

A note from Damon....

It's almost unbelievable that it's already the end of May and the summer is fast approaching. I really do hope you all manage to take a break over the coming weeks. As we look forward to getting back to some sort of new normal beyond Covid, we are back to thinking about innovation. NHFM has a great reputation and track record for being innovative – developing new ways to do things, improving efficiency, using the latest technology to develop smarter ways of working. Wouldn't it be great to come out of Covid with more exciting innovation projects where we could be the first in the country to do something and genuinely be leading the way in our areas of expertise.

There are already some great examples of Innovation Projects currently being developed – from the recycling of facemasks, to developing an app to manage lone working situations, to using drones for building surveys. Go on, challenge yourselves and talk about this at your next team meeting – let us have your suggestions and keep up our reputation for being the best at what we do and embracing innovation!



Damon Kent,
Managing Director, NHFM

News

New Deputy Director, Capital Projects and Commercial



Welcome to Keith Hodgson, our new Deputy Director - Capital Projects and Commercial, who joins us from Newcastle Hospitals Trust.

IWFM

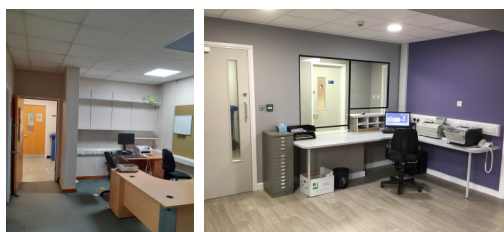
NHFM are now members of the IWFM which will help ensure we stay up to date with best practice in the Facilities Management field.



Institute of Workplace and Facilities Management

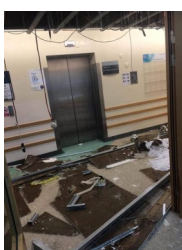
CORPORATE MEMBER

Estates Front Office Refurb



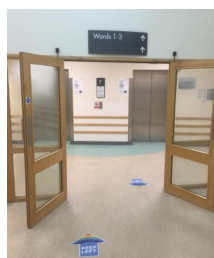
Work has been completed on the Estates Front Office at NTGH. The refurbishment looks great and has created a more user-friendly and Covid safe environment.

Hexham Flood



On the 1st May a leak on the first floor landing was reported which was identified as being due to a corroded vent. The ceiling then collapsed followed by torrents of water. The Estates

Team sprung into action and managed to fix the problem, install new lighting and replace the ceiling. The domestic and portering teams helped with the clean up and normality was restored within 24 hours. Amazing!



Making Recycling Hap-Pen

We are starting a scheme to recycle used pens! It will start in the theatres department initially and then hopefully be rolled out to other departments across our sites.



We are also purchasing a machine for the factory which will recycle used masks, sterilisation wraps, drapes, patient transfer sheets and polypropylene scrubs. The machine turns them into

blocks which can then be used to make new products.

National Recognition

The Theatres upgrade at Wansbeck led by our Capital Project Officer Ryan Hall has been featured in an article in the IHEEM Health Estates Journal.

Dates for your diary

Coffee with Damon

Come along and have a cuppa and a chat with Damon.

Alnwick: Friday 9th July, 1:30- 2:30pm
Training Room

Berwick: Friday 9th July, 10 - 11am
Dining Room

Blyth: Monday 21st June, 9 – 10am
Committee Room

Cobalt: Tuesday 20th July 9 - 9:45am
Room 1
Weds 21st July 4 - 4:45pm,
Restaurant

Factory: Friday 6th August
9 - 10am and 10 - 11am
Production Hall Meeting Room

Haltwhistle: Friday 25th June 12:30-
1:30pm, Downstairs Room

Hexham: Friday 25th June
9 - 10am and 3 - 4pm
Both in Rooms 1 & 2

NTGH: Monday 21st June 11- 12pm,
Wednesday 14th July (night)
00:30 to 01:30
Friday 16th July 4 - 5pm,
All Back of the Dining Room

NSECH: Tuesday 22nd June
11 - 12pm, Marquee
Wednesday 30th June
4 - 5pm, Seminar Room
Wednesday 14th July (night)
11pm - 12am, Seminar Room

WGH: Tuesday 22nd June 9 - 10am
Wednesday 15th July 4 – 5pm
Both in the Lecture Theatre
Night shift date tbc

Career Journeys

Tracey Smith, Hotel Services Officer, Wansbeck General Hospital



How long have you worked here?
Since 2003 - 18 years

Can you tell us about your career?

