

Case Study

An *Even Better* Place to Work

----- Lush Cosmetics (Digital) -----
Customer Satisfaction Increased by 3% in just 3 months



Mrs. Tracy Macey
Head of UK Digital

The Situation

When I took over management of Customer Care the team lacked organizational skills, were understaffed for the workload and there were unresolved conflict issues between management and team members.

The team lacked the skills for resolving conflict successfully and communication was poor. Morale was at an all-time low, and the team had little respect from the rest of the organization, who were largely unaware of the issues within the department.

As a result of this, the team, although managing as best they could, (given the workload and lack of support) were underperforming in many areas and working inefficiently due to a lack of cooperation and in-fighting.

The Challenge

The team needed to be expanded, but the environment was not right for new staff to be brought in – the culture needed to undergo a considerable shift.

The team was suffering high stress, low engagement and a lack of support and morale. Christmas was already happening when I arrived, and our main priority was to get through this. We used temporary staff and muddled through our busiest period while I was becoming aware of issues in the team.

In order to get the team working cohesively together for the future, the conflict needed to be resolved as a matter of urgency.

The Results

We implemented **An Even Better Place to Work** (BP2W) as soon as we were able to....[and it] was hugely beneficial in helping team members to understand one another, and to realize and appreciate the differences within the team.

All of the feedback was highly positive and the team was delighted to be given some really helpful communication tools. The second day was very challenging as we held an open feedback session armed with the techniques taught by Shay McConnon. A lot of the conflict was aired and some big steps were taken towards resolving them.

Before the training we took the BP2W engagement Diagnostic with the team. We carried on with the BP2W speed training activities, focusing on feedback & conflict initially, and the team thoroughly enjoyed the activities. Initially we did 2 per week as the team needed opportunities to give and receive feedback around real work and relationship issues.

I carried out 1-2-1 meetings with each member of the team, asking them to share the results of their diagnostic with me, to understand where they were coming from and what they needed to improve their scores. In addition to this the team had monthly 1-2-1 reviews from their email quality audits and lots of additional training and support.

The results were incredible for such a short period of time. We retook the diagnostic after three months and there were significant improvements in all areas, including conflict resolution.

The atmosphere is much happier, the team is more relaxed and in situations where conflict would normally have arisen, team members are talking to each other and their new level of understanding has meant that differences are managed without escalating into conflict.



www.satisfactionatwork.com

Note – some spelling in this case study may have been changed from the original UK English to US English

Case Study

An *Even Better* Place to Work

Lush Digital Ltd – S@W Progress Chart

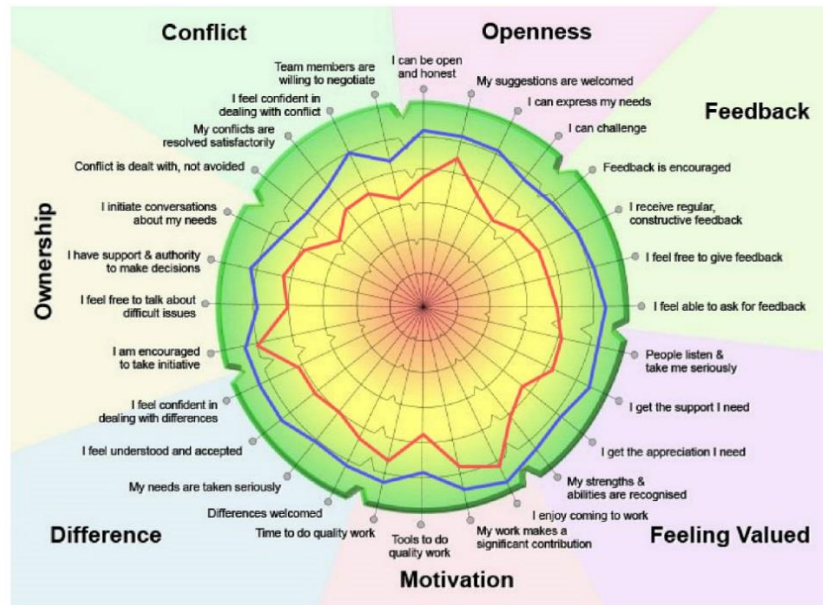


Chart as of May 2015 | Chart as of August 2015

Commercial Implications

Once the conflict was no longer there, I was able to see the strengths within the team and to place people within specific roles to the benefit of the team by playing to their individual strengths. This has reduced levels of frustration within the more ambitious team members and created a more harmonious and self-sufficient team.

Emails and social media quality have improved due to increased cooperation within the team. Now that manager's time is not taken up with squabbles, they are able to provide additional training, mentoring and support which is leading to higher levels of productivity.

Customer satisfaction with the helpdesk has increased from 92% to 95% and the team is clearing down emails and social media within SLA's. Further to this, the reputation of the department has significantly improved among stakeholders and other areas of the business.

Time gains of 50 %

Escalated complaints have reduced, as the team members are applying their new understanding to customers both over the telephone and in emails and social media. This has freed up much more of my time. I now spend very little time on people management activities or on escalated complaints. The time I lose on people problems has reduced from around 60% to less than 10%.

After just three months we are now in a stable, self-sufficient position and we can move on to phase two – moving from a complaints cost center to a self-sufficient sales-through-service environment, proactively contacting lapsed customers, adding live chat and improving social media reach.

Satisfaction
@ Work ✓

www.satisfactionatwork.com

Note – some spelling in this case study may have been changed from the original UK English to US English