

CSR Newsletter

Good for Business
Good for All



www.csrhub.ie

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Enhancing performance through green teams



EPA-supported National Green Teams Programme is launched for organisations looking to motivate their staff and improve performance

Green team members and environmental and sustainability champions have a new opportunity to help make a positive impact on their organisation's environmental, social and financial bottom lines, through the new certified National Green Teams Programme www.greenteams.ie from the EPA's Green Enterprise initiative. The first of its kind in Ireland, the programme delivers training and support to green team members or those appointed as champions, to help them gain key knowledge on sustainability and resource efficiency and play a central role in running their green teams. This taught and online programme ultimately aims to help participants get fellow staff on board to continually improve their organisation's performance on the environment, the community and its own long term viability.

Developed by Waterford Institute of Technology and environmental consultants Consulteco, the programme was launched with Rosderra Meats and WIT's internal green team candidates. It offers a robust all-round approach which weaves together sustainability and resource efficiency along with practical advice on running green teams and how to get fellow staff engaged. On successful completion of the programme, participants are awarded a Certificate of recognition from WIT.

Tom O'Brien, Lecturer in Environmental Performance of Buildings at WIT, who was involved in the design of the programme, commented "One of the aims of the programme is to put green teams on a more formal and professional footing, providing them with training and recognition to enhance their position and avoid the pitfall that after the initial enthusiasm, green team momentum and commitment fades away".



Do Good, Feel Good in June

This year, Ulster Bank's flagship One Week in June campaign became Do Good, Feel Good in June.

Our June campaign connects colleagues from every part of the bank, as they unite behind a common cause for a week of fundraising activities. It's the biggest and most impactful employee engagement event in the bank, one which everyone is passionate about. Now into its fifth year, the programme has raised over €1.5 million for good causes large and small across the island of Ireland.

In 2017, Ulster Bank ROI was delighted to partner with Irish Heart and support Irish Heart's efforts to drive awareness of stroke and how to recognise the vital signs.

Do Good, Feel Good in June is a staff-led initiative and fundraising took place at offices and branches throughout the country. Our largest, cross-departmental initiative was a relay that saw Ulster Bank staff around the country take to the roads to cycle, run and walk more than 2,000 kilometres over five days. Participants passed the baton from branch to branch, visiting over 100 locations along the way, before finishing in Athlone on 23rd June.

Alongside the relay, there were bake sales, rowing competitions, kayaking, rounders' matches, auctions and much more, all of which helped us to raise over €100,000 for Irish Heart's FAST Stroke Awareness campaign.



Ulster Bank staff in Galway during the One Week in June Campaign

Do good, feel good
#MakeADifference
June

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Reuse and recycling are at the heart of Europe's vision for a Circular Economy. The Community Reuse Network Ireland (CRNI) was set up to help drive these activities with its members, with the support of the EPA's National Waste Prevention Programme.

CRNI is an all-island representative body for community based reuse, recycling and waste prevention organisations.

Members of CRNI (see <http://crni.ie/our-members/>) are market leaders in community reuse and recycling, contributing to the environment, the economy and the community, or the "triple bottom line". In 2016, they facilitated the reuse of 32,500 tonnes products and recycled 17,800 tonnes specialist materials including mattresses. In doing so, they sustained over 760 jobs and provided 210 training opportunities and 7,600 voluntary positions.

However, for reuse and recycling to continue to grow in line with the Circular Economy vision,

we need to engage all sectors. Business can play a key role by procuring reused and recycled goods and sending products and materials back into the loop. This includes everything from packaging materials to IT equipment as can be seen in our case studies (see <http://crni.ie/publications/>). In addition, CRNI would like to invite companies to visit our members' facilities and discuss further opportunities to engage in reuse to help make a real impact on our transition to a more Circular Economy. For more information please contact info@crni.ie

CSR Buzz



CRNI Annual Reuse Metrics 2016



32,500 t reused
17,800 t recycled



Supporting 750 jobs
210 training opportunities
7,650 volunteer positions



Over €70 million turnover
Est. €44.7 million employment value

Electric Vehicles for Business

Electric vehicles (EVs) are not only environmentally friendly, they are also good for business.