I started my career as a bank Sterile Services Assistant and then became a technician very quickly after that. Fast forward 3 years and I was a team leader

working full time within the department. This role was when I knew I wanted to manage staff and I developed skills that enabled me to be a compassionate and inclusive leader.

In 2013 I made a total change in career direction and I applied for the Head Porter position at NTGH, and I am proud to say the first female Head Porter appointed at the trust. I worked alongside the porters for a few weeks to get a real understanding of the pressures they face on a daily basis.

I then became the Hotel Services Officer at Wansbeck, with overarching responsibility for Catering. I manage over 200 staff within the facilities teams, and the role has been challenging but very rewarding. The team I have managed at Wansbeck over the passed few years have been great. They support each other and there is a mutual respect between us.

NHFM and the trust have been very supportive in my development. I completed a Foundation Degree in Service Improvement and then a Bachelors degree in NHS Management and Leadership.

For those that don't know...I have been successful for a new role as Junior OSM for the Medicine and Emergency Care directorate. I am excited for this new venture but I will also be very sad to leave NHFM.

Do you have any career advice for others?

If you have passion, drive and determination then take the advice, training, guidance that NHFM offer there is always an opportunity to personally develop.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all. The commitment, time, passion and hard work that goes into your roles does not go un-noticed.

Reminders

Holidays - If you book a holiday to somewhere not on the government's "Green List" you will need to take additional annual leave, or unpaid leave to cover the quarantine period. This needs to be included in your discussions with your supervisor when requesting the time off. Please schedule and book your annual leave - aiming to use 25% of your entitlement in each quarter.



Did you know?

We serve 393 kgs of Baked Beans each month at NTGH alone - equivalent to 925 tins!

Feature

New Estates Masterplan

The Masterplan is a long-term plan for managing our buildings so they are capable of supporting current and future service needs to deliver high quality healthcare. In April 2021, FIP approved the high-level content of the plan which outlined the ambition to invest c. £223m in the estate (as part of the overall £326m 5-year Capital Plan).

Spend will be targeted in key areas such as improving patient and staff facilities, clinical environments and estate infrastructure and resilience. Some very exciting projects are included and we will continue to share news on their progress in the coming months.

Work is progressing well on the following projects:

NSECH ED adaptations and entrance works

NSECH Wellbeing Centre

NSECH CSSD

Wansbeck Theatre refurbishment programme

Cobalt Refurbishment

The following schemes are currently in design and will commence shortly:

Ward refurbishments at NTGH and WGH

NSECH, NTGH, HGH, WGH additional parking

Day case assessment unit

NTGH Energy Centre

Upgrade of maternity, theatres and endoscopy services at HGH

A range of work is also programmed for this year which aims to reduce the existing backlog liability across the estate. These schedules of work will be rolled out across all sites and pin-point priority areas for replacement of building and engineering components.

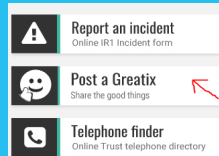
Star(s) of the Month!



Congratulations to Myles Donnelly, Jordan Robson, Nicolas Ritson, Phil White, Karl Barnett, Katy Kitchen, Sharon Burgess, Andrew Ballantyne, and Ian Cooper from Hexham who have been nominated as our Stars of the Month for their heroic efforts in cleaning up the Hexham flood!



Their excellent team work meant that the area was repaired and cleaned in an incredibly quick time meaning that elective surgeries could continue with no cancellations and full public access resumed with no disruption.



To submit a Greatix for a colleague go on the NHCT Intranet home page and click "Post a Greatix" or ask your supervisor to help you.

To read them all and vote for the next winner look out for the new "We are Great" email coming out at the beginning of the month.