

# Collaborative Sustainability

Following a visit by the Environment Agency back in 2014. The Agency identified that staff needed more information and support to segregate and manage healthcare waste safely in line with government guidance ([Technical Memorandum 07-01](#)) and to comply with both European and Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs legislation on the segregation, transportation and destruction of clinical and domestic waste. Leeds Teaching Hospitals occupies six hospitals over five separate sites and has over 16,000 employees so a new role was required to coordinate the trust's response to the Agency's findings.

LTHT introduced a specialist waste trainer to provide opportunities to present to all levels of staff, flagging the trust's commitment to sustainability through training sessions. Enabling staff to become involved in waste projects across the trust and help develop our sustainable management plan.



## Starting out

The starting point was a new type of diagnostic audit tool that enabled data to be collected on the ground and identify service development needs. The waste trainer worked with wards and departments to introduce ways of improving waste segregation in their areas which would work for them and their team. This made segregation safer and more efficient and reduced

our disposal costs and our carbon footprint.

## GRASP champions

The trust also has its own internal sustainability campaign, GRASP (Green, Recycle, being Aware, Sustainable for our Patients). We have an active network of champions who play a really important part in helping to spread the waste recycling and reuse message. Our champions are a really good channel for encouraging good practice across the organization.

The Specialist waste trainer has supported our GRASP champions on projects such as the single use instrument recycling trials. By involving front line staff and helping them to feel empowered to make small changes, we have made a big difference.

