**GREEN IMPACT FOR HEALTH**

**Helping practices improve the sustainability of primary care in Somerset**

Somerset CCG and Somerset LMC recognise that many practices have concerns about the current climate crisis and are interested in finding practical ways that general practice and primary care can make a difference. Therefore this year the Somerset PCIS will include some criteria that will help you with this. The criteria are taken from the RCGP’s Green Impact for Health award scheme which since it started 5 years ago has grown and now has over 700 practices working towards the scheme’s criteria.

Sustainable Healthcare is the concept of providing healthcare in a way that is beneficial to patients without harming the planet. Green Impact for Health provides guidance about the small changes that will improve quality, save money and improve the environmental sustainability of your practice. Each of the GIH’s small changes support the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and making some of these small changes will be an achievement for any practice.

We know that some Somerset practices are already working through the required sets of actions to attain the bronze, silver or gold levels of the Green Impact for Health award. The GIH bronze level includes 24 actions worth in total 100 points. To gain the Bronze level award from RCGP a practice has to demonstrate that it has achieved actions worth 75 points.

We recognise that not every practice will want or be able to do this at the moment but we believe that every practice will be interested in making a start and achieving some of the small changes included in the schemes bronze level. Therefore to qualify for the Somerset PCIS payment in sustainable healthcare a practice should:

1. Practice manager and relevant other members of the practice individually register on the RCGP Green Impact for Health toolkit. Do this at <https://www.greenimpact.org.uk/giforhealth/register>

(The required registration code is 134)

1. Select and complete actions worth at least 25 points from the bronze level. The LMC will be proactively supporting all practices to do this.

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| **ACTION NUMBER** | **CRITERIA** | **POINTS** |  |
| B001 | EITHER all tea and coffee purchased by the practice for staff is Fairtrade certified OR a poster is up in the tearoom explaining the benefits of buying Fairtrade products. (This only refers to tea or coffee bought with practice money, not products bought by staff) | 2 |  |
| B002 | Clear guidance on how staff can double-side copy is posted within readable distance of each photocopier  AND the practice collects its waste non-confidential A4 paper printed on one side only, and rather than sending it for recycling, the practice reuses it or donates it to an organisation for reuse. | 3 |  |
| B003 | The practice publicises the availability of the nearest pharmacies taking part in the GSK "Complete the Cycle" Inhaler Recycling Scheme. | 3 |  |
| B004 | All plain A4 white copier/printer/fax paper bought by the practice meets at least one of the following options: • made from at least 70% recycled paper; • made from [NAPM] accredited recycled paper; • made from pulp from [FSC] [certified sustainable sources]. | 3 |  |
| B005 | The practice has used energy monitors to establish the energy use of the whole practice or individual electrical devices. | 3 |  |
| B006 | At least one member of healthcare staff has engaged in learning or attended training on social prescribing and is identified as the practice Social prescribing champion or coordinator. The champion should be aware of the benefits of Green and Blue prescribing, ( to nature or water) | 6 |  |
| B007 | The practice has accessed the national [www.openprescribing.net] and has looked at the GP Dashboard for their practice, or uses their local preferred alternative (e.g. Eclipse). Someone in the practice receives regular email alerts on the prescribing trends. | 3 |  |
| B008 | The practice newsletter or website has promoted the practice's participation in the Green Impact scheme. | 3 |  |
| B009 | The practice can show evidence of considering the use of renewable energy technology. | 6 |  |
| B010 | All staff within the practice have been reminded about the difference between the waste bins (e.g. clinical, offensive, hazardous and domestic waste) within the last 6 months. Waste bins are clearly labelled. | 6 |  |
| B011 | The practice has accessed appropriate on line resources about sustainability to access up to date information. | 3 |  |
| B012 | The practice has made a plan to address the problems of fuel poverty within vulnerable population groups in line with NICE guidance. This plan should include the identification of vulnerable patients, asking these patients about keeping warm at home and a process for referral to a single point of access. | 4 |  |
| B013 | The practice has ensured that over half of its "vulnerable to unplanned admission" patients have had a documented discussion on end of life care, including decisions of Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNAR), Treatment Escalation Plans (TEP) and ceiling of treatment. | 7 |  |
| B014 | The practice has an up-to-date written 'lighting and equipment responsibility plan' covering responsibility for all the main areas and key equipment within the practice and all relevant staff have been made aware of the plan. | 6 |  |
| B015 | The practice has reviewed the proportion of dry powder inhalers (DPIs) used compared to metered dose inhalers (MDIs) AND the proportion of low volume Salbutamol MDIs used compared to high volume Salbutamol MDIs used AND the proportion of inhalers which use HFA227ea. | 5 |  |
| B016 | The practice has a system in place to review patients on 10 or more prescriptions in the first step to preventing unnecessary polypharmacy. | 6 |  |
| B017 | All GP trainees and/or Foundation doctors have received at least one tutorial on career resilience and have submitted feedback forms. | 4 |  |
| B018 | The practice encourages patient self-management with guidance for at least one named condition (as chosen by the practice). | 4 |  |
| B019 | The practice has planned at least one quality improvement project, which aims to improve the sustainability of the healthcare system in question. | 6 |  |
| B020 | The practice uses rechargeable batteries for medical equipment | 2 |  |
| B021 | The practice has engaged in at least one activity to enhance the sustainability of local training resources, for example sharing across practices. | 4 |  |
| B022 | The practice promotes physical exercise to patients and staff and promotes a culture of physical activity and role modelling. All practice staff are aware of benefits of physical actvity and physical activity prescriptions. | 7 |  |
| B023 | The practice changes its default internet search engine to Ecosia which plants trees when people use the site. | 2 |  |
| B024 | The practice adheres to the basic principles of welcoming breastfeeding on site and has accessed online resources for up-to-date information and training for staff to support women to breastfeed. | 2 |  |
| Total |  | 100 |  |