

**The Voucher:** SME businesses have the potential to cut costs, reduce carbon and increase sales through improvements to their resource efficiency.

The Resource Efficiency Voucher will provide one free day of consultant's support to businesses, followed by both capital and consultancy implementation support, where the business pays 50% towards the overall cost. To qualify for the voucher businesses will need to:

- Have an environmental baseline report (the Business Link Resource Efficiency Review Tool or other)
- Not be eligible for similar national support – i.e. a carbon trust loan
- Be a Small or Medium Enterprise [SME] (under 250 employees)
- Have the backing of a senior manager
- Be committed to implementing improvements and reporting impact over a 1 year period.

*If you have any further queries about eligibility see the FAQ's attached or contact Alison Kahumbura contact details below*

### **Step 1: Resource Efficiency Review Tool (RERT)**

RERT is an on line diagnostic tool that will capture initial information and data about the company, its resource consumption levels and associated costs, company processes and environmental activities to date.

*NB if business already has an environmental baseline report done in-house ,by a consultant or the carbon trust there is no need to complete RERT*

### **Step 2: Resource Efficiency Voucher – Support package**

#### **One free day**

With the data collected from the RERT report, one day of free resource efficiency review and action planning day will be made available through the voucher scheme.

This day will be provided by an approved supplier list of expert resource efficiency consultants. They will work with the businesses to go into greater depth about resource of monitoring and measuring systems within the business.

The output from this day will be a detailed and tailor-made, prioritised and costed implementation plan. Where appropriate this action plan will recommend utilising national, regional and local support and the resource efficiency voucher support package.

At this stage businesses will be introduced to the monitoring and measuring process and should be now committed to implementing improvements, and recording and submitting improvements and their impact over at least a one year period.

### **Step 3**

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## Implementation support

Businesses will be able to access a total of £16,000 of which CO2Sense will pay £8,000 and the business will pay £8,000. This can be used to:

- 1 **Purchase a maximum of 10 consultancy days** to help implement improvements or support the monitoring, measuring and recording process
- 2 **Access a maximum capital grant of £8000 to purchase equipment** that will help the businesses reduce resources consumed and save money

Businesses can choose a mix of both capital and consultancy support up to a maximum value of £16,000 (of which they pay up to £8000).

## Costs and Payment Process

For the free day action planning step there will be no cost to the business

For the consultancy element of implementation support, consultants will be paid a total sum on completion of the support upon submission of evidence of the activities carried out:

For the capital element of implementation support the business will initially pay for the total cost of the equipment and CO2Sense will then pay a maximum of £8000 to the business on the submission of evidence of purchase, a feedback form and case study information

### Eligibility for business activity – (eligible for revenue support only)

- Mobile infrastructure – buses and boats
- Retail facilities
- Coastal Protection, soil conservation and infrastructures
- Major infrastructure in ports
- Building and renovation of housing except energy efficiency and renewable energy

### Ineligibility – (sectoral restrictions)

- Fishery and agricultural sectors
- Primary production, processing and marketing of agricultural products sectors
- Coal, shipbuilding and steel sectors
- Synthetic fibres sector
- School age education establishments

Contact [revoucher@co2sense.org.uk](mailto:revoucher@co2sense.org.uk)

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