



Environmental Awareness Programme

Range of environmental awareness initiatives

January 2007

Introduction

Businesses in Northern Ireland face increasing legislative, financial and customer pressures to improve their environmental performance.

Despite recognising the potential business benefits of addressing environmental concerns, small and medium sized enterprises in particular struggle to take the practical measures necessary to reduce their impact on the environment.

This is often due to businesses not being aware of their legislative and environmental obligations, or simply not having sufficient resources to implement change.

Our Environmental Awareness Programme has a range of initiatives designed to raise businesses' awareness of environmental issues and help capture opportunities that can reduce environmental costs and increase competitiveness.

How will it help me?

Increased awareness of environmental issues will help your business:

- reduce and process waste efficiently;
- reduce your impact on the environment;
- comply with environmental legislation; and
- increase competitiveness.

How does it work?

The programme allows you to access a range of specialist advice measures.

www.niwasteworks.com

The website is a dedicated waste directory resource for local businesses featuring everything from waste management options to best practice information.

Information available on the site include helping businesses identifying registered carriers of waste, finding licensed treatment facilities, recycles, reprocessors and disposal sites, providing information about technology providers and identifying legal obligations.

Envirowise

Envirowise is a national waste prevention programme for small and medium sized businesses with the necessary best practice tools and money saving advice to reduce their environmental impact.

Advice is available via www.envirowise.gov.uk on a generic and sector specific basis, as well as free fast-track waste audits.

Environmental enquiry point

Free advice service providing environmental information to local businesses, trade associations and other bodies on subjects such as legislation, pollution, abatement technology and waste prevention and minimisation. Contact environment@investni.com for more information.

How much does it cost?

The programme is free.



Who is eligible?

The programme is available to Invest NI clients and Northern Ireland businesses.

Becoming an Invest NI client

To qualify as an Invest NI client company, your business must meet certain criteria.

You should typically be from the manufacturing or international tradeable sectors and be able to demonstrate that currently, or over the next three years, your business will have:

- total sales of over £100,000 a year;
- sales outside Northern Ireland of greater than 25 per cent of turnover **or** greater than £250,000 a year; and
- the capability and willingness to work with Invest NI.

If you are not an Invest NI client, but can satisfy the above criteria and would like to become one, please contact the Invest NI office in your area.

Full details can be found at www.investni.com.

Contact

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If you are an Invest NI client you may also contact your Client Executive if you feel your business will benefit from this programme.

nibusinessinfo.co.uk

Invest NI has launched a new online information and support facility, **nibusinessinfo.co.uk**

This web site provides all Northern Ireland businesses and entrepreneurs with free access to an extensive source of essential business information.

nibusinessinfo.co.uk provides 24x7 advice, information, guidance and signposting, with over 5,000 fact sheets and over 70 interactive tools on offer. Every aspect of setting up and running a business is covered, from the earliest days of developing a business idea to the legal issues involved in selling a business concern.

nibusinessinfo.co.uk also features case studies showing how local businesses have handled particular business challenges.

nibusinessinfo.co.uk provides you with a single point of access for all your business information needs, freeing up time for to concentrate on running operations.