



GREEN ACHIEVER NEWSLETTER

September 2012

Dear Deb,

The cabinet reshuffle has left many green groups up in arms over the appointment of Owen Paterson as Environment Secretary, owing to his support for shale gas, expansion of British airports and opposition to wind farms, describing them as a 'massive waste of consumers' money'.

With David Cameron's pledge that this government will be the 'greenest ever', only time will tell if climate change sceptic Paterson will step up to the mark.



Forget Air Miles and collect BikeMiles instead!

If frequent flyers can be rewarded for racking up Air Miles, why shouldn't cyclists be rewarded for using a healthier, greener mode of transport? London-based corporate incentives website PleaseCycle.com has set up a bicycle mileage-based rewards scheme to do just that.

PleaseCycle is an online resource aimed at encouraging cycling within the workforce. Once a company has registered, employees can access cycling information such as route planners, weather updates, savings calculators and forums. In addition, staff can log their daily mileage online or via mobile phone apps or twitter. Companies can not only reward staff for each mile cycled but can see friendly competition between colleagues. One company that registered for the scheme chose to give donations to charity for each mile cycled; others offer extra holiday or financial incentives.

For more information, please see - pleasecycle.com/products/bike-miles/



Virgin Green Fund

Virgin Green Fund is an independent private equity firm that invests growth capital in the renewable energy and resource efficiency sectors. An experienced investment team with a demonstrated track record in helping companies build, shape and accelerate growth can offer commitment to the success of their investment companies. The funding available is dependent on the size and nature of the project and match funding may be required.

Virgin Green Fund looks to work with applicants building business in the renewable energy and resource efficiency sectors.

For more information about how to apply see www.virgingreenfund.com

Company Profiles

Bay Lift Services (UK) Ltd

Devon based Bay Lift Services (UK) Ltd, which provides lift maintenance, call-out, repair and refurbishment work for a range of customers throughout the UK has upgraded its Green Achiever scheme declaration of environmental commitment to best-practice from four to five-star status.

Commenting on the company's impressive list of initiatives, Jacqui Dellaway, director at Bay Lift Services, which joined the scheme in 2009, said: "We have carried out a number of changes to how the business operates internally including the recycling of garden waste, rainwater, cooking oil, paper, plastics, ink cartridges, computers, monitors and other office equipment; using energy efficient light bulbs, laptops instead of desktops, solar and wind power to generate some of our own energy as well as purchasing energy from a renewable energy provider. Our employees can choose from a number of staff development programmes through training and voluntary work and we have introduced the Bike2Work scheme encouraging less travel by car to the workplace as well as a healthier lifestyle. Externally, we have audited our suppliers to demonstrate their green credentials and will soon implement a purchasing policy which considers all environmental issues in the decision making process. Over the coming 12 months we aim to introduce a trial of hybrid vehicles into our fleet. It has been hard work but a challenge Bay Lift Services is relishing as we look forward to the long-term benefits for everyone - employees, suppliers and customers."

www.bayliftservices.com

Property Support Services (UK) Ltd

Essex (Ongar) based Property Support Services (UK) Ltd, (PSS) which provides contract cleaning services, commercial, property and ground maintenance as well as other key support services to businesses throughout the country, has attained Green Achiever

award gold status.

This is in addition to a number of other notable certifications, including ISO14001, ISO 9001 and National Britannia's Safe Contractor award. With offices in both Essex and London, Mike Rust, managing director at PSS explains the company's approach. He said: "Through best practice, appropriate monitoring systems, realistic target setting, meaningful annual reporting and enforceable proactive reviews we aim to constantly improve our environmental performance. Site managers actively talk with clients about performance indicators and encourage them to take action to reduce their environmental impacts by providing information and feedback.

"PSS continuously monitors the market for environmentally friendly cleaning products and, once purchased, ensure they are delivered direct to the premises we are working at, thus avoiding additional fuel consumption. In our own offices we recycle as much as possible and store information electronically to reduce paper usage; e-invoicing and e-contracts are standard practice; and where possible directors, managers and staff all use public transport to travel to work."

www.pssgroup.net

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Sincerely,

Mandy Stoker
Green Achiever Scheme

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