EVs are fast becoming an economical choice for businesses.

Thermodial, a leader in the Irish building service engineering sector since 1987, has embarked on a 5 year programme to convert its entire vehicle fleet (35 vehicles) to EVs. Commenting on the decision to make the switch, Thermodial Managing Director Turlough Kinane, said *“Energy management is a rising global theme that is very relevant to our business as reflected by our attainment of the ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management System in 2016. We didn’t take long to first assess and then invest on the basis that it is the right thing for us to do both professionally, environmentally and financially too.”*

The company has already made the move to phase-in new electric vans (zero-emissions Nissan eNV200s) as old, diesel-powered vehicles reach replacement age. The entire Thermodial fleet will be 100% electric by 2022.

For more information on electric vehicles and associated incentives please visit <http://www.seai.ie/grants/electric-vehicle-grants/>

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR BUSINESS IN IRELAND?

Tax Benefits: Electric vehicles and associated charging infrastructure qualify for Accelerated Capital Allowances as well as reduced motor tax.

Grant Support: SEAI (<http://www.seai.ie/>) offer a purchase grant of up to €3,800 for N1 category vehicles.

Running Costs: Savings on fuel and maintenance costs when compared to petrol or diesel vehicle equivalents.

Environmental Image: Electric vehicles can play an integral role in environmental CSR strategies, alongside significantly reducing a business’s carbon footprint.

CHAMBERS IRELAND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AWARDS 2017

AWARD WINNERS

KPMG took home Outstanding Achievement in Corporate Social Responsibility Award 2017

Category Winners 2017:

Excellence in CSR Communications - Ulster Bank, ‘Making a difference in our communities’

Excellence in Community Partnership with a Charity LIC - AppleGreen, ‘Applegreen Charitable Fund Programme’

Excellence in Community Partnership with a Charity MNC - Boots Ireland & partnership with the Irish Cancer Society

Excellence in Environment LIC - Dublin Airport Central for the Sustainable Buildings Project. sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency

Excellence in Environment MNC - Lidl Ireland for Origin Green Project, sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency

Excellence in Community Volunteering LIC - KPMG ‘Family for Literacy’

Excellence in Community Volunteering MNC - Cisco Systems ‘Age Action Volunteering Programme’

Excellence in Community Programme LIC - Bank of Ireland ‘Enterprise Town’

Excellence in Community Programme MNC - Amgen ‘Inspiring the Scientists of Tomorrow’

Excellence in Workplace CSR LIC - KPMG ‘Inclusion and Diversity Programme’, sponsored by One4all

Excellence in Workplace CSR MNC - Vodafone Ireland ‘Think Well, Live Well, Feel Well’, sponsored by One4all

Excellence in Marketplace CSR - Eversheds Sutherland ‘Robbie Sinnott Case’

Excellence in Supporting Youth Employment - ESB Networks ‘Apprenticeship Programme’

Excellence in CSR by an SME - Earth’s Edge ‘Kilimanjaro Equipment Lending Programme’

Further information on the Chambers Ireland CSR Awards is available at www.chambers.ie



The Four Dimensions of Corporate Social Responsibility



The Environment

This is about how you reduce, reuse or recycle resources to minimize negative environmental impacts



The Community

This is about how you interact with your local community partners and organisations



The Workplace

This is about how you support and engage your employees



The Marketplace

This is about how you interact with your local community partners and organisations



For more information check out:

www.csrhub.ie

email: csrhub@dbei.gov.ie

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Useful Links

www.bitc.ie

www.chambers.ie

This is an initiative of the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation in association with the national CSR Stakeholder Forum



An Roinn Gnó, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation