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WHY REDUCING WASTE IS BENEFICIAL

It doesn't matter if you're large organisation or a microbusiness, everyone generates waste, and in most cases, there are some quick and easy ways to reduce this. Did you know that within the food industry, wasted food costs on average £10,000 per site each year, with a staggering 75% of this food being suitable to eat!





TALKING TO YOUR TEAM

Making sure your team understand why and how waste can be reduced is a great way to involve them with any changes you make.

You could do this by creating waste reduction and upcycling idea competitions, or even incentivised team targets! By promoting these achievements in team communications, such as a newsletter, you can continue to build on its success.

> TALKING TO YOUR VISITORS

Promoting and showcasing your sustainable waste practices with customers will certainly earn you green points!

- Introduce water refill stations and encourage them to bring their own bottles
- Make recycling containers accessible to your visitors
- Ask people if they would like dips/garnishes instead of putting them on every plate
- Incentivise the use of reusable coffee cups

With 3 in 5 people* wanting access to recycling and reusing options, here's our top five tips to help you reduce waste within your business.

1 Go Team Green

Assign a green team to identify the different waste types (e.g. paper, food, glass, cardboard, textiles, electrical items, furniture) within your business. This is also a great way to encourage your team to get involved and recycle more.

2 Measure Everything

Make a note of which part of your business is creating the different waste types, and how much.
Knowing the amount of waste within your business is key to being able to take the next steps and reduce it.

3 Plan to Reduce

Work out if and how waste can be reduced. This could be through food portion management, minimising single use items such as stirrers, sachets, shampoo bottles, and repairing and reusing items.

4 Has it Been Recycled?

Check that all recyclable items are actually being recycled. Contact your waste service provider to make sure that you have all the recycling services available to you, and more importantly, that you're using them.

5 Check Your Suppliers

A great way to reduce your waste is to work with your suppliers to minimise the amount of packaging used. Consider partnering with them to create take back arrangements with reusable packaging.

FUNDING OPTIONS

A number of banks offer green business finance with various eligibility criteria and loan sizes. Our resource efficiency advisors are available for you to talk through your needs. Here's a short list of where you can access finance:

- Development Bank Wales
- British Business Bank
- HSBC Green SMF Fund
- NatWest Green Loans
- · Barclays Green Loan
- · Virgin Money Sustainable Business Loan

QUICK ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

1

2

3

Go paperless and you can help to save trees, reduce waste & help the environment! Promote your area as somewhere people can refill water bottles for free. Switch to reusable items, such as coffee cups, where you can for yourself and your team.

OPTIONS

Recycling bins can be purchased from local DIY stores and homeware stores. They can also be as cheap or as expensive as you like.



Get involved with

Refill Wales, where you can find support on how to reduce your waste as a business, and encourage visitors to reuse and recycle.



RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Guardians of Grub - Reducing food waste in business

WRAP - Waste in the hospitality and food sector

www.businesswales.gov.wales/managing-waste

Beyond Wales | GOV.WALES

Environment (Wales) Act 2016: factsheets | GOV.WALES

www.gov.wales/wppn-07-21-sme-friendly-procurement-html

www.greenkey.global/criteria

www.refill.org.uk

If you would like further support on introducing waste saving measures into your business, get in touch with our team today.

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