



We Are The Champions

We are the Champions! Energy-saving members of the Authority's Environmental Champions Working Party get the message across to fellow staff. From left are Clare Tasker, George Nelson, Kay Kane, Lesley Grace, Majid Ahmed, Nigel Greenway, Eric Woss and Carl Banton

Meet some of the people who are working on a wide range of energy-saving initiatives for the Authority.

From the use of transport to coffee machines and recycling paper, the Environmental Champions, representing every department in the Authority, are busy saving resources and reducing the organisation's carbon footprint.

An Environmental Champions Working Party, chaired by George Nelson, the Authority's Safety Health and Environmental Advisor, was set up to complement the work of the Environment Group by promoting grassroots activity

Much progress has already been made, with staff contributing many good ideas for saving emissions from cars, energy used for heating, lighting and appliances, and reducing the amount of paper used across the Authority.

Current initiatives focus on three main areas; energy use, transport and recycling.

Reducing CO2 emissions from cars used on Authority business was a prime aim, and a decision to buy a fleet of eight environmentally-friendly estate cars for authorised journeys, is expected to reduce the CO2 emissions from business usage by 22 tonnes per year.



Lesley Grace demonstrates how much paper can be saved by double-sided printing.





From Motoring to Photocopying - Staff Act to Save Resources



George Nelson goes under the bonnet of a Skoda Octavia.



Carl Banton toasts an energy-efficient coffee machine.

"We assessed virtually every vehicle that was on the market and asked colleagues what they needed to carry out their work," says George Nelson.

"Every vehicle has its own set of emissions, which is Government-approved data, so we weighed everything up in terms of safety and security, comfort and environmental ratings, and out popped the Skoda at the top of the list.

"The only additional equipment we asked for was in-built satellite navigation. From an emissions point of view, if someone is directed straight to their destination, it is more fuel efficient. Less miles mean less emissions.

The Environmental Champions are currently creating an Energy Policy which covers all on-site and off-site activities - from the major pumping station initiatives featured on Pages 4 and 5, to the role that individual members of staff can play on a daily basis by reducing energy use and cutting down on waste. Future-proof initiatives are also being considered, including alternative methods of generating power.

Electronic timers have been fitted to coffee machines as part of a drive to reduce energy

Communal recycling bins encourage the separation of clean paper and other office waste.

consumption at the Authority's Mansfield site by 10% within two years. "We have already achieved a 4% saving just through making people aware," says George Nelson.

Sub-metering is being installed to segregate air conditioning, computer systems and general sockets and lighting, and the Environmental Champions are looking at bench marking energy-efficient buildings.

Paper management includes choosing the right size envelopes for documents while, from November, single-sided printers will be replaced by central printers and scanners to optimise efficiency.

As far as recycling is concerned, individual bins have been removed with central bins installed in open-plan offices so that clean paper can be segregated from general waste.

Projects to save water are also being investigated in cloakroom areas as the Environmental Champions continue their mission to make everyone become more actively aware of the need to reduce the environmental impact of their day to day activities.



George, with an environmentally friendly Skoda, selected as the Authority's fleet car.