

Meet the Groundwork Team

Karen Szmidt - Resource Efficiency Specialist

Karen started her environmental management career with Groundwork Stoke-on-Trent in June 2002. Starting in Environmental Business Services (EBS) as an EBS Assistant, she gained knowledge of Environmental Management Systems to ISO 14001 standards.

The role also included delivering consultancy services to businesses. These services included signposting companies to Environmental Legislation that may have applied to them, environmental reviews and audits.

Karen also created an Environmental Directory which went out to a large number of companies within Stoke-on-Trent. This Directory was designed to educate businesses of Re-use and Recycling of their waste and products, it also acted as a signpost to businesses in regards to legislation and funding opportunities which may have been available to them.

In June 2004 Karen was promoted to EBS Advisor, where she took on extra responsibilities including Environmental training. Karen assisted with the implementation of an Environmental Management System into an accident repair garage and partially implemented another system into a printing company.

Karen moved to Groundwork Cheshire in April 2005 as an Environmental Business Advisor, delivering Groundwork's e³ services and other environmental consultancy such as BS 8555 training. Other courses she delivers include Environmental Awareness and Auditor training.

Karen has assisted a number of companies with the implementation of an Environmental Management System through the BS 8555 route. One company has recently achieved a second year of Accreditation and a number of others are well on their way to achieving ISO 14001.



In April 2008 Karen's job role changed to Resource Efficiency Specialist. This involves assisting with the delivery of the Resource Efficiency Programme by advising companies on no and low cost savings which they may wish to implement, which are designed to improve both the efficiency of their business and their environmental image.

Key attributes

- Working knowledge of environmental management systems including ISO 14001 and BS 8555.
- Knowledge of current UK, EU and international environmental, health and safety legislation.
- A strong customer service background.
- Knowledge of health and safety management and environmental management.
- Competent Trainer.

MEMBERS OF GROUNDWORK CHESHIRE'S RESOURCE EFFICIENCY TEAM



Greville Kelly

Sustainable Business Director



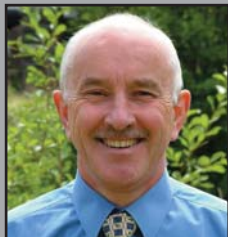
Chris White

Resource Efficiency Specialist



Karen Szmidt

Resource Efficiency Specialist



Ian Melton

Principle Project Manager



Stephen Flynn

Resource Efficiency Specialist



Tracey Birch

Resource Efficiency Specialist