



## E4e-manager Newsletter June 2012

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Dear Deb,

Welcome to the June edition of the Green Achiever Technical Newsletter. With the Rio+20 summit ending on Friday, there has been much debate as to whether the summit has failed to measure up to the challenge and to give us 'The Future We Want'. The summit, which was aimed at stimulating moves towards a green economy, marked 20 years since the earth summit in the same city and 40 years since the very first global environmental gathering. With many leaders failing to turn up and a lack of firm commitment to tackle the issues of climate change, there has been much criticism with an overall feeling that government have missed an opportunity to change the course of human development. This month's articles include information about disposing of domestic-type WEEE for businesses, the Waste Prevention Loan, Product Sustainability Forum and our usual round up of environmental prosecutions.

Mandy Stoker



### ***Disposal of WEEE for businesses***

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Businesses disposing of electrical items such as kettles and fridges used by staff, may be able to save money. Certain waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) used by businesses may be classified as domestic rather than business waste. The decision to classify this waste as domestic depends on the amount being disposed of and will be made at the point of collection and must be justified. For more information, please see -

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Classifying\\_B2B\\_WEEE\\_as\\_B2C\\_April\\_2012.pdf](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Classifying_B2B_WEEE_as_B2C_April_2012.pdf)



### ***Waste Prevention Loan Re-launched***

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The Waste Prevention Loan Fund offers support to organisations in the development of innovative, more resource efficient business in England.

The loans will help businesses change their operations in order to increase profits, reduce waste and consume fewer resources by increasing re-use, repair and recovery. The loan focuses on reducing the environmental impacts of textiles, electricals and furniture but applications regarding other materials will be considered.

Loans are available from £100,000 to £1million and are open to businesses and social enterprises.

An eligibility form and further information can be found at - [www.wrap.org.uk/content/wplf](http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/wplf)



## **Forum to Tackle Product Sustainability**

More than 80 organisations are meeting to address environmental and sustainability issues that arise from making and selling products.

Retailers, suppliers, environmental charities, academics and UK Government are coming together to form the Product Sustainability Forum, which will focus on greenhouse gases, energy consumption, water use, reliance on raw materials, product-related waste and packaging. The aim is to reduce the environmental impact of a range of consumer goods and will span the product's entire life.

The forum is chaired by WRAP's chief executive, Dr Liz Goodwin. She said: "The scale of the challenge is enormous. For example, the British Retail Consortium estimates that the retail sector alone accounts for around 3.5% of the UK's carbon emissions, and the retail supply chain, for more than 30%.

"Many companies already measure the environmental impact of their products but until now, this has always been done in isolation, and the methodology and results have not been shared. By working together, we have a real opportunity to minimise the effect our activities have on the planet."



## **Hazardous Waste Guidance**

If your company is involved with hazardous waste, please be aware that the Environment Agency has revised its HWR03 guidance. The new guidance gives advice on completing consignment notes, moving hazardous waste by pipeline and what to do if the waste is rejected by the destination site.

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32196.aspx](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32196.aspx)



## **PROSECUTION**

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### **Pair fined £59k for fly-tipping of hazardous wastes**

Two men have been fined over £59,000 and given suspended sentences after fly tipping and causing pollution of the environment in Nottinghamshire.

Harry Benedict Whyte, trading as Blue River Demolition, was sentenced to four months imprisonment suspended

for 12 months. He was also ordered to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work, ordered to pay £35,000

compensation to P Waller Ltd and £23,955.67 towards prosecution costs. Former employee, Mark Young was sentenced to three months imprisonment suspended for 12 months. He was also ordered to carry out 100 hours of unpaid work and ordered to pay £250 as a contribution to prosecution costs.

Industrial containers filled with waste such as as heavy oil, asbestos and laboratory smalls were found at the site owned by the building company P Waller Ltd on 12 February 2011. The following night a fire broke out at the site and a neighbouring property had to be evacuated. The clean up operation cost over £41,000, which was paid for by P Waller Ltd.

A truck was spotted fly-tipping and was traced to Mr Young, who worked for Mr Whyte, who owns and operates the company Blue River Demolition. Blue River Demolition had been contracted to demolish, clear and remove wastes from a site in Long Eaton, Derbyshire. A specialist contractor had refused to remove some of the rubbish. Mark Young was instructed by Mr Whyte to remove the waste. The waste was later found at the site owned by P Waller Ltd.

An Environment Agency officer said, "In committing this offence, the defendants showed a total disregard of the law. They chose to dispose of the hazardous waste in a highly irresponsible manner. We want this case to serve as a warning to other operators who may be considering disposing of their waste illegally. We will not hesitate to prosecute when circumstances warrant it."

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