

SUSTAINABILITY SERVICES

Free advice to benefit your business and the environment



City of Westminster



CROSS RIVER
PARTNERSHIP

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INTRODUCTION

We have established a range of services to help businesses improve their environmental performance, market themselves and save money.

Recognising both the increasing environmental pressures facing you, and the economic advantages that can be created by taking action, we want to help you build an environmental programme to suit your business.

Our business advisors will work with you to provide free professional advice and support, training, and the opportunity to gain environmental certifications. They are experienced in working with Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)¹, and understand the need to ensure environmental action supports the overall needs of the business.

As well as achieving London-wide environmental improvements, these services will help you build an environmental programme to save money, enhance your reputation, access new opportunities and motivate employees.

Four environmental services are available and the advantages of each are highlighted throughout this leaflet. For further information or to get involved, please contact us using the details on the back cover.



Going green is a win-win for businesses, helping them save money on running costs and look after the environment. The Mayor is committed to ensuring London becomes a leading low carbon, energy efficient city to harness all the economic and quality of life benefits coming from this. We urge businesses to get involved with Smart Green Business.

Martin Powell, Mayoral Advisor on the Environment



¹ An entity engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of its legal form, with less than 250 employees and a turnover of less than €50,000,000 or a balance sheet of less than €43,000,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Understanding the service

Environmental performance looks at how your business uses energy, water and materials, and aims to improve your efficiency.

Our advisors will work with you to assess your energy and water use, carbon dioxide emissions, use of renewable materials and travel arrangements. Opportunities to reduce water and energy consumption, as well as cost saving measures that will benefit your business, will be identified.

An in-premises audit can be carried out or you can undertake a telephone interview. You can be provided with an action plan clearly indicating how you can increase your efficiency, how much it will cost, how much you will save and when you will see a return.

Further support can be provided through follow-up visits or remote support to help you implement and monitor saving measures. The advisors can also provide guidance and information on carbon reduction commitments and actions, and other available support such as government grant schemes and enhanced capital allowances.

How it can help your business

By using fewer resources, you can make economic gains, for example through lower energy bills or reduced paper consumption.

You can also gain a competitive advantage with improved public perception, increased employee morale and motivation, and increased procurement contract opportunities.

Getting started

Monitoring and recording your company's consumption is fundamental in determining what savings can be made. Gathering as many utility bills and material invoices as you can to help establish the baseline for your current use will be a great start. Please contact us using the details on the inside back cover.

Savings of almost 25% of the overall energy spend were identified through the following:

- Renegotiation of electricity tariff and applying for Climate Change Levy (CCL) exemption
- Re-commission Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) equipment
- Installation of occupancy sensors to control lighting

A business advisor previously helped a firm identify £12,000 of potential savings through:

- The establishment of improved monitoring of energy consumption
- Raising the awareness among employees of opportunities for energy savings
- A review of voltage regulation, lighting systems, heating controls and compressor management

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Understanding the service

The starting point for managing environmental costs is the creation of a policy that outlines your business's commitment to managing its environmental impact. This service will help you develop your policy and ensure there is an appropriate system in place to implement it.

If your business already has an environmental management system, our advisors can help update or improve it as appropriate.

We will work with a range of existing certification types and can provide a range of activities including:

- environmental management system workshops;
- follow-up technical tutorials and master classes;
- training on implementation of environmental management systems;
- gap analysis;
- provision of templates;
- mock audits.

How it can help your business

By having an environmental policy and management system in place, your business will have a clear pathway to improving and monitoring its environmental performance.

The benefits are widespread and include identified and prioritised environmental action areas, demonstration of environmental action and evidence to illustrate your environmental commitment.

It can help reassure customers and clients of your environmental responsibility, assist public relations and has the potential to increase market share. It will also help you ensure you comply with environmental legislation relevant for your business.

Getting started

For support with your environmental policy or management system journey, please contact us using the details on the inside back cover.



