



FOREWORD

Belfast City Council is committed to making Belfast a better place in which to live, work, invest or visit. Consequently, the Council has put in place a Sustainable Development Strategy, outlining the steps that will be taken to achieve this objective. In support of this strategy, the Council adopted an Environmental Purchasing policy in April 1998. In June 1998 Belfast City Council also announced an initiative, known as the Green Supplier of the Year Award, to reward suppliers who demonstrate good environmental practice.

This booklet highlights the success of the Council's environmental purchasing policy over the past three years. It also recognises that those of our suppliers, who have included good environmental practices in their business plans and strategies have made a significant contribution to the Council's objectives.

The booklet outlines the fact that sound management practices in areas such as waste management, energy and control of emissions and effluents can noticeably make a positive contribution to our environment but also reduce costs for both the private and public sectors. The case studies in this publication vividly demonstrate that good environmental practices save businesses money and also contributes to profitability.

What is clearly evident is that the Council's Environmental Purchasing Policy is working. We believe that readers of this publication will be surprised, not only at how easy it is to implement environmental best practices, but also why it makes good business sense.

Councillor Jim Rodgers
The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor

Brian P Hanna
Chief Executive



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Industry and commerce positively contribute towards many aspects of our quality of life. However, it has long been recognised that their activities in the production of goods and services, by their very nature, also have adverse effects on the quality of the environment and as such on our lives also.

Chief Seattle of the Suquamish Indians stated a very real truth in that:

'Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself'.

Some of the impacts which society is experiencing as result of the growing business economy include:

- the consumption of non-renewable natural resources and energy,
- the discharge of waste materials into the air, water and land and
- indirectly, by adding to the consumer-orientated society in which we live.

Poor environmental performance by a company can negatively impact on employees, the local community and further afield. It supplies the wrong messages to customers and investors in the business and the wider community in general.

In addition, poor environmental performance costs businesses money through:

- increasing regulatory risk,
- the waste of expensive raw materials and energy and
- poor public relations.



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

Suppliers both direct to the public and to business clients are increasingly being required to demonstrate good environmental performance, often prior to an order or tender being accepted.

This booklet is aimed at highlighting the many benefits of adopting a **'green approach'** and how simple this really is.

This publication examines generic key areas for environmental improvement, applicable to most small businesses operating in Belfast today.

It will demonstrate how environmental improvement through legislative compliance and best management practice can achieve:

- an increased profitability and effectiveness
- differentiation from competitors and
- potential business expansion through the exploitation of niche markets.

Following this are case studies collected from the

'Green Business of the Year'

Award winners in 2000, run jointly as part of Belfast City Council's Economic Development Strategy, Purchasing Strategy and Environment Strategy, together with those from previous years who have demonstrated commitment to environmental management.

These cover a wide scope of businesses and illustrate, with specific examples, how through sometimes very simple steps, real results can be achieved, with respect to both environmental and financial aspects of your company.

It is hoped that this publication will draw on past experience of Belfast businesses, passing on the logic, reasoning, highlights and pitfalls of striving to

'go Green'

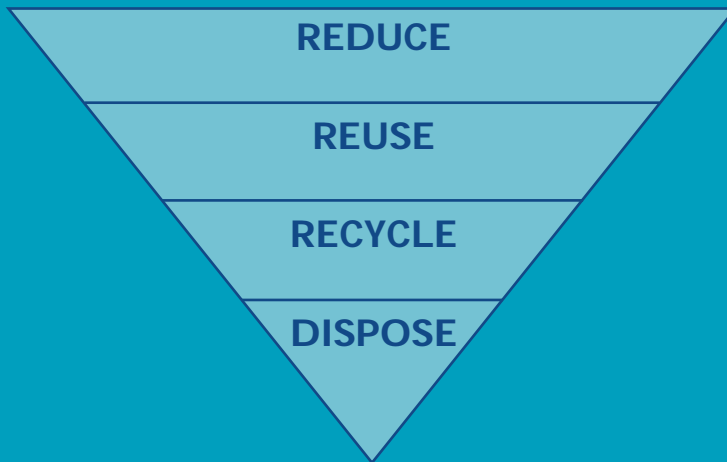
while encouraging more to take up the challenge of facing the future and the environmental problems of the society we live in.



