



# Environment and Sustainability

Edition Two - September 2009



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government



## Help for businesses to reduce costs and maximise profits

Envirowise are holding a free Reduce Costs maximise



Profits event, suitable for businesses with over 50 employees, at the Novotel, Cardiff, on Tuesday 3 November 2009 and the Ramada Plaza, Wrexham, on Wednesday 4 November 2009.

A host of key speakers, including experts from Envirowise, the Waste Resource Action Programme (WRAP), Carbon Reduction Commitment Team and Flexible Support for Business Environment and Sustainability will be on hand to share their expertise and give guidance on a range of resource efficiency issues.

Reduce Costs, Maximise Profits runs from 9.00am until 1.15pm. To register for a place email [jagi.sangha@envirowise.gov.uk](mailto:jagi.sangha@envirowise.gov.uk) or [click here](#) for further information.

## Gaining competitive advantage through ecodesign

The Ecodesign Centre (EDC) has been established to enhance the competitiveness of Welsh industry through encouraging the development of more environmentally friendly products and services.



EDC defines ecodesign as a strategic design management process that is concerned with minimising full life-cycle impacts of products (e.g. energy, materials, distribution, packaging and end-of-life treatment). Ecodesign can help businesses enable change on an individual and organisational level. By adopting an integrated approach to developing innovations and organisational practices that prepare businesses for sustainable development, ecodesign-led SMEs can develop resilient and sustainable competitive advantage.

For more information on how your company can benefit from ecodesign please visit [www.edcw.org](http://www.edcw.org).



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Start. Grow. Prosper.

## Practical workshop for construction sector

WRAP is holding a workshop aimed at the Construction sector in Cardiff on 24th November 2009 to focus on the practicalities of setting requirements, measuring and reporting.



The morning of the event consists of a series of workshops and presentations starting with why you should take action, followed by sessions on target setting, and embedding and setting requirements. After lunch a guest speaker will add their practical experience, followed by practical sessions to discuss project-level actions, data collection and reporting, and tools and resources, ending with a Q&A session.

To register for a workshop please contact [emily.lequesne@wrap.org.uk](mailto:emily.lequesne@wrap.org.uk) or telephone 01295 81788.

## Delivering Regeneration 6

The Institution of Civil Engineers Wales Cymru is holding its 6th Delivering Regeneration conference and exhibition Thursday 24th September, 2009 at County Hall, Cardiff.



Held in conjunction with Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru, Landscape Institute Wales, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Wales, Royal Society of Architects in Wales and Royal Town Planning Institute Wales, the event is sponsored by Hugh James and Atkins.

For further information or to download a booking form please visit [www.ice-wales.org.uk](http://www.ice-wales.org.uk) or contact 02920 630561.

## 'Go Green' to win new business

Wales' largest construction firms have offered a glimmer of hope to subcontractors striving to beat the recession. In a shrinking market where competition is fierce, new research from NetRegs.gov.uk shows that 95 per cent of large firms will give preference to subcontractors who can prove their green credentials.

The survey shows that during a time of oversupply, large firms with a turnover in excess of £10 million will increasingly use a subcontractor's environmental credentials as a key factor when deciding how to award contracts.

The results also highlighted that 87 per cent of large construction firms have more confidence in subcontractors with proven green credentials, 56 per cent think green policies will save subcontractors money plus a staggering 93 per cent of construction industry bosses also think that proof of environmental responsibility will move up their firm's agenda over the next two years.

In response, NetRegs.gov.uk, the free environmental legislation guidance website, has launched a campaign to help smaller construction firms understand the importance of environmental compliance and has also developed an 8-point checklist to give subcontractors more chance of winning business in a competitive tender. The checklist is available to download from [www.netregs.gov.uk/wincontracts](http://www.netregs.gov.uk/wincontracts).

## Consultation events - have your say

There are four general consultation events on the Climate Change Strategy: Programme of Action in September 2009.

1st	Angel Hotel, Cardiff,
11th	Venue Cymru, Llandudno
16th	Ivy Bush Royal Hotel, Carmarthen
23rd	Hotel Metropole, Llandrindod Wells

If you are interested in attending one of these events, please contact Sam Peacock at [climate-change@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:climate-change@wales.gsi.gov.uk) for a registration form.



## Pembrokeshire County Council switch onto carbon saving

Working with Carbon Trust Wales, Pembrokeshire County Council has elected energy champions at each of its 11 leisure centres to ensure that staff go that extra mile to reduce the council's corporate carbon footprint through greater energy efficiency.

Under the direction of nominated energy champion, Daniel Mumford, Tenby Leisure Centre has committed to reducing its total energy consumption by 10% for the financial year 2009/10 which should boost its current Display Energy Certificate rating from C to B grade.

Energy champion, Daniel said "Following our site audit and energy saving workshop with Carbon Trust Wales this January, we have developed an energy efficiency action plan, involving the whole leisure centre team, to help us achieve our 10% energy reduction goal. Buy-in from the team has been fantastic, everyone is committed to doing their bit to reduce our carbon and energy use."

For more information on how the Carbon Trust can help your organisation call the helpline on 0800 085 2005 or visit [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)

## Ask an Advisor: Climate Change and YOUR business

Everyone has a role to play in reducing Wales' carbon footprint - Government, individuals, businesses and communities. It is not simply an environmental problem: it has profound implications for the economy and for the wellbeing of people here in Wales, and across the world.

Envirowise Wales is offering you the chance to ask your questions directly to the Welsh Assembly Government's Climate Change team.

The team are currently consulting on a Climate Change Strategy and the actions it should include, and you can see the plans at [www.wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/climatechangeaction](http://www.wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/climatechangeaction).

If you have any questions, on how climate change is affecting businesses and what you need to do now, how you can play a bigger part in reducing your carbon footprint, or to reduce the number of single use carrier bags in Wales, this is your chance to get a direct answer.

Email your questions to [Wales@envirowise.gov.uk](mailto:Wales@envirowise.gov.uk) by Monday 28 September, 2009 and view the responses on the Envirowise website, [www.envirowise.gov.uk/wales](http://www.envirowise.gov.uk/wales) on Monday 5 October, 2009.

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