

HELPING LOCAL BUSINESS TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

Within the last few years climate change has become an increasingly prevalent issue with Industry and Commerce being responsible for making up 44% of the carbon emissions in the Borough of Watford.

Watford as a borough has set a reduction target to cut its carbon emissions by 10% by the end of 2010 and by achieving this goal will demonstrate that we are committed to creating a sustainable environment for future generations to live in.

Watford Chamber is delighted to have been nominated as the sponsor of this important project which has been funded by One Watford through the Performance Reward Grant and the aims are as follows:

- To help Watford protect its environment by creating a more eco-friendly borough that reduces its impact on the environment.
- To create a prosperous and educated town; the advice and support given to businesses will be shared with staff, many of whom are likely to live within the borough. Imparting the knowledge will therefore educate not only the business actions but their staff as well.
- In cutting energy use through innovative funding methods it is hoped that businesses will save money thereby increasing their prosperity in these difficult economic times.

A Green Business Facilitator has already been appointed who will assist in providing local businesses with a single point of contact and the first stage of the project is to identify which businesses in the town are the highest energy users. This information will be gathered from various sources including energy use data provided by utility companies as well as analysis of the thermal imaging map of Watford.

The facilitator will then make contact with the top 20 businesses to promote the scheme and determine interest

Expert organisations such as the Carbon Trust and Energy Savings Trust will be used to assist local companies in effectively managing carbon within their operations with the Green Business Facilitator acting as the point of contact, driver, organiser, facilitator and co-ordinator for the process.

An launch event is planned for April at Jurys Inn Watford when experts will be on hand to make presentations and to answer questions.

For further information and to reserve you place at the April event which is free of charge to Watford businesses please contact Roger Gagan at the Chamber on 01923 442442 or email [info @watfordchamber.co.uk](mailto:info@watfordchamber.co.uk)