2.0 WASTE

Waste is probably one of the most obvious adverse environmental effects of any business, yet it is one of the simplest to minimise. Control of waste is based on the waste management hierarchy as illustrated below, with emphasis on reaching the top levels of the pyramid and reducing the total volumes of waste produced. This approach is endorsed through the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy.

Fig. 1 Waste Management Hierarchy



Why minimisation?

Waste minimisation is a systematic approach to:

- Reducing business costs - a typical figure quoted is a saving of 1-4% of business turnover through simple waste management techniques.
- Complying with environmental legislation – including the Producer Responsibility (Packaging Waste) Regulations, Special Waste Regulations and other impending legislation including 'Duty of Care' Regulations.
- Providing more control over disposal costs - an increasingly important issue with the escalating landfill tax.



- Improving customer relations – particularly as an increasing number of organisations are seeking assurance that their suppliers are operating on a sound environmental basis.

Gaining Management Commitment

In many small businesses, top level commitment to waste minimisation and control is achieved through the practical demonstration of these benefits or the problems the company may incur should this issue not be addressed. Companies often may not realise the true cost of ineffective waste management, recognising only the expense of disposal. The hidden cost of waste however can include wasting:

- Time and effort
- Raw materials and
- Paying for effluent or landfill disposal

Often, the appointment of an individual, responsible for all areas of waste within a company, facilitates continuity and helps ensure progress is made.

Monitoring

The measurement of progress requires baseline information to be gathered in order to allow target figures to be established for the company to work towards.

Initial identification of key waste streams e.g. paper, water, packaging, etc, their sources, quantities and current disposal methods should be conducted at any early stage. For most companies this may be relatively straightforward however it may seem a rather daunting process at first.

To assist, a business process flow diagram may be helpful. This describes all inputs including personnel, utilities and raw materials, processes and outputs (both products and wastes).

of major waste streams,

this decision being dependent not only on the physical quantity but also the highest net costs.

Following the determination of waste baseline information, this monitoring of waste streams should ideally be an ongoing process, allowing real savings to be calculated, rather than estimated.

Case Studies

Examples of how businesses in Belfast have taken part in waste minimisation include those in Table 1.

Examples of how continuous improvement can be achieved are demonstrated in the in-depth case studies of Leslie Stannage Design, Guilbert NI and Knock Travel, who each achieved green business awards from Belfast City Council in 3 successive years.



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

Table 1

Waste minimisation case studies

Initiative	Comment	Award Winning Company
Re-use of envelopes	Use of an explanatory label promoting the idea of waste minimisation	Mitchell Kane Associates
Re-usable presentation boards and visual tools	Reducing need for purchasing new materials for each new project	Mitchell Kane Associates
Introduction of specialised computer programs	Eliminating the need for a paper trail of forms wherever possible	Diamond Recruitment
Provision of large documents in electronic format	e.g. use of CD-ROMs	Action Resource Centre
Re-use of containers	Aided by specifying container requirements to supplier	Prestige Enterprises
Control of stationery purchasing	Placing responsibility for placing orders with an individual	McCann-Erickson Belfast Ltd
Enabling email to be used by customers for placing orders	Eliminates human error also resulting from transfer of information from paper orders to the system	Modern Office Supplies
Use of colour-coded containers for the segregation of waste	Simplifies the waste streams, encouraging re-use and recycling	AV Browne Advertising Ltd

3.0 ENERGY

Climate change is increasingly becoming an important area of concern to all, not least to Belfast's businesses.

Why energy efficiency?

It is the generally accepted theory that the combustion of large amounts of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas cause an increase in the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This increased carbon dioxide concentration traps a larger proportion of light reflected from the earth and the atmosphere heats up (the greenhouse effect).

There is no question that the earth is 'heating up', with global temperatures rising by 0.6oC during the last century. The impacts of unchecked climate change are numerous and widespread.

Higher temperatures could lead to in the melting of the polar ice caps, resulting in a rise in sea levels sufficient to threaten many low-lying areas of the world (and in some places entire countries).

Some areas may experience higher rain fall levels whilst others may suffer pro-longed periods of drought, both of which could affect human health and farming techniques, with many other additional knock-on effects.

Some climate change is inevitable, due to historical emissions of air pollutants. However, the scale of the changes can be limited by control of current and future emissions. Under the now renowned Kyoto Treaty, agreed in 1997, the UK government has committed to reducing UK carbon dioxide emissions by 20% of 1990 levels, by 2010.

