



Public Sector Waste Minimisation Campaign Ymgyrch Lleihau Gwastraff y Sector Cyhoeddus

Towards Zero Waste Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwasttraff



Welcome to the Christmas issue of the PSWMC 2010/11 newsletter. This issue shows how a helping from the Campaign can reduce your costs, provides top tips to reducing office waste this Christmas along with advice and support opportunities to help you use resources more efficiently.

Blooming good results for composted food waste

The National Library of Wales received funding from the Campaign in 2008-09 for a Composter for food waste and any green waste from the grounds. All the compost is used in the Library's flower beds saving on compost purchase costs too.

In addition, all the offices are equipped with dedicated bins for paper, card, cans, plastics and landfill waste.



The library would not have been able to fund the project without the support of the Campaign. Overall the library has cut waste costs and landfill by 50% during the last 2 years. More information can be found on the website, click [here](#) to read the full Case Study.



Top Tips to reduce office waste this Christmas:

1. Ask your caterers to use less packaging for office lunches, ask them to provide reusable cups, plates and cutlery.

2. Make your own christmas decorations from office waste—it's a team building exercise and it's fun.



3. Encourage staff to bring in waste free lunch boxes—use reusable containers and flasks, so less waste ends up in landfill.

4. Buy recycled wrapping paper, use gift bags or use scrap office paper for secret santa gifts. As much as 83 square km of wrapping paper will end up in UK rubbish bins.

5. If you host meetings or events in external venues, make sure they provide recycling bins and use reusable crockery.

Christmas e card

Why not send Christmas e cards this year to reduce paper waste, save time and reduce costs. It is estimated that up to 1 billion Christmas cards (17 for every man, woman and child) could end up in bins across the UK after Christmas. E-cards enables you to send more cards to more people —you only need their email address!

Click [here](#) to visit our website where you can personalise your e-card to send to customers, colleagues family and friends.

Sending food waste to landfill produces vast quantities of methane gas—a greenhouse gas that has a global warming potential 21 times that of carbon dioxide. Recovering food waste and diverting it away from landfill, not only offers carbon reduction benefits but also it produces valuable compost that can go back in to the food production process.



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Every Can Counts for the Identity and Passport Services

Staff at the Identity and Passport Service in Newport already recycled a wide range of materials. Working with Every Can Counts to raise awareness of drinks can recycling not only boosted the number of cans collected by 457%, but also quadrupled the volumes of other materials.



Following the introduction of *Every Can Counts* drinks can recycling increased from 14kg to 64kg per quarter. Over the same period the amount of plastic collected also rose from 15kg to 70kg per quarter.

- The recycling levels of other materials also increased. Confidential waste recycling increased by over 400% as a result of placing recycling bins in additional areas.

If you would like to access the support from the Every Can Counts campaign email us to enquire about funding and support public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk



Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Essentially CSR is about how an organisation takes account of its economic, social and environmental impacts in the way it operates. Commitment to CSR can benefit organisations in the public sector by helping to build on your reputation and showing your commitment to improving your local and wider environment. Adopting a sustainable procurement policy could be a way of showing your commitment to CSR.

Some low cost and no cost examples of sustainable procurement include:

- Purchase paper made from recycled paper
- Ensuring that office furniture is made from responsibly sourced material.
- Reduce waste by preventing over ordering and improve storage on site.

If you would like to know how to appraise your organisation's sustainable procurement capabilities and help improve your organisation's performance and monitor progress download [Wales Public Sector Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework Guidance](#)

For further information on how to develop your own sustainable procurement policy visit the Office of Government Commerce www.ogc.gov.uk

If you need more information on the Public Sector Waste Minimisation Campaign, contact us on public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk or visit the website [PSWMC](#).

Resources and Material

A number of useful resources are out there to help you promote waste reduction and recycling in the workplace. Some of these include:

wasteawarenesswales.org.uk have a selection of promotional material to encourage your staff to take part in recycling schemes and guides on how to recycle more waste.



Our [Communications Guide](#) helps you to better engage with employees and improve participation in recycling schemes.

business.wales.gov.uk helps you identify ways you can save money by going green.