

Empowering Therapeutic Radiographers to Lead Sustainable Radiotherapy

Greener by Design

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Declaration of Interest

- Nothing to declare



Why Sustainability?

The Challenge

Radiotherapy departments face:

- ❖ Workforce pressures
- ❖ Financial constraints
- ❖ Increasing demand
- ❖ Net Zero NHS commitments

The Opportunity

Sustainability isn't separate from quality:

- ☐ Better patient experience
- ☐ Reduced waste
- ☐ Better use of resources
- ☐ Staff empowerment

Sustainable improvements are often quality improvements: benefiting patients, staff and services simultaneously.



Creating the Green Radiotherapy Team

Our Aim

To embed sustainability into everyday practice using Quality Improvement methodology.

How We Started

- Staff-led interest in sustainability
- Formation of multidisciplinary Green RT Team
- Linked into wider AHP Green Group
- Representation from across the radiotherapy pathway

Who was involved?

- Therapeutic Radiographers
- Medical Physicists
- Clinical Oncologists
- Operational colleagues



Turning Ideas into Improvement

Using Quality Improvement

Tools used:

- Process mapping
- Driver diagrams
- Staff engagement workshops
 - PDSA cycles
- Measurement and feedback

Why QI?

- Structured approach
- Staff ownership
- Sustainable change
- Measurable outcomes



Case Study - Gown Reduction Project

The Question

Do patients really need a fresh gown every visit?

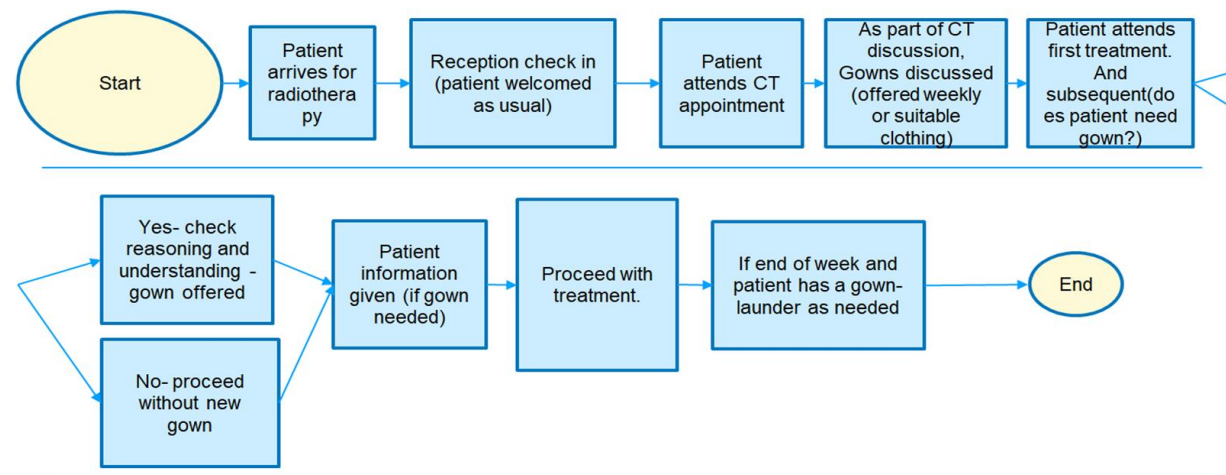
Baseline

Large volumes of gowns being used routinely.

Interventions

- Staff engagement
- Patient involvement
- Revised gown-use pathway
- Testing and refinement through PDSA cycles
- Patient feedback throughout testing