Implementing an EMS certified to ISO 14001 has been extremely beneficial to our company. It provides us with the reassurance of legal compliance, provides a framework for waste management and tracking of energy use, and demonstrates to our clients that we take our environmental responsibilities seriously. Thankfully the setting up process was not too onerous and now that the EMS is in place we can really see the benefits.

**Andrew Burr, Contracts Director,
Sykes & Son Ltd**



GREEN PROCUREMENT

Understanding the service

Green procurement means choosing products and services that have a minimal impact on the environment, thereby raising the profile of your business's green agenda.

Our advisors will work with you to understand your current procurement processes and the environmental standards of your suppliers before helping develop a green procurement plan.

Your business can also receive support in signing up to the Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code and fulfilling the criteria within it. You can contribute to the Mayor's target of cutting the capital's carbon emissions by 60% by 2025.

The products sought through green procurement will do some or all of the following:

- use fewer natural resources (by being made out of recycled materials for example);
- consume less energy or water in production or use;
- generate less waste (by using less packaging for example);
- contain fewer hazardous or toxic materials;
- have a longer life span;
- be reusable or recyclable on disposal.

How it can help your business

A green procurement service will help you to avoid unnecessary purchases, identify greener products and improve overall resource efficiency.

By fulfilling green procurement criteria, you will be able to join larger supply chains, including public sector supply chains that have environmental requirements. This can open up business opportunities for you and help make London a sustainable world city.

Getting started

To start working towards your green procurement plan please contact us using the details on the inside back cover.

Examples of financial benefits through implementing green procurement initiatives for companies include:

- Reduction of the "light and heat" spend by 30%;
- Reduction by half of spend on packaging by £ of turnover;
- Savings of £3,000 by reducing 90% of hazardous chemicals in cleaning procedure.



When sourcing components for the products we manufacture we have been looking at their durability and life-cycle to ensure we are benefiting from better efficiency at every stage.

**Kathryne Lakin, Health,
Safety and Environment Officer,
Pascall Electronics Limited**



TRAVEL PLANNING

Understanding the service

Travel planning helps businesses become cleaner, greener and more efficient by encouraging sustainable methods of transport.

This service seeks to understand the travel requirements of your business – from employee journeys to freight requirements – and to look for the most environmentally and economically efficient ways to travel.

Our travel advisors will work with you to develop a travel plan that is tailored to your business. The plan will help you offer sustainable solutions such as cycling, walking and public transport to employees, customers, clients, visitors, and the wider public.



How can it help your business

Developing and implementing a travel plan can significantly reduce your CO₂ emissions and is something that all employees can get involved in.

In addition to contributing to your carbon reduction aims, your employees can benefit by saving time and money on commuting and business travel, and improving their health and wellbeing.

A tailored travel plan can help your business achieve recognition as a more responsible employer, increase transport options for employees and visitors, assist with staff recruitment and retention, encourage more active lifestyles amongst employees and reduce travel costs.

By engaging in the actions developed in your travel plan you will also be making a direct contribution to reducing carbon emissions in London.

To start working towards your travel plan please contact us using the details on the inside back cover.



Our travel plan is allowing us to greatly improve environmental performance, which fits with our values as an organisation committed to sustainability.

David Janner-Klausner, Programme and Planning Director, UJIA

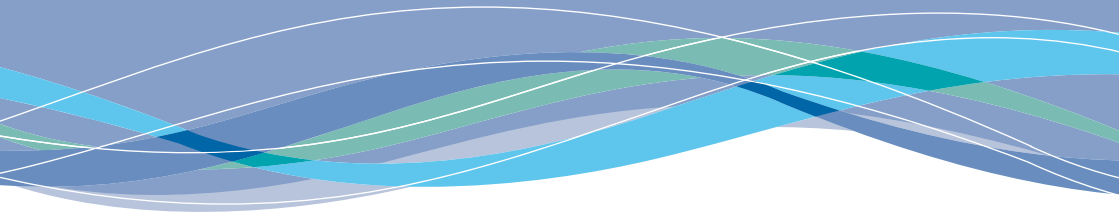


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