

- 16,306 animal, bird and plant species - including 1 in 3 amphibians, 1 in 4 mammals, and 1 in 8 birds of those assessed to date - are at risk of extinction, with human alteration of their habitat the single biggest cause

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Leeds Trinity and All Saints College - Travel Benefits from an Integrated Approach

Leeds Trinity has had a long standing commitment to resource efficiency, reducing gas and water usage by 20% and 16% per square metre respectively since 1991. As a result, it has the lowest carbon dioxide emissions of any church college. In 2003 a more comprehensive approach began, with the establishment of an Environmental Forum, development of an Environmental Policy, and the launch of new initiatives, including:

- Ensuring that all courses met an objective of "Engagement in consideration of ethics and values, including where appropriate sustainability, relevant to their discipline", as part of the revalidation of all college programmes in 2005-6
- Introducing recycling schemes for waste paper, glass, plastics, cans, IT hardware and printing consumables across campus and in residences - reflected in a 10% reduction of landfill waste between 2005 and 2006
- Enhancing biodiversity, with new planting schemes and other measures adopted following a campus survey by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- Reducing car travel to campus through a comprehensive Travel Plan.

The Travel Plan was introduced in September 2005 and is reviewed annually. The main initiatives include a car parking policy; staff discounted Metrocard; improved public transport links; improved cycle and motorcycle parking; support of the local authority car share scheme; improved pedestrian access; preferential taxi access; and a reduction in the use of College vehicles by the promotion of public transport. These measures have resulted in a reduction of campus car parking spaces by 40%, without a comparable increase in off campus parking. The Plan is self-financing with any surplus generated ring-fenced for use in implementing travel improvements.

Mark Shields, Assistant Principal (Resources), believes that "you don't have to be a green warrior to take action on environmental issues - it just makes sense. The real gains are when a 'whole institution' approach is taken, and all parts of the organisation are united, including staff, students and the wider community, drawing on the talents of everyone to the full. It's amazing what people can do when they are interested and committed."

Richard Jasper, John Barrett and Graham Cooper - Leeds Trinity groundsman - are proud of their diverse planting schemes



Judges' Comments on Colleges (continued)

Leeds Trinity College shows what can be achieved through a co-ordinated approach, even within a short period of time. Its travel plan in particular provides a successful example of a practical yet ambitious initiative, based on quantifiable measures and a sound evidence base. It is an exemplar of good practice for the sector.