



## Case Study – Sustainability at Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust

**Furniture project:** This was initially set up in 2014 when the Sustainability Manager took over the process of equipment disposal (not EBME but we work closely with those colleagues to save these items as well).

By reviewing what was being thrown away we took all reusable items and started sending them out to areas that had asked procurement for new items. After 7 years this service has become well established and as a consequence saves an average £80,000 per year on expenditure and disposal costs. It grew from the odd table and chair to being able to support staff wanting certain items, to services users needing furniture to set up home and supporting local refugee needs via the local Council and charities. We also engage with a national charity to send our mattresses, pump action beds, slings, walking aids, wheelchairs and a variety of consumables which are sent abroad. We often have letters from the hospitals abroad that receive the items, and this makes it all worthwhile by hearing how they are utilising the things we can no longer use.

The Social Prescribing Whitton Health Hub and community café within the hub which is run by Combat to Coffee a social enterprise supporting homeless, those with low mental health and veterans to gain a skill and qualification to gain employment have been supported by the project and demonstrates local social prescribing and charity support in addition to global work

**Battery recycling in all reception areas:** We discovered that a national waste management company had a free service to collect spent batteries, and this has been very successful, and staff really appreciate this extra recycling stream being available.

**Continuous Professional Development:** Our HR department is now taking advantage of online training for professional development to reduce our carbon footprint by asking staff to engage with this training online rather than travelling long distances to attend lectures or conferences whether at home or abroad. This also reduces our expenditure.