To achieve this, energy efficient measures must be taken by every individual, both in the home and in the workplace. Business has an obligation to commit to the principle of energy reduction and take appropriate action.



Commitment from Management

The initial step, as with waste minimisation, is to gain commitment from management. The obvious advantage of energy saving measures is the cost savings to be gained. Simple measures can reap extraordinary results, particularly for small businesses, as demonstrated by the case studies from the 'Green Business Awards'. Leslie Stannage Design have experienced 50% savings on electricity costs through simple changes, both structurally and operationally.

Staff Involvement

Increased staff awareness is vital to any energy efficiency schemes by encouraging personnel to actively look for ways to save energy in the workplace. This could simply be:

- the use of posters, notices, etc., pointing out both the financial and environmental benefits to be gained and
- the incorporation of energy saving advice into any induction training for employees.

Measurements and Objectives

In order to set realistic targets, baseline information on energy usage should be collated where possible. Many organisations are available, to offer advice and monitoring of specific premises (see Contacts list for further details). When establishing these, consideration should be given to transport issues. Many companies own cars, vans and lorries, emitting significant quantities of the so-called 'greenhouse gases'. Environmental purchasing policies for new vehicles, reduced use and considerate scheduling are all potential ways of limiting emissions. Larger electrical equipment can often be isolated and the electricity load and running time determined specifically for these. This will allow achievable targets to be established, with the aim of having year-on-year improvement.

But what additional steps can be taken to reduce the amount of electricity being consumed by businesses?

Case Studies

A variety of measures can be taken, as demonstrated in Table 2 by previous Belfast City Council award winners;

*Table 2
Energy Efficient Case Studies*

Initiative	Comment	Award Winning Company
Placing responsibility with an individual to ensure energy efficiency	Ensure all appliances and lights not in use are switched off	Mitchell Kane Associates
Displaying posters promoting energy efficiency	Placed over all electrical equipment	Diamond Recruitment
Structural changes in premises	i.e. Insulating walls and roof, rollershutter doors, installing gas heating, sensor operated external lighting	Prestige Enterprises
Changing office practice	Reducing need for photocopying internal memos, draft presentations and other documents	McCann-Erickson Belfast Ltd
Upgrading internal lighting	Use low voltage / low emission type AV	Browne Advertising Ltd



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

With respect to transport issues specifically, Table 3 illustrates a few examples of innovative approaches to reducing the volume of emissions to air:

Table 3
Transport Case Studies

Initiative	Comment	Award Winning Company
Computerised delivery scheduling	For company delivery vans	Modern Office Supplies
Scheduling meetings at appropriate times	Taking account of public transport timetabling and offering the 'sustainable path' to clients (making use of public transport)	Mitchell Kane Associates
Purchasing fuel efficient vehicles	i.e. Diesel over petrol, dual fuel over both	Prestige Enterprises
Policy of using push bike couriers where possible		Mitchell-Kane Associates

4.0 EMISSIONS & EFFLUENT

The public view of pollution is of chimney stacks from large industries emitting dark black smoke, choking our cities and of dirty water being discharged into rivers. In the current legislative climate, this is unlikely to be the case but this does not however imply that pollution is not occurring.

Is control necessary?

Often aqueous discharges are now piped directly into a sewer or soakaway system, out of sight and possibly containing less harmful substances than was once the case.

However, it must be remembered that even small quantities of human sewage, discharged into an incorrect receptor can cause considerable problems in the environment whilst only one litre of oil incorrectly disposed of has the potential to pollute one million gallons of groundwater, rendering it unsuitable for human consumption.

In a similar way, emissions to air are controlled more strictly, in particular, those of industries categorised in the IPC legislation. Small businesses may not consider that their activities produce any emissions to the air but, in addition to being aware of the direct sources, i.e. from company premises, consideration should be given to indirect sources such as those produced during the manufacture of supplies, raw materials, etc.

Water

The consumption of water is not of such a direct concern to small businesses in NI as it is to those in Great Britain, primarily because of the difference in the payment systems for mains water. However, the total cost of water must be considered to include:

- Effluent disposal
- Chemicals for water treatment



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

- Electricity for water pumping
- Heating
- Cooling.

