

## News Release

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### Photo/filming/interview opportunity

Date: Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007

Time & Venue: 9.30 am – 4.30 pm, Trelawny Wing Entrance, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro

Purpose: **Launch of 'Making a World of Difference' campaign**

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### **Making a World of Difference ... Trust launches environmental campaign**

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust is leading the Cornwall health community as it launches an environmental campaign which aims to help staff save energy and other world resources at work and at home.

Under the banner of 'Making a World of Difference' - a campaign devised by the Cornwall NHS Hotel & Estates Support Services (CHESS) - the Trust is seeking pledges from individuals and departments to make a contribution to reducing the hospitals' environmental impact.

Driving force behind the campaign, Mark Summers, said, "To begin with we can all make some very small and in all honesty very obvious changes. Simply switching off a computer at the end of the day, rather than leaving it on standby, not only reduces our power needs but can also save up to £200 per computer each year - we can all do that at home, too. As we really get on top of those simple measures we can then look to reinvest financial savings into longer term sustainable energy sources such as wind turbines and combined heat and power plants."

The Cornwall Energy Efficiency Advice Centre is supporting the launch of the campaign with an advice session in the main entrance at the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro on Monday (22<sup>nd</sup> January). The Advice team will be on hand to give information to staff, patients and visitors on saving energy at work and at home, finding grants to get your home insulated, changing fuel supplier, and much more, in what will be the first of a series of events.

Julia Tibbett, from Cornwall Energy Plus, said, "We are delighted to be linking in with the NHS campaign. We know that people who struggle with their energy bills are often those with medical

problems that can be made worse by poor heating. We want to help them to use their energy more efficiently and reduce the associated costs and make hospital staff aware that they can refer patients to us. Everyone visiting our stand on Monday will receive a free low energy light bulb, too!”

The campaign is being supported from the top of the Trust and new chief executive, John Watkinson, who was the first to make a departmental pledge when he joined the Trust this month. Director of nursing, Sharon Terry is also an enthusiast: “This campaign is not primarily about saving money, although that may ultimately be a spin off. Our hospitals are here to care for people today so it makes sense that we should be caring about all of our futures too. Everyone’s awareness of their ‘carbon footprint’ is growing rapidly and reducing the environmental impact of our organisation is something we can all contribute to.”

On Monday Mark is hoping to encourage lots of staff to sign up to personal pledges to the campaign and to consider becoming an environmental rep for their ward or department. “We’re hoping to get a team of about 50 staff across the Trust who are keen to lead on environmental issues in their area of work and be the first point of contact for new initiatives. It is a subject which is increasingly on all our minds and if we work together to all do our bit I’m sure we can contribute to a healthier future for our environment,” said Mark.

[ends]

19 January 2007



#### Notes for editors

- For more information on Cornwall Energy Efficiency Advice Centre call the team on 0800 512012 or email [advice@cep.org.uk](mailto:advice@cep.org.uk) or visit the web on [www.cep.org.uk](http://www.cep.org.uk) to put them in touch.

#### ***A Peninsula Medical School Teaching Hospitals Trust***

[www.cornwall.nhs.uk/rcht](http://www.cornwall.nhs.uk/rcht)

For further information please contact the Press & Public Relations Office, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, TR1 3LJ. ☎ 01872 252934 during office hours or 01872 250000 for urgent enquiries at other times.