



# Calling all staff!

Your role is vital in reducing the amount of medicines that are wasted and thrown away locally

## Ways you can help today to tackle medicines waste

- Take the time to check what medicines your residents need. Do not routinely clear medicines stock at the end of the month.
- Some medicines such as inhalers, insulin, creams and GTN sprays can be carried forward and no need to be re-ordered every month.
- Medicines that are labelled “To be taken as required” or “Use when needed” should be kept at adequate levels. These medicines do not need to be requested every month.
- It is good practice to keep “When required” medicines in the original package. Do not put them in the MDS (tray).
- Speak to the pharmacy to make sure that the medication administration record sheets (MARS) are up to date.
- Never order medicines that are no longer required. You can talk to the GP practice/pharmacist about removing the medicines from the repeat prescription/MARS chart. You can also discuss altering quantities to be more in line with the monthly re-ordering system.
- To prevent wastage of oral nutritional supplements (SIP feeds) please try fortified food options first.
- Audit medicines waste records to see where improvements can be made.



Everyone has a part to play to reduce medicines waste

**NHS**

**Somerset  
Clinical Commissioning Group**