For service and supplier based companies, the key factor must be effluent. The adage

*'Less water used means
less effluent produced'*

is of particular relevance. Much can be achieved through simple procedures, common sense, good housekeeping and modest investment.

Initially identification of where water is used or waste water produced would be a useful exercise. Following this, analyse to determine:

- What volume of water is used (i.e. determine if measurement of water consumption is possible)?
- Is it necessary?
- Can it be reduced, recovered or recycled?
- Are discharges authorised and legal?

Those responsible for this issue should be aware that any vehicle washing activities in car parking areas, with gullies connected to storm drains may require a trade effluent discharge consent. This applies particularly to suppliers with their own fleet of delivery vans.

The use of cleaning substances should also be addressed, with biodegradable, environmentally friendly products being used wherever possible.

Air

Small businesses do not generally consider themselves to be actively polluting the air but in a number of instances, this may be the case.

Many offices and business premises are heated through the burning of oil or gas. It is the responsibility of the company to ensure that all burners of this nature are in good condition and serviced regularly so they are operating in the most efficient manner. Failure to do this can often result in the emission of excessive dark smoke, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxides, etc. (generally termed 'greenhouse gases'), detrimental to the environment.

Office environments may be regulated by air conditioning systems. These contain refrigerant gases for cooling purposes. In order that no leakage of these gases occurs, regular maintenance is again recommended, as many/most have negative effects in the atmosphere (the most commonly known refrigerant gas being of the class chlorofluorocarbons, CFC's which damage the ozone layer).

In older buildings, the potential of asbestos-containing material contributes to a significant problem for both the environment and the health of personnel working there. Such material, when identified, should be removed and disposed of by a specialist contractor.



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

Table 4

Emissions and Effluent Case Studies

Initiative	Comment	Award Winning Company
Ensure correct disposal of cleaning materials	Achieved through the identification of sinks connected to foul drains	Diamond Recruitment
Establishing a green purchasing policy	Includes favouring the use of biodegradable cleaning products	Knock Travel



5.0 AWARD WINNING CASE STUDIES

This, the third year in which the Green Supplier of the Year awards has been operating, has uncovered some very commendable results from Belfast businesses with the award winners presented here illustrating the simple but effective ideas and techniques which have produced some very real, demonstrable results.

Additionally, in keeping with the City Council's strategy of best practice and continual improvement, the winning suppliers this year have each won awards in all three years in which the awards have been presented. Belfast City Council feel should be specially applauded for their efforts.

5.1 LESLIE STANNAGE DESIGN

Who?

Leslie Stannage Design is a graphic and web Design Company, with a staff of 10, currently operating in its 11th year. Primarily involved in design and print work for multi-media and the production of promotional material (including reports, brochures and web sites) for a range of public and private clients, the company has at its heart a commitment to environmental issues.

Why?

Leslie Stannage Design has had, since its inception, a 'sensible approach to energy and other general issues' but this was never established in a formal management approach.

Following the introduction of a Quality Management System, accredited to BS EN ISO 9001, it was evident that an integrated Quality and Environmental management system would not only be easy to incorporate, but would provide the company with an additional selling advantage.



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

With an increasing number of environmental clients and other businesses placing the environment as a priority with their suppliers, Leslie Stannage Design established paper from 'sustainable forests' as the company's stock paper, the first of many initiatives towards becoming 'green'.

What?

Following accreditation to BS EN ISO 9001, Leslie Stannage Design integrated environmental issues into the management system and gained accreditation to BS EN ISO 14001 in November 1997, the first graphic design company in NI to achieve this.

In essence the steps involved were:

1. Examination of key business activities
2. Assessment of significant environmental impacts
3. Identification of relevant environmental legislation
4. Establishment of an environmental improvement programme addressing main problems previously identified.
5. Continuous improvement of environmental performance, reassessing the above when necessary.

For Leslie Stannage Design, the key issues to be addressed were generic 'office-based' problems, typical of many small businesses regardless of the field in which they operate.

In particular, energy usage and waste generation were identified as significant environmental aspects for Leslie Stannage Design, both of which have been targeted with significant results.

In year 1 of the environmental management programme, energy usage by the company had been dramatically reduced with close to 50% savings, while a waste management strategy has reduced the quantity of waste sent to landfill by some 50% also in the first year.