Process mapping the future state



Results

Environmental

- 75-84% reduction in gown use
- 131 kg CO2e saved

Financial

- £400 immediate savings

Annual Projection

- More than 18,000 gowns avoided

Patient Experience

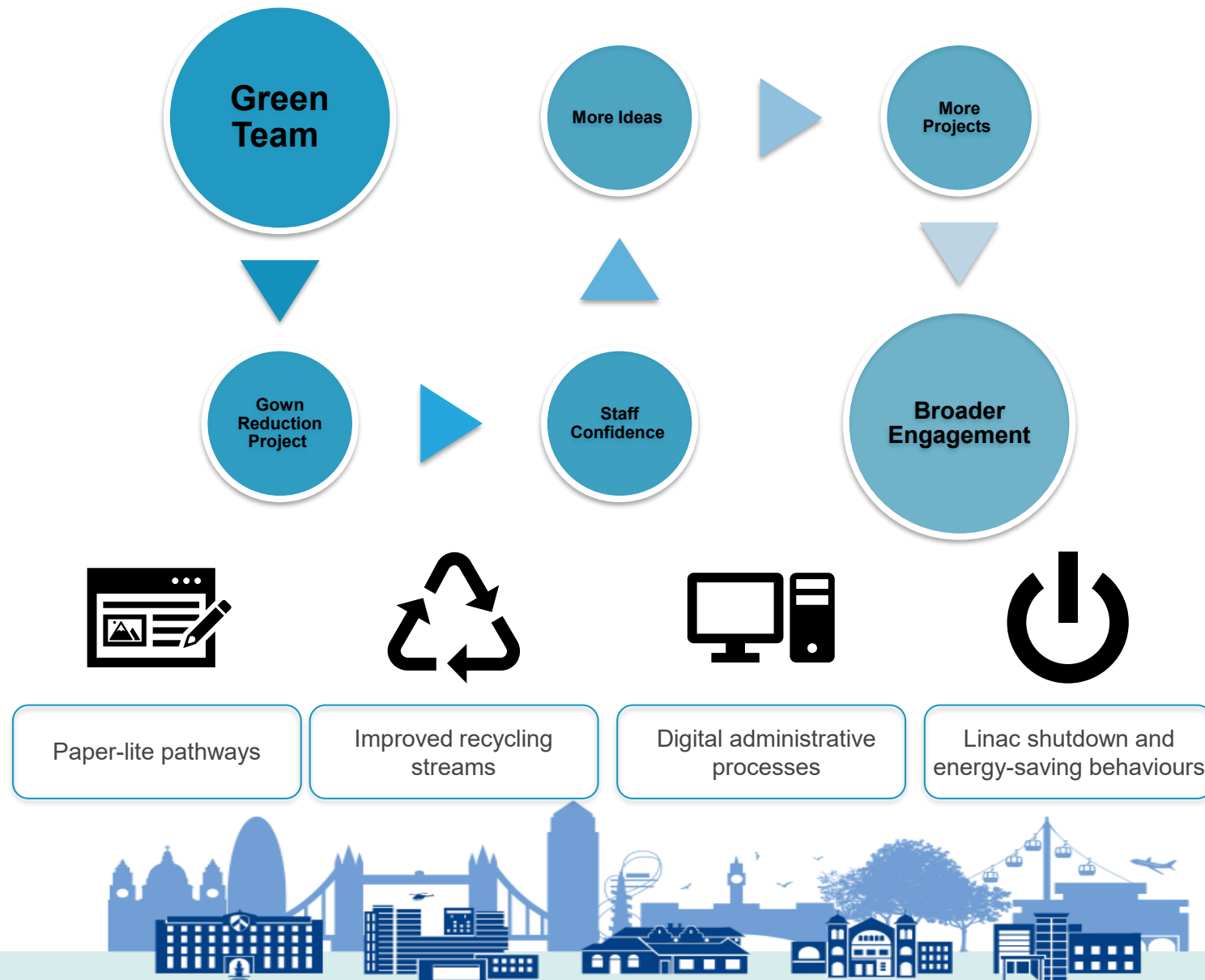
- 80% reported no concerns

What mattered most?

- Environmental benefit
- Financial benefit
- Patient acceptability



Success Creates Success



We Were Further Along Than We Thought

Mapping Our Progress

When the Green Radiotherapy Framework was introduced, we mapped existing initiatives against:



What We Found

Many improvements already aligned naturally with the framework.



Gold Was the Outcome, Not the Goal

Outcome

Gold Green Radiotherapy Accreditation

One of the first UK radiotherapy centres to achieve this level.

What changed?

- Greater staff ownership
- Improved QI capability
- Better cross-professional working
- Increased confidence to lead projects
- Stronger sustainability culture
- Opportunities for staff development and leadership



Key Lessons & Call to Action

What We Learned

Sustainability is a people project.

QI provides the structure for change.

Small projects can create major impact.

Patient-centred care and sustainability are aligned.

Start where you are and build from there

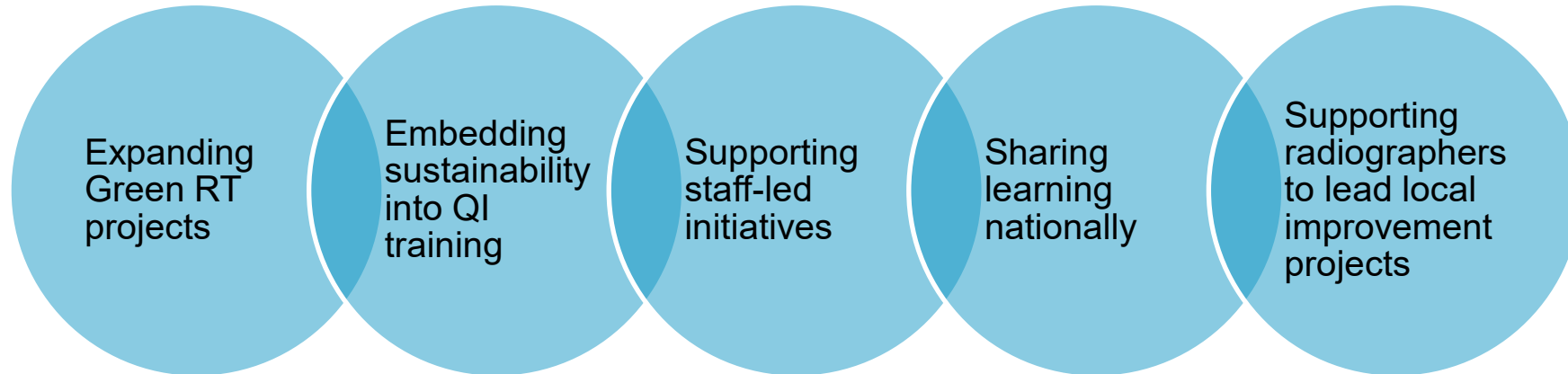
Final Message

"Sustainable radiotherapy is not achieved through isolated projects, but by empowering people to lead improvement."



What's Next?

Next steps



Thank you
Any questions?

