partners.

Less waste, big savings on printing

The Trust was wasting money on purchasing printers. From 2003-2004, £270k was spent on printer cartridges and the recycling of these cartridges was hit and miss. Ideas are in place to change from desk top printers to multifunctional printers with the ability to print, copy, scan and fax and to train staff to print double-sided and side by side. This will save approximately £300k on hard kit over three years and benefit the environment by reducing paper and cartridge use and waste whilst improving performance and quality.

"It's the area of my work that really energises me, and it sits well with our values; it's the 'want to do' rather than the 'have to do' bit of my work."

Julie Hull, Director of Personnel and Development

Links and organisations involved: Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Trust, <http://www.cht.nhs.uk/>

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