How?

a) Energy Efficiency

- undertaking an energy audit by an external body to identify key areas for improvement
- a policy of switching off appliances, computers and lights when not in use
- replacing used bulbs with energy saving bulbs
- introducing an Energy Usage Schedule to monitor (against the number of staff employed) and measure improvements and subsequent cost savings

b) Waste Reduction

- paper recycled
- toner cartridges recycled
- re-use of paper-based products in the form of visual boards
- use of ISDN and e-mail rather than post or fax to reduce paper use at source



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

c) Transportation

- use of push-bike courier runs within the Central Belfast Area, minimising the company's contribution to air pollution
- walking to meetings within a 1.5 mile radius

d) Supplier & Material Sourcing & Use

- a questionnaire and ranking system for preferred suppliers, dependent on their individual environmental performance
- implementing a strategy of 'Reduce, Re-use & Recycle' amongst staff, thereby reducing purchases
- assessment of all new products on the basis of environmental effect

e) Other Issues

- establish emergency plan, allowing for minimisation of environmental impact should any disaster occur
- in-house environmental awareness training, progressing to compulsory attendance for all staff to achieve external accreditation
- design input, with recommendations for the client on opportunities to incorporate environmental specifications
- environmental aspects identified and addressed during the design of new office premises, including the installation of energy-efficient lighting, natural gas heating, energy saving computers, etc.
- positive community environmental action, extending the company's sphere of influence from its own environmental impacts to those of its surroundings (as a design sponsor of the pilot Eco Campus project, in conjunction with Tidy Northern Ireland and Queen's University).

5.2 GUILBERT N.I.

Who?

Guilbert NI, part of the Guilbert UK Ltd group, are suppliers of all types of stationery, including a full range of products with higher environmental specifications.

Why?

Guilbert NI established an environmental policy stating the company's goals and recognising its responsibilities. The company went on to implement an integrated Business Management System through the combination of its environmental, quality and health & safety systems and aims to achieve BS EN ISO 14001 certification by 2001. This has received support from the Buy Recycled Alliance through the generation of markets for recycled materials.

What?

Guilbert NI have been aware of the vital importance of environmental issues since the establishment of an environmental policy in the early 80's. This details:

1. Assessment of the environmental impacts of the company's operations
2. Commitment to continual improvement through the development of a formal environmental management system
3. Assigning top management (namely the Marketing Director) as being responsible for environmental matters
4. Selective sourcing of suppliers, favouring those with a proven environmentally positive attitude
5. Assessment and evaluation of products for their expected environmental impact
6. The provision of advice and information to clients of environmentally responsible purchasing



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

Guilbert NI have been encouraged in this green approach through membership and commitment to the principles of the World Wide fund for Nature (WWF) 1995 plus Group. The group aims to improve standards of forest management through the identification of fibre sources and involves the distribution of a questionnaire and regular auditing of supplier source information. This system allows a full analysis of source information for each product to be produced, thereby promoting the purchasing of paper originating from sustainable forests only.

How?

a) Waste Reduction

- supplying and actively promoting the purchasing of recycled paper, including state-of-the-art, chlorine-free, high quality paper produced from recycled UK FIBRE, a recycled pulp made from post-consumer waste
- establishing an electronic purchasing process, aiming to reduce raw materials input and waste, eliminating double order entry and minimising mistakes
- receiving accreditation from industry associations, e.g. the Forestry Stewardship Council, for a range of pencils made from materials from a sustainable forestry source
- recycling cardboard waste from distribution centres
- recycling office papers from administrative offices
- delivering goods in returnable tote boxes where possible, meeting the requirements of the Producer Responsibility (Packaging Waste) Regulations
- minimising the quantity of packaging on products and using recycled materials, in particular the Niceday range (This system meeting the hierarchy of reduce, re-use and recycle)
- joining the GKN Chep Pallet Scheme, aiming to re-use pallets in conjunction with suppliers

-
- recycling of all metals arising from damaged handling cases or redundant racking
 - return from customers of toner cartridges via a free return service and remanufacturing through the dis-assembly, cleaning, quality checking and re-assembly with a full charge of toner

b) Transportation

- ensuring all new delivery vehicles purchased are of low emission design, meeting or surpassing the Euro.II emission regulations
- undertaking vehicle route planning to minimise journey times, reduce fuel consumption and increase vehicle efficiency
- training of all staff in safe and economical driving techniques
- experimenting with 'alternative fuel' vehicles and double decked trailers to determine their environmental viability

c) Other issues

- analysing major client purchases allowing suitable environmentally friendly alternatives to be sought and recommended
- encouraging the setting of targets on the % of green purchases
- benchmarking environmental best practice against industry standards e.g. the BOSS federation Environmental Committee
- introducing innovative products such as the recycled pencil, pen and plastic ruler, manufactured from recycled polystyrene vending cups



5.3 KNOCK TRAVEL

Who?

