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Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of the Sheffield Care4Air eZine - a regular update about what's happening in Sheffield to improve air quality.

Your Nominations

The awards scheme has been launched across the South Yorkshire region to recognise people's contribution to improving air quality. Awards fall into a number of categories and are open to all in the South Yorkshire area.

Categories:

- Regional
- Businesses
- Public Sector, NGO's and Health Sector
- Education Sector
- Community Groups and Individuals
- Transport Providers
- Individuals

If you are aware of any project, business or organisation who may be eligible for a Care4Air Award - email:

mark.daly@sheffield.gov.uk

Find out about the first Care4Air Award Winners on page 3.



SHEFFIELD BUSINESSES KEEN ON GOING GREEN

Sheffield delegates have given upcoming technologies in environmentally friendly vehicles the thumbs up at a seminar.

The Green Fleet Management Best Practice Seminar gave business leaders, fleet, transport and environmental managers first hand insight into the technologies of the future, including a vehicle powered completely by electricity.

Delegates were excited to learn the technologies for such a vehicle are not far away and many felt it a viable option.

Organisers of the seminar, supported by the Care4Air campaign, were keen to introduce local businesses to the environmentally friendly technologies of the future, but also show them current options.

Stewart Marsden, National Transport Manager for a division of BT and Dennis Chapman, a Service Manager for BT Fleet took the opportunity to try out the latest low emission vehicles including the Toyota Prius Hybrid Vehicle, which was launched in January.

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Stewart said: "We found the seminar very interesting, particularly the new technologies like the completely electric vehicles. At BT we have many environmental policies in place and it seems that a low or zero emission vehicle could be the next evolutionary step."

Bernd Hoermann of Sheffield City Council's Environmental Protection Service said: "Encouraging companies and organisations with large fleets to take up green fleet management, by for example using low emission vehicles, is key to our air quality action plan for the city."

"We are very excited by the new technologies and want Sheffield to benefit from them, and the seminar is a great way of bringing them to the attention of Sheffield's business and fleet managers."

He continued: "Our promotion of green transport initiatives will not stop at the seminar, we have also launched Sheffield's first Green Fleet Network ensuring we continue to hold these valuable seminars which promote and share good ideas and good practice in green fleet management. This is vital to keep the ball rolling, encouraging businesses to look at their green offer, which will ultimately improve air quality for everyone."

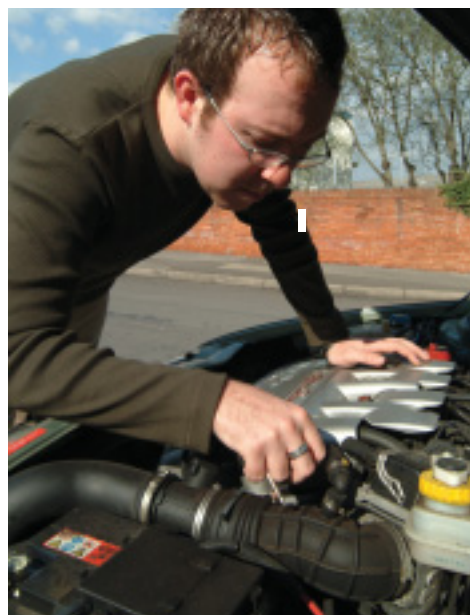
After the meeting Bernd invited 10 people / organisations to attend a steering group meeting on 4th May where he will be seeking agreement for the terms of reference for the green fleet network. Shortly after that he wants to arrange the first network meeting. Many local organisations have expressed their interest in joining the network to find out about how they can be more environmentally friendly and Care4Air.

For more information on the Green Fleet Network, or to get involved please call Bernd Hoermann on 0777 647 6802.

Car Care

Care4Air, the campaign to improve air quality in South Yorkshire, has released tips for car owners to promote the idea they can save time and money whilst helping to keep the air clean.

Care4Air want people to use their car more efficiently, and consider alternative modes of transport.



Care4Air is a partnership between Sheffield City Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC), Rotherham MBC, Barnsley MBC and South Yorkshire Travelwise. The campaign highlights initiatives within the region's 4 Air Quality Action Plans. It aims to reduce air pollution in South Yorkshire by raising awareness of air quality issues and encouraging people to reduce unnecessary vehicle use, become energy efficient and use newer, more environmentally friendly technologies.

Mark Daly from Care4Air said: "There are so many ways that car owners can help reduce air pollution, whilst saving time and money. Simple steps like planning

journeys, rather than going on individual errands, have an impact on vehicle emissions. Avoiding non-essential journeys at peak times, keeping vehicles well maintained and following simple rules at the petrol pump can also help keep the air clean. Small changes to the way drivers use their vehicles can help the environment, and save people money at the same time."

Top Tips So Motorists Can Care4Air

- Drive more efficiently, keep within speed limits, and always use the highest gear traffic conditions allow.
- Avoid rapid acceleration and heavy braking, both lead to greater fuel use and more pollution.
- Avoid using your car for short journeys, walk, cycle or use public transport instead.
- Make a single journey rather than lots of short ones, as fuel is wasted every time you start up the car.
- Try to car share whenever possible.
- Maintaining your car regularly also helps reduce emissions and save you money, as badly maintained cars tend to use more fuel and produce more exhaust fumes.
- If you see an excessively smoking exhaust from a lorry or bus, take down the vehicle details and time and place you saw it, then contact the national smoky vehicle hotline on 0870 6060440.



