



EXCLUSIVE: Behaviour Change for Sustainability Workshop - 18/06/15

Employees can help reduce your energy bill by up to 76%!!!

Recent research has shown that the UK is wasting almost £500m on annual energy bills and businesses could potentially be missing out on potential savings of up to 76% - through employees not managing their energy systems properly and adopting simple behavioural change practices.

Based on this evidence Solihull Visioning Sustainability Group wishes to invite local businesses to attend an interactive **Behaviour Change for Sustainability Breakfast Workshop - 8.00am on 18th June 2015 at Birmingham Airport.**

The aim of this event is to share best practice around engaging with employees, identify the challenges of employee behaviour and work in groups to overcome them. Key speakers from Birmingham Airport, Touchwood and Smart Network Smarter Choices will share real life case studies and success stories providing attendees a 'green tool kit' of examples that will support them in achieving their sustainability goals.

According to the corporate Leadership Council, organisations that engage their employees grew profits as much as three times faster than their competitors. They found that highly engaged organisations have 87% less staff turnover and 20% better performance than average.

This workshop is aimed at those responsible for influencing employee engagement in relation to green growth and corporate sustainability. Providing decision makers with new tools that will help save money and support the transition to a low carbon economy.

The event is FREE to attend but places are limited so please book now to avoid disappointment! To register - [click here](#)

FREE Sustainable Travel Support for Solihull Businesses

The **Smart Network, Smarter Choices** programme provides organisations with bespoke transport advice, tools and grant funding to help visitors and employees make smarter choices about how they travel.

The scheme, which is being delivered by Centro in partnership with the region's seven local authorities, BikeRight! and Sustrans is aiming to support companies in the borough over the next 12 months.

Major businesses have signed up for the scheme including Jaguar Land Rover, Lafarge Tarmac, Touchwood Centre, Hilton Metropole, Birmingham Airport and npower.

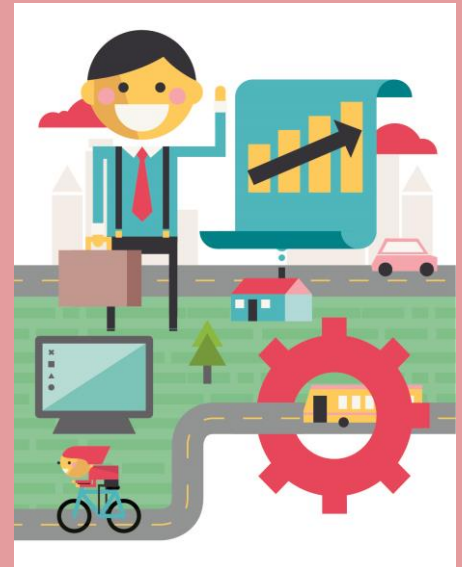
npower joined the programme in 2012 during the process of relocating 300 staff to its Solihull premises. Since signing up Centro has worked with npower to provide a detailed bespoke travel plan, journey planning, tailored information, events and cycling support. Grant funding has been used to install new cycling and access points, lockers and drying units, reducing the strain on car parking facilities.

The scheme has helped to cut single car use to npower's Solihull site by 18 per cent, exceeding its four year targets in less than 12 months.

Sustainable travel can help organisations save money, improve business efficiency and boost the wellbeing and productivity of their workforce and your business could qualify.

Businesses in the borough with more than 100 staff are eligible for the same free support - including a grant of up to £5,000.

For further information on sustainable travel including how Smart Network Smarter Choices have helped other organisations, or to get on board visit: www.mynetwork.org.uk or email business@centro.org.uk



Climate-KIC: Supporting the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy - 08/06/15

Is your business part of the green economy?

Climate KIC is offering a FREE half day workshop to guide you through the transition - 1.00pm on 8th June 2015 at Innovation Birmingham Campus.

Europe has recently set ambitious climate change targets. These goals will affect all aspects of the economy, society and have a wide impact on people's lives. It will require far-reaching changes to the way we work and live.

To ensure businesses make an easy transition to our green economy, Climate KIC is hosting a workshop that provides a clear introduction to the low carbon agenda. The workshop titled, Supporting the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy is aimed at organisations that are not traditionally engaged with the low carbon agenda. The workshop will provide a range of practical tools that will enable individuals to act strategically with sustainability.

At the end of the workshop, participants will be better equipped to tackle the issues of climate change in their organisations and understand how the shift to a low carbon economy is as much an opportunity as a challenge.

For further details and to register - [click here](#)

Solihull Invests in 'Green Skills' for Students

Over 350 secondary school students from 19 schools in and around Solihull took part in an interactive 'green' event which investigated local sustainable business models and cutting edge technologies.

Solihull Your Green Future, organised by Severn Wye Energy Agency in partnership with Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group, Solihull Council, Solihull Rotary, was hosted by Solihull College on 4th & 5th March 2015.

Students worked alongside businesses in a range of interactive workshops, included businesses pitching to student 'dragons', teams developing products for the Future Food and Fashion Awards, a sustainable energy plan for Snowdonia National Park, and creative and ambitious ideas for reducing waste.

The event was sponsored by Jaguar Land Rover, the NEC, Touchwood and Renault, and supported by over 35 businesses and organisations including Birmingham Airport, Arup, Ecuity, Interserve, the Environment Agency, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Lafarge Tarmac, Virgin Trains and IKEA.

Students also spent time in a Career Pathways Exhibition, where they had the opportunity to speak to organisations offering jobs in the sustainability sector, and consider how their own interests and talents match up.

Councillor Ian Courts, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Managed Growth said, "This important two day event was a first for our area, and I am pleased and proud that Solihull played host.

"The feedback we received was incredibly positive, with students and teachers alike reflecting on how enjoyable and educational Your Green Futures was. I am delighted that so many Solihull students participated, and hope this wonderful event will return next year so that even more of our students are able to take part."

For further details including feedback from the event - [click here](#)



Environmental Legislation Update

Environmental Legislation Update produced by Sustainability West Midlands in partnership with Groundwork West Midlands provides information on new regulations and updates in relation to environmental legislation. In this issue find out about:

- Clean Air Regulations
- ESOS
- F-gas Regulation
- Managing water on land
- Environmental Permitting

To download - [click here](#)

Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group

Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group aims 'to help Solihull to be at the forefront of sustainable business development and a showcase for environmental business standards, supporting Solihull's transition to a low carbon economy'.

Led by senior business representatives and stakeholders including Arup, Birmingham Airport, Controls and Data Services, Ecuity, Environment Agency, EH Smith, Hardyman Group, Interserve, Jaguar Land Rover, Jurnie, Lafarge Tarmac, NEC Group, npower, Royal Haskoning DHV, Solihull Council and Touchwood, the Group's four key priorities are to:

- Raise the standards of waste and energy management practices
- Promote 'green technology' that is efficient and cost effective
- Influence regional and local policy making, to ensure sustainability is at the heart of decision making
- Conserve and enhance the natural environment, in particular community space

Further information on Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group and its activities can be found at: www.solihullforsuccess.com/solihull-sustainability-visioning. If you would like to participate or receive regular updates please e-mail: sustainabilityvisioning@solihull.gov.uk or contact Alexander Heath on tel: 0121 704 6529.



Join us on 'LinkedIn'.....

For the latest news, events and information, please join our Solihull Sustainability Visioning Network on LinkedIn - [click here](#)

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