Knock Travel, a provider of travel services, is committed on playing its part in reducing or eliminating negative impacts on the environment.

Why?

Knock Travel undertook in 1998 a preliminary environmental review in order to identify the principal areas in which the company could improve its environmental performance. Fundamental in the decisions the company takes with respect to the environment are the sustaining benefits for customers, suppliers and staff, reflecting a positive image of the company.

What?

The principle of 'The Green Route to Purchasing', as advocated by Belfast City Council, is key to the environmental strategy adopted by Knock Travel. This has involved:

1. Commitment from senior management through an environmental policy
2. Appointment of a named individual responsible for environmental management
3. Identification of relevant environmental legislation and the issues affecting the company
4. Implementation of a waste reduction plan
5. Development of an action plan to minimise/remove adverse environmental impact resulting from the business' activities
6. Utilise influence over suppliers in order to work towards reducing their adverse environmental impacts, thereby forcing environmental awareness down the supply chain.

How?

a) Energy Efficiency

- replacing all light tubes with energy efficient lighting
- establishing a regular maintenance programme ensuring all equipment runs at maximum efficiency
- implementing a 'switch-off' policy with colour coded switches to allow easy identification of those which may be switched off

b) Waste Reduction

- establishing a scheme for the return of travel brochures for recycling or re-use
- computerising stock control measures of brochures, thereby eliminating over-supply and wastage
- implementing a policy of issuing documents (e.g. management reports for corporate clients and airline timetables) in digital format rather than paper format
- re-usable wallets replacing paper envelopes for daily ticket/invoice deliveries
- where possible, replacing traditional faxes to corporate clients with e-mails
- introduction of the issue of 'ticket on departure' where agent and airline both use electronic ticketing, preventing duplication of ticket issue
- utilising the computer fax option at night, thereby ensuring only necessary faxes are printed
- installation of colour coded containers for more effective separation of waste, simplifying disposal



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

- re-use scrap paper in the form of notepads for internal use (these are in turn recycled)
- donation to local schools of all waste bottles, cans and recyclable waste items which are then forwarded on to their nominated charities
- purchasing of recycled / recyclable materials where possible, e.g. containers and products for use in the kitchen and bathroom, recycled paper and photocopier toner
- introducing digital booking request forms eliminating the traditional paper trail for each transaction
- use of ISDN and 'Netpilot' internet branch exchange, facilitating an internal intranet for in-house communication

c) Transportation

- introducing a 'car pool' option for staff travel to work
- implementing a scheduled motorbike ticket delivery system allowing for an organised, more cost effective and therefore environmentally efficient system

d) Other Issues

- nominating a senior member of staff to an environmental management training programme
- incorporation of green housekeeping policies into staff handbooks and training, raising the profile of environmental issues within the company
- working in conjunction with the environmental group, ARENA Network, employing local students to conduct an environmental survey of the company's activities with the aim of incorporating the results into an environmental strategy for Knock travel

6.0 USEFUL CONTACTS

1. ARENA Network

C/o Business in the Community
TK-ECC
770 Upper Newtownards Rd
BELFAST
BT16 OUL

www.arenani.org

Tel: 028 9041 0410

Fax: 028 9041 9030

E-mail: arena@bitc.org.uk

The Environmental Campaign of Business in the Community, ARENA Network co-ordinates all business environmental initiatives in N.I. and provides an Environmental Support Service for N.I. business through Council partnerships, training, seminars, publications, etc.

2. Industrial Research & Technology Unit (IRTU)

17 Antrim Road
LISBURN
BT28 3AL

www.irtu-ni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 9262 3000

Fax: 028 9267 6054

E-mail: info@irtu.detini.gov.uk



Established to assist local businesses through the free environmental enquiry point helpline, environmental newsletter, N.I. waste exchange bureau, technical clubs, provision of scientific services and financial support.

