

# DELIA QUIGLEY - BUSINESS CONSULTANT

## Supporting Business In A Time Of Environmental Change

### FACT SHEET 2 – WHY BE ENERGY EFFICIENT?

Energy is electricity, heating fuel (such as gas, oil or LPG), transport fuel (such as diesel) and so on. This costs money and for every £1 spent on electricity, gas etc on average a business has to make £10 of sales. Spending £1,000 a year you don't have to means you're wasting the time and effort on £10,000 of sales.

Most businesses can reduce the amount of energy they use by at least 10% simply and easily.

How much is that worth to you?

With the cost of electricity, gas, diesel and petrol all going up.... how much will it cost you next year? And the year after?

Energy efficiency is about not wasting energy – not wasting electricity, heat, cooling, light, transport and so on.

Energy efficiency can also be about generating your own energy. Does your business generate heat but not use it? This may be from an industrial process. Does your business need heat and use electricity, gas or oil to generate this – such as to heat an office? Can your business use the heat generated in the factory to warm the office nearby? Thinking like this can save you money in the long run – and with the way prices are going the 'long run' might not be as long as you think.

Energy efficiency can be about logistics and transport – reducing the distance that goods and people travel, the time of travel or the fuel used. Road travel can be cost effective for a group of people but for one person the train might be a better choice. Do you buy goods in from suppliers a long distance away because they are cheaper than local suppliers? Do you add in the cost of transport when you make that calculation? It might be more cost effective and energy efficient to source locally – you might even choose to use that saving on extending the distance you will go to deliver your goods (or service) and open up a new market – and still use energy efficient delivery techniques.

There are Government targets to reduce energy use as a way of reducing greenhouse gas emissions – by calculating the amount of energy you save, you can calculate the amount of greenhouse gas (usually measured in tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents) you've saved. You can also measure your carbon footprint. This is not only good for helping the Government reach its targets, it also demonstrates your green credentials and is good PR.

**For more information, to discuss your needs, or to arrange a consultation... contact:**

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