Care4Air Award Winners 2004

A successful Sheffield based air quality-monitoring project has become the first winner of a Care4Air Award in Sheffield, the award recognises individuals, organisations and companies for their contribution towards improving air quality. Members of the East End Quality of Life Initiative and Tinsley Forum, based in Tinsley, have been presented with the Award by Jan Wilson, Sheffield City Council Leader.

The Care4Air campaign was launched in Sheffield at the same time.

Tinsley Forum and the East End Quality of Life Initiative began monitoring air quality using simple test tube size equipment in April 1998, enabling local people to take an active role in finding out about air quality in the area. The tubes are exposed to the air for one month, and then sent for analysis. They measure the amount of Nitrogen Dioxide in the air, which mainly comes from road transport. The tubes are placed near people's homes, as well as by the roadside, where air quality frequently exceeds government targets because of exhaust emissions.



Sheffield Award Winner

targets of a cleaner and greener Sheffield."

Mark Daly of Care4Air said: "The East End Quality of Life Initiative and the Tinsley Forum is exactly the kind of projects that deserves recognition. The community have come together to take action on air pollution, which damages the environment and contributes to health problems. It's great to see that the Tinsley project has encouraged other schemes to start up across the city. Locally run air monitoring empowers the community and gives them a real voice in issues that directly affects their quality of life. I would encourage any community or residents group that wants to undertake this simple yet effective monitoring to find out about air quality in their area, to get in touch with the Care4Air Campaign."



Doncaster Award Winners

The success of the Tinsley initiative has led to the study being extended to cover other parts of the City, including Park Hill, Burngreave, Heeley, Hackenthorpe, Gleadless, Neepsend, Foxhill and Broomhill.

Jan Wilson, Sheffield City Council Leader said: "I'm delighted to present the East End Quality of Life initiative and the Tinsley Forum with a Care4Air Award. Their work and commitment to their community really makes a difference and contributes towards the council's



Rotherham Award Winner



Barnsley Award Winners

To put your organisation or company forward for a Care4Air Award visit care4air.org.

Care4Air is being launched across South Yorkshire, with further Care4Air Awards being presented to a Barnsley school who run a walking bus service, a Rotherham community group who have helped organise a community bus that works like a taxi and Doncaster Royal Infirmary for their transport policy that includes a community bus.



Walking Bus Service

Travel Plans Seminar helps Care4Air

Sheffield City Council's Environmental Protection Service has held a seminar on Travel Plans - a new technique that helps organisations manage the transport needs of it's business so that staff can commute and work in a more sustainable way.

Travel Plans aim to solve problems around insufficient parking facilities, as well as reducing traffic congestion. Travel Plans can also increase productivity by reducing staff travel time.

Travel plans can:

- Reduce valuable costs and wasted time spent on commuting and business travel.
- Make car parks more cost effective and reduce congestion round your work place.
- Improve staff fitness levels, as well as encourage staff retention and recruitment.
- Protect your environment, which will enhance your business image with your community and clients.

The Travel Plan seminar included:

- Explaining Travel Plans.
- Discussing how Travel Plans make good business sense.
- Learning about the benefits from businesses that have already developed Travel Plans.
- Show you where to obtain free help and resources for setting up Travel Plans.
- Give you the chance to register on a car share database.

Who attended?

- Companies who are considering asking for planning permission.
- Companies already conditioned to produce a plan as part of their development.
- Anyone faced with parking capacity problems.
- Anyone experiencing recruitment or retention problems.

- Companies interested in saving money on business travel.
- Facilities managers.
- Human Resource professionals.

For further information on Travel Plans, please contact Katherine Silk on 0788 764 1266 or email: Katherine.Silk@sheffield.gov.uk

Website Online

Our website is now online. If you would like further information you can visit us by clicking on the link below: www.care4air.org



Want to know more about what's happening to improve our air in Sheffield?

Contact the Air Quality team on 0114 2734655 or register to be on our e-mail list -

mark.daly@sheffield.gov.uk

www.sheffield.gov.uk/environment/waste-and-pollution

To find out how you can do your bit to help the environment you can download a pdf from the website below:

www.airquality.co.uk/archive/yourbit.pdf

Sheffield
City Council



Bill Oddie visited South Yorkshire to officially launch the Care4Air website.

All will be revealed in next months issue!

Useful Websites

Sheffield City Council

www.sheffield.gov.uk/environment/waste-and-pollution

Sheffield City Centre Clean Air Partnership

www.sheffieldairaction.com

M1 Corridor Clean Air Partnership (Sheffield & Rotherham area)

www.m1airaction.com

The UK National Air Quality Information Archive:

www.airquality.co.uk

Air Quality Management

www.air-quality-management.co.uk

Department of Health

www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/HealthAndSocialCareTopics/AirPollution/fs/en

Current Air Quality Forecast

www.airquality.co.uk/archive/Current_Bulletin.php