

## **Our Big Energy Challenge**

### **Making Bath and North East Somerset more energy efficient**

#### **The Role of the Energy Champion**

##### **What is the project about?**

The aim of the project is to cut energy consumption across the B&NES Local Strategic Partnership by at least 10% over the next three years. This could save an estimated £4.7million and significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions between now and 2012, which will help to combat climate change. The project is funded by the Treasury, and an energy efficiency scheme to make the cuts has been developed by the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

##### **Who will be involved?**

The project involves everybody. Staff will be encouraged to make simple adjustments to their behaviour which will result in significant energy savings. Energy Managers will use the latest high-tech equipment to monitor and evaluate energy use. Energy Champions will promote and implement energy saving initiatives, and encourage staff to save energy.

##### **How can staff take part?**

Although it will take the work of everybody to make a real difference, the Energy Managers and Champions are key roles in order for the project to run smoothly and be a success. Energy Managers, or their equivalents, are already in place within each organisation. We now need to recruit people who will work as Energy Champions alongside their usual duties. Details of what the Energy Champions roles entail are provided overleaf. **These roles are an ideal opportunity for staff to develop and widen their skills.**

##### **How will it impact on current job roles?**

Each person will need to contribute to saving energy; however those people with the additional role of Energy Champion will be required to invest additional time in order to meet the requirements of the role. Managers will need to ensure that any staff carrying out these duties are allocated sufficient time. The roles will develop staff and the skills gained/improved will be beneficial to the organisation and the individual.

##### **How many are we looking for?**

The ideal model is for 1 per 100-200 staff, i.e. one for each main department, with more in certain key areas (such as Accommodation & Catering).

##### **When?**

We plan to hold the first training session for Champions at the end of January, so ideally nominations are needed before Dec20th.

## Energy Champion role

<b>Energy Champions</b>
<p>Main function:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to promote and encourage energy awareness amongst colleagues in the workplace and to assist in local implementation of energy saving initiatives (switch-off campaigns, using blinds, fans, etc)</li><li>• to liaise with the Energy Manager or equivalent and other Energy Champions on energy issues</li><li>• to be the local key contact for energy-related issues within a particular building, office, workshop, etc and provide first-line advice to colleagues</li></ul>
<p>Main duties could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• providing staff with tips on how to save energy and dispelling 'energy myths'</li><li>• some small-scale monitoring, and reporting on, energy use within their working environment</li><li>• contributing to the development of an energy saving plan</li><li>• giving feedback to staff and managers on energy use and results of energy saving campaigns</li><li>• positively promoting their role and being available as a first point of contact for staff and managers on energy related issues</li><li>• helping to organise energy saving promotional events</li><li>• posting signs to encourage staff to utilise energy saving features of equipment and act in an 'energy friendly' manner</li><li>• reporting on energy issues to the Energy Manager or equivalent</li><li>• identifying new opportunities for saving energy</li><li>• writing material on energy saving for staff newsletters or email messages</li><li>• liaising with other members of the project and attending meetings as required</li></ul>
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• excellent communication and presentation skills (although some training will be given)</li><li>• strong organisational skills and a high level of motivation</li><li>• initiative and the ability to think creatively</li><li>• a strong commitment to the aims of the project</li><li>• credibility with peers and a positive outlook, with the ability to influence others</li><li>• <b>no specialist knowledge of energy issues</b> is assumed but individuals should be willing and interested to undertake the role</li><li>• the role will typically require around 2-4 hours per month</li></ul>
<p>Training and support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• full training will be provided by the Centre for Sustainable Energy</li><li>• support will be provided by the Centre for Sustainable Energy during the early stages of the project</li><li>• appropriate support will be provided by the Energy Manager (or equivalent)</li><li>• occasional update meetings will be held</li></ul>