

Green Achiever Newsletter

February 2016



Welcome!

The new year is well under way and with that comes big plans for the year ahead.

2016 is off to a great start here at Green Achiever and E4environment, with 3 new members joining our team and lots to look forward to.

We've got a number of interesting articles for our readers this month.

We hope you continue to enjoy our newsletter and would love to hear your feedback. Get in touch by emailing zoe@e4environment.co.uk with any comments, complaints or suggestions. All welcome.

Wishing our readers all the best in 2016,

Green Achiever & E4environment



Record rates of energy efficiency schemes in British businesses

The latest Bloomberg New Energy Finance report on UK Energy Efficiency Trends found that more than 80% of respondents authorised efficiency programmes in Quarter 3 of 2015, the highest percentage since the reporting began in 2012. Efficient lighting was the most popular choice, with boiler controls also growing in popularity. Despite these efficiency measures, around one third of ESOS eligible businesses were still not compliant with the scheme as of mid-January 2015.

For a more information, [click here](#).



Photo by ponsulak, courtesy of www.freedigitalphotos.net

If you are looking to set up an Environmental Management System to help you manage and reduce your energy consumption, give us a call on 01743 343403.

Legislation Updates



United Kingdom: Consultation is underway to make major changes to energy taxes. Proposed changes include an expansion to the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme and other energy tax policies could be consolidated into a single tax and reporting regime.



England: Government Air Quality plans have outlined commitments to create 'Clean Air Zones' in Birmingham, Leeds, Nottingham, Derby and Southampton by 2020. The 'most polluting' buses, taxis, coaches and lorries will be discouraged from driving within the zones and charged to enter.



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No change to Emission Reduction Plan despite Paris agreement, says UK climate watchdog



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Despite agreements made during COP21 to increase global climate ambitions, the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) has recommended that the UK Government sticks with the 57% carbon emission reduction target set last year. A progress report on other recommendations made by the CCC such as the development of Carbon Capture and Storage and better integration of efficiency into UK buildings will be issued to Parliament in June.

More information can be found [here](#).

We can help with your carbon offsetting. Give us a call on 01743 343403.

Surge in hybrid sales expected after subsidy cut announcement



Photo by ponsulak, courtesy of
www.freedigitalphotos.net

After the government announced its plans to halve the subsidy available for hybrid vehicles from £5000 to £2500, interest has surged for hybrid models, claims Mitsubishi, ahead of the March 1st deadline. The grant, introduced in 2011, has already seen around 50,000 low emission vehicles sold at a discount to consumers. Orders can still be

made before the end of February and will still qualify for the grant even if they are not delivered and paid for by November. Sales of alternatively fuelled vehicles rose more than 40% last year, gaining a market share of 2.8%, its highest ever.

[Click here](#) for more information.

UK consumers underestimate the amount of food waste they produce, Sainsbury's finds



Photo by samuiblue, courtesy of
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Each year, the UK throws away 15 million tonnes of food waste. YouGov research commissioned by Sainsbury's found that 81% of families of four believed they threw away less than £30 worth of food a month, when the actual figure was £58.30.

Sainsbury's have spent £1 million on the "Waste Less, Save More" scheme in Swadlincote, Derbyshire, which aims to reduce food waste by 50% and save households £350 a year. They hope to extend the scheme throughout the UK with another £10 million of investment.

For more information, [click here](#).

UN Secretary General calls for doubling of clean energy investment



In order to keep global temperature increases to below 2°C, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has called for global investment in clean energy to double by 2020. The UN's Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres stated that "...investors are the architects of the future. With a transformation to clean energy and resilience, we can put the global economy on steroids". Investors must move fast to

comply with long term objectives set at COP21.

[Click here](#) for more information.

For information and advice on cleaner energy installations, call us on 01743 343403.

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