**03-Oct-22   Reducing Wastage**

Sent on behalf of Vasu Siva, GP Partner & Clinical Lead for Green Agenda

Dear Colleagues,  
  
This week, the focus is on how to reduce unnecessary wastage, in particular printing. This is one of the ‘Bucket’ list items on the ES Green initiative. Hope you find this helpful!

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| **ACTIVITY: Reduce Printing** | |
| **What is the activity?** | * Reduce printing whenever possible. If printing is necessary, advice double-sided printing |
| **What are the benefits of the activity?**  **(GP surgery, staff, patients, community, environment)** | * Cost savings * Reduces wastage * Encourage patients to do the same - Healthcare professionals acting as role models * Contributes towards the NHS Greener plan * Sustainable environment |
| **How to carry out the activity?** | * Put up signs and encourage staff to print only when necessary and double-sided, with two pagers per side * Utilise electronic communication such as emails, AccuRx, SMS etc. |
| **How would this be measured?** | * Staff feedback * Practices to review the 6-12 monthly invoices |
| **What are the benefits/award once you have completed the activity?** | * GP practices would have completed **one of the ‘Bucket list items’** mentioned in the ES 25 Green Initiative * You would have contributed towards NHSE ambition |
| **How will this be reported?** | * Annual submission of the evidence of participation of the Bucket list items mentioned in the Delivery section of ES 25 Green Initiative |

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle is the mantra of sustainable usage**  
   
In order to reduce ***medicine wastage***, please encourage your patients to check their prescription is correct before they leave the pharmacy. Medication returned before the patients leave the pharmacy can be reused. If medicines are taken home, they have to be destroyed.   
   
**Helpful Resources:**  
[Reducing waste in health care](https://www.greenerpractice.co.uk/information-and-resources/organisational-considerations/reducing-waste-in-health-care/)