

## Public Sector Waste Minimisation Campaign Ymgyrch Lleihau Gwastraff y Sector Cyhoeddus

Towards Zero Waste Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff



Welcome to the third issue of the PSWMC 2010/11 newsletter. This issue looks at reducing waste, provides inspiring case studies, tips on how to measure and monitor your organisations waste and the re-launch of the Resource Efficiency Equipment Fund!

## Lets Focus on **REDUCING** Waste

All the waste that your business produces has both a financial and environmental cost associated that is often underestimated. With the cost of materials and energy rising finding ways to avoid waste before it is produced makes good financial sense. The full cost of waste can be up to 4.5% of turnover and effective waste minimisation programmes can save around 1% of turnover in a matter of months. The best way to reduce waste is to not produce it in the first place. Before making a purchase ask the questions: Do we need to buy the goods or materials? Do we need to buy so much? Can we reuse anything first? What happened to the last lot of materials purchased?

The move towards a more sustainable public sector and reducing waste involves fundamental changes in attitudes and current organisational practices. Although waste reduction can appear to be more difficult to achieve and measure than recycling there are a number of steps that can be taken to start on the road to moving up the waste hierarchy.

### 5 first steps to Reducing waste:

- **Know what, where and how waste is generated in your organisation by carrying out a waste audit to help target action**
- **Buy in bulk and only what you need by streamlining the purchasing process**
- **Ask staff to “think before you throw”, someone else may want to use it**
- **Consider product durability and lifespan in purchasing decisions: 1 tonne of waste has produced 8 tonnes of waste at manufacture and 20 tonnes at the site of initial resource extraction.**
- **Adopt good office practices: set printers to double sided, refill toner and ink cartridges, use waste paper as notepaper, avoid disposable cups, mugs, cutlery, mini milk cartons , reuse envelopes**

### Resource Reduction Case Study: Coleg Glan Hafren

The College have identified the need to REDUCE the amount of paper that they use. The college have acted upon this and have been funded by the PSWMC to put their application into action!

#### Target:

To REDUCE the number of non duplex printers , printers will be taken away from classrooms and staff rooms. New multifunction printers/copiers will be purchased to replace the old machines. The new printers will be networked and number of prints counted, in addition they will be defaulted to duplex by user login policies. With the new changes in place the college aims to reduce the current use of 600,000 A4 pages which are being printed across the College using non duplex devices by 150,000 A4 pages with the new multifunction devices.

Take a look at other inspiring case studies on the [PSWMC website](#)

## Equipment Fund Re-Opens!

The closing date for the equipment fund has been extended to **1st December 2010**

The fund provides up to £3,000 for organisations in the purchase of equipment aimed at reducing in house generated waste to landfill.

- [Click Here](#) to visit the fund details and application form.
- To view examples of previous applications visit the [PSWMC Website](#).

## Measuring and Monitoring Waste

Measuring what, where and how waste is produced will give you an effective benchmark to set targets and monitor progress against a goal of what your organisation would like to achieve in the future. Repetitive monitoring over a period of time allows for the analysis of measurements to determine how close you are to reaching your goals.

Communicating monitoring results is a great way to show people how successful their actions are in the work place. Collected data on amount of waste produced can show success from one period to the next. Collecting data can also show areas where improvement is needed.

**A number of tools and information are available to help organisations measure and monitor waste production such as:**

[FS4B](#)— Assess and Communicate Environmental Performance

[WRAP](#)—Waste Management Systems and Resource Efficiency

### Waste Monitoring Case Study: Coleg Sir Gar

**Aim:** To establish an improved data system for data collection, recording and monitoring of waste at each of the 5 college sites taking into consideration different requirements and services at each site. The objective was to set realistic targets for reduction of waste to landfill.

**Target:** To improve the recycling rate to 70% from 53.5% across all college sites which is expected to result in increased diversion of over 40 tonnes per year resulting in substantial cost savings. The monitoring spreadsheet which was developed to track waste minimisation and recycling progress, will help greatly in identifying areas of improvement.

**For more case studies** [click here](#).

If you require any further information about the Public Sector Waste Minimisation Campaign please contact us on [public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk](mailto:public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk) or visit the [PSWMC website](#).

## PSWMC - Providing Support for YOU!

The PSWMC provides support to help organisations in Wales to Reduce waste arisings generated as a result of their day-to-day operations in delivering services to the public. This support continues through the relevant [news stories](#) which are posted on the PSWMC website, the information which is provided to organisations and opportunities to get involved with other campaigns such as [Every Can Counts](#) and [Recycle Zone](#).

Specialist support is available for you— organisations can receive specialist support through the Public Sector Waste Minimisation Campaign in 2010/11 with the aim of reducing the quantity of waste produced.

**If you are interested in being considered for support please register your interest through emailing:**

[public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk](mailto:public.sector@envirowisewales.org.uk)

Provide the following information:

- Name, telephone number, organisation name & address
- Quantity and type of waste produced
- Current waste reduction aims and objectives

You can check out the details of the Specialist Support projects that are currently taking place. We will regularly update this so you can keep coming back to see what progress is being made. [Specialist Support](#)

**“Breaking out of habits and norms is difficult as an individual. Groups, however, can create a new momentum of change.”**

*I will if you will,*

**Sustainable Consumption Roundtable**

