

## REASON WHY?

The team on average go through 30 takeaway coffee cups a week and 8 take away boxes a week and the head of catering pointed out to the team the cost of washing a plate versus making a takeaway food container. As part of supporting work done on sustainability within the NHS the team agreed to test a change.



To reduce the number of takeaway cups and takeaway food boxes used by the improvement team whilst in the improvement hub by 95% by the end of September 2023

## PLAN

The team on average go through 30 takeaway coffee cups a week and 8 take away boxes a week (based on 3 members of staff having 2 cups of coffee a day, 2 members of staff having breakfast twice a week and 2 members of staff having lunch twice a week average figures). We agreed to test the use of the Shrewsbury cup (or our own cups) and also use plates and cutlery from the canteen instead of take away containers.

## DO

The team purchased for one pound each a number of Shrewsbury cups that can either be washed by the team or swapped for clean cups at the café bistro.

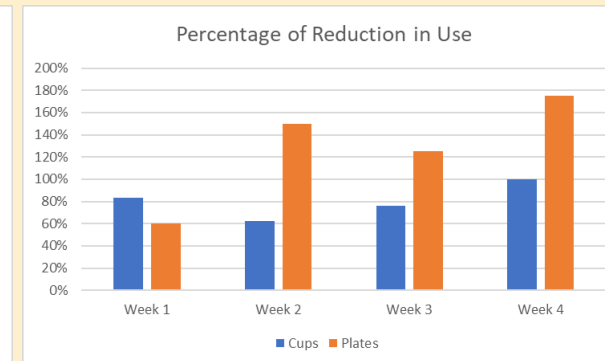
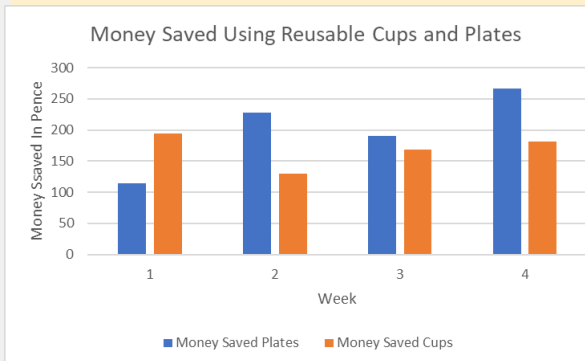
Some members of the team preferred to use their own coffee cups or reusable coffee cups instead of the Shrewsbury cup.

We also started to collect a tray and ask for any food purchased in the canteen to be the 'eat in' rather than 'take away' option. This mean it was served on a plate rather than in a takeaway box. As our office is based off the seating area in the canteen staff could still bring food to the office if they wanted to and it would still be warm.

## STUDY

The predicated cost savings were 38 pence per plate and 13 pence per cup. Savings were calculated per item used and overall usage reduction was calculated by measure the expected use if the full team were in the office by actual use and adjusted by actual number of the team in the office (during the test phase there was annual leave and sickness in the team).

Although the amount of money saved was minimal (a total of £14.74) the overall reduction in use of non-reusable cartons was 80% for cups and 128% for plates, a total reduction of 104%. Of note was the reduction in rubbish created with the team reducing the number of times they had to empty the waste bins to only once a week.



## ACT

The team have agreed to **ADOPT** the practice of using reusable cups and plates from the canteen.

### Next Steps

The team need to consider how they can become sustainable when they are working in other areas, for example at PRH where the office is further from the canteen and whilst training at SECC or the new SERII building.