

Adopting sustainable practices

AS WE continue to prioritise the health and safety of our residents, it's essential to explore innovative methods moving forwards. One such approach gaining momentum is sustainability in infection control.

Sustainability not only refers to environmental responsibility but also extends to the efficiency and longevity of our infection prevention and control (IPC) measures. By integrating sustainable practices into our daily routines, we can reduce waste, conserve resources, and enhance the effectiveness of our efforts.

We are excited to announce the infection control team's involvement in launching a 'Gloves Off' campaign in conjunction with the WHO's Hand Hygiene Day on May 5th. This campaign aims to raise awareness about



Reducing our plastic waste isn't just an issue in our homes

effective hand hygiene practices and the importance of minimising unnecessary glove usage. Through education and empowerment, we can foster a culture of mindful infection control that aligns with sustainability principles.

This is just the beginning. The Somerset ICB IPC team has plans for more initiatives in the pipeline, so watch this space for updates on how we can collectively enhance our infection control practices while reducing our environmental footprint.

Dates for your diary

Please do pop in to our **Virtual IPC support clinic**. It is planned for Wednesday 3 April between 2pm and 4pm. To join, please click on [this link](#).

Nutrition & Hydration Week

Join us in promoting Nutrition and Hydration Week, which runs from March 11 to March 17. You can even get involved with the Global Tea Party! Visit the [official website for more information](#)

Congratulations to Kim!



WE RECEIVED some wonderful news last week. You might remember that we included Kim's achievements in a previous edition of the newsletter.

We are pleased to share that Kim, manager of Compton View Care Home, went on to win the Leader of the Future in the Leading Women in Care awards.

Become an IPC champion for your care setting



WE'RE excited to introduce the IPC Care Champions initiative, aimed at strengthening infection prevention and control practices within care homes across Somerset. Your participation is crucial in nominating a team mem-

ber who embodies qualities such as passion, approachability, and a commitment to learning. Care homes should have already received a nomination pack with detailed information about the role.

Please nominate a suitable candidate from your team or support existing champions by completing the [linked form](#) and returning it to our email address at: somicb.infectionpreventioncontrolteam@nhs.net