



Scott Jones, Head of Facilities and Environment at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust (SHFT) provides community health, specialist mental health and learning disability services for people across the south of England. Covering Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Trust is one of the largest providers of these types of services in the UK.

FACTS 'N STATS

47%

decrease in carbon emissions

39%

decrease in miles undertaken

Annual mileage reduced

from 1,692,277 to 1,022,365 miles

Increasing efficiency

SHFT was formed when Hampshire Partnership NHS FT and Hampshire Community Healthcare Trust merged in April 2011. As a result, the number of duplicated non-patient courier routes served by several in-house and private providers had increased. In addition, many of these routes were inherited and serviced by vehicles that were several years' old and very carbon and fuel inefficient. SHFT wanted to achieve significant reductions in carbon emissions and this was achieved by working with ERS Medical who now looks after the Trust's mail and courier requirements.

Intelligent routing

ERS Medical utilises sophisticated routing software that allows a regular review of routes and miles and works with the Energy Saving Trust to examine ways to minimise environmental impact through transport operations. ERS Medical also monitors all vehicles via a leading vehicle intelligence system. Internal reports for this are produced on a monthly basis. Ad-hoc bookings are also built into the service provision for SHFT as it is an integral part of all transport services, essential to support the varying needs of the NHS.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

As the result of these initiatives, in November 2012, SHFT won the Business Mileage Management award at the Energy Saving Trust's Fleet Hero Awards.

Fuel-efficient fleet and smarter driving

The revised mail and courier project is serviced by fuel-efficient vehicles. The chosen fleet vehicles are capable of running on diesel that conforms to the EN14214 standard (5% mixture of bio-diesel). Studies have shown that bio-diesel reduces net carbon dioxide emissions by 78% relative to standard diesel. All drivers undertake a green driving assessment and training session, which introduces the principles of driving to save fuel, reduce CO₂ emissions and cut the costs of vehicle maintenance.

Carbon reductions

SHFT's mileage, previous to the involvement of ERS Medical, had been calculated at 1,692,277 miles resulting in 540.45 tonnes of carbon emissions per annum. Since the involvement of ERS Medical, new mileage has been calculated at 1,022,365 miles generating 286.2 tonnes of CO₂. Therefore, the carbon saved is 254.25 tonnes, giving an impressive 47% decrease in carbon emissions.

Driven by Patient Care

To find out more about our services please contact us

Call:

0333 240 4999

General enquiries:

info@ersmedical.co.uk

Bookings:

bookings@ersmedical.co.uk

www.ersmedical.co.uk