

Home Energy Check-up Information Sheet

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- Ask about routines e.g. if food is produced on the premises are ovens etc. only switched on when required or are they fired up as soon as the operator arrives in the morning?
- Are all food cabinets left running all the time, including empty ones?
- Are all lights turned on when the operator arrives even if they are the only person there for a while?
- Are lighting displays fitted with CFC's – many use halogen GU10's – could LED alternatives be used? Check if they are 12 volt as these are not so easy to change as the transformer may not cope with the reduced load.
- Is it necessary to have all display lighting on all the time?
- Are fluorescent fittings still using T12 tubes. T5's (very small diameter) use far less energy though they may need a small adaptor to fit older fittings. T7's should fit without adaptors.
- Are lighting displays on a time clock? – we don't get many window shoppers late at night in the Strettons. Does the time clock get altered as the seasons change? Is security lighting also on a time clock?
- Is the letter box draft proofed?
- Do lights get left on in store rooms?
- Are computers or other equipment left on standby unnecessarily?
- What about time clocks for heating – are they set to maximum efficiency? They could perhaps go off 20 minutes before closing time.
- Are entrance doors left open during the heating season?
- Is the business energy supply on the best available tariff?
- Improved insulation is often necessary but in many instances difficult to advise on – ownership issues etc.
- With B & B's how often are sheets changed? Some Tourist Star ratings require sheets to be changed several time a week even if the room occupancy doesn't change – would you do that at home.
- Some B & B owners are making a point of their "green credentials". This is a useful a marketing strategy – tourists staying in "green" accommodation and the owner could also save money.
- Transport delivery vehicles – electric for short runs should be considered when changing vehicles.
- What recycling opportunities are there for the business?
- A periodic walk round visual audit is a good idea. Energy saving actions encouraged can get forgotten.
- Lastly just an idea but could staff be encouraged to take on responsibility for coming up with energy saving ideas for the business – perhaps a small incentive scheme.