Environmental Enquiry Point
0800 262227

3. Envirowise

Harwell International Business Centre
156 Curie Avenue
DIDCOT
Oxfordshire
OX11 0QJ

www.envirowise.org.uk

Tel: 0800 585 794

E-mail: helpline@envirowise.co.uk

A government funded programme, which helps companies to cut costs by increasing efficiency and reducing waste at source. Envirowise publishes Good Practice Guides, Environmental Performance Guides and Case Studies of best practice in action (available via website) and offer free one day 'fast-track' visits by an advisor to assist small businesses identifying areas for improvement.

4. Belfast Energy Efficiency Advice Centre

1-11 May Street
BELFAST
BT1 4NA

Tel: 028 9024 0664

Fax: 028 9024 6133

E-mail: all@belfast-energy.demon.co.uk

Offers free and independent energy surveys for small business, determining appropriate measures for increasing the efficient use of energy and reducing emissions.

5. Environment & Heritage Service

Department of the Environment
Calvert House
23 Castle Place
BELFAST
BT1 1FY

www.ehsni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 9025 4754

Fax: 028 9025 4777

E-mail: ehsinfo@doeni.gov.uk

With responsibility for the provision of policy and legislation, the EHS is available to provide advice on:

- Waste (inc. special waste) & contaminated Land
- Environmental Protection
- Water Quality Unit
- Industrial Pollution & Radiochemical Inspectorate
- Air & Environmental Quality

Emergency Pollution Helpline
0800 807060



6. N.I. Environment Link (NIEL)

77 Botanic Avenue
BELFAST
BT7 1JL

www.niel.demon.co.uk

Tel: 028 9031 4944

Fax: 028 9031 1558

E-mail: info@niel.demon.co.uk

A coalition of organisations, working together to promote the environment in NI, facilitating the work of voluntary groups. Promotes environmental education, disseminates information and encourages individual and community involvement in environmental issues.

7. Procurement Unit

Belfast City Council
The Cecil Ward Building
4-10 Linenhall St
BELFAST
BT2 8BP

www.belfastcity.gov.uk

Tel: 028 9027 0268

E-mail: procurement@belfastcity.gov.uk

More information available on Belfast City Council's 'Green Purchasing' or copies of the following leaflets:

'Take the Green Route to Purchasing':

'Environmental Purchasing Policy, a Supplier's Perspective':

'Supplier Charter'.

7.0 CONCLUSION

Belfast City Council, in their 'Green Route to Purchasing' policy aim to initiate and promote environmental best practice. The purpose of these awards is to reward and disseminate such local practice to others, encouraging suppliers to be more proactive in their approach to environmental issues, gaining the benefit of reducing costs and gaining competitive edge.

It is hoped that this leaflet will succeed in encouraging small businesses throughout Belfast to look at where improvements can be made, address these issues in a positive manner and, ultimately, make Belfast an even better place to live and work.



8.0 DEFINITIONS

Environmental Audit

A comprehensive structured analysis of an organisation's products and processes, covering legislation, responsibilities and best management practice.

Environmental Management System

A system established that includes organisational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving and reviewing an environmental policy.

Environmental Policy

A statement of a company's commitment and concern for environmental issues, continual improvement and pollution prevention.

Sustainable Development

'Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs' (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987).

Register of Environmental Impacts

The systematic identification of the environmental attributes (impacts, aspects or issues of concern) of products, activities and services in order to determine those that could have significant impacts on the environment.

ISO 14001

The most widely used environmental standard in the UK, laying down specifications and guidance for its development.



GREEN SUCCESS STORIES FROM BELFAST

ISO 9000 - International standard for quality management systems

Green success stories was conceived and commissioned by Belfast City Council with a view to helping local businesses. It was written by White Young Green Consulting Ltd in collaboration with Belfast City Council Procurement Unit.

White Young Green Consulting Ltd are a multi-disciplinary consultancy company, with offices throughout both the UK and Ireland. The Management Solutions division based in Belfast offers specialist expertise in the key areas of the environment (environmental management systems, audits, contaminated land, waste management, etc.), energy (efficiency & procurement) and health & safety, supporting clients across a range of sectors.

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