

Stericycle's alternative service for treating highly infectious waste has helped to improve clinical waste management at Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

Summary

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust is an integrated provider of hospital, community and primary care services, as well as being a designated University Teaching Trust. Collectively, 7,000 staff provide local services to Salford and specialist services to Greater Manchester and beyond. The trust was the first in the North of England to achieve the highest rating given by the Care Quality Commission, and it has some of the highest patient and staff satisfaction rates across acute trusts nationally. Rob Jepson, Associate Director of Facilities at the trust believes that working with Stericycle on a sustainable waste programme has been a significant benefit and played a part in its CQC success.

Looking for a sustainable alternative

Rob explains that prior to using Stericycle's waste management services, the trust had its own on-site incinerator. The incinerator was, however, demolished to make way for the installation of a new combined heat and power boiler, which meant that all clinical waste had to be transported off-site for incineration, or alternative treatment.

"Like many NHS trusts, we were looking for ways to increase sustainability. We felt that Stericycle's Bio Systems sharps management service was the way forward because the unique sharps containers can each be used up to 600 times each, as opposed to traditional single-use containers, which are incinerated along with the sharps waste after just one use," says Rob.



How does Bio Systems work?

Stericycle provides the trust with a full-time service, ensuring the clinical waste is removed from site in a timely and efficient manner. Once collected, the full containers are taken to the Stericycle treatment facility where they are opened, emptied and disinfected using an automated wash-line that features state-of-the-art robotics. The disinfected Bio Systems containers are meticulously inspected and then reassembled before they are returned to the hospital for reuse. The clean replacement containers are supplied on a daily basis, which means there is no waste build up around the site.

"Stericycle provides us with a safe, reliable and friendly service. There is a point of contact at any time with helpful account managers to hand where needs be."

Rob Jepson,
Associate Director of Facilities

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