

Winchester City Council Award for Green Innovation

Marwell Conservation has been a successful tourist attraction for more than 35 years. Recently, Marwell has introduced a number of measures to improve environmental performance. In 2007, 90 per cent of all waste generated was either composted or recycled. In addition, Marwell now sets complementary, economic, social and environmental criteria as key indicators of the organisation's success, thus ensuring that all new projects are delivered with sustainability in mind.

Alresford Chocolate Company employs eight people and has an estimated turnover of £250,000. Based in a converted dairy, the company has grown by 148 per cent and plans to grow by a further 132 per cent in 2008. The business follows a stringent internal environmental policy which has not only led to reduced energy usage and waste but has led to improved business performance as a result. The business is so confident in its environmental credentials that the entire sustainability policy is on the company website.

Wilding Butler Construction Ltd has striven to reduce its potential impact on the environment since its inception. As part of its continuous improvement procedures, the Colden Common based construction firm recently introduced a new environment management system in preparation for ISO14001 accreditation. The business has found that, following the implementation of the new environmental policy and environmental management systems, opportunities arising for new projects have greatly increased.

Winchester Travel Health employs six staff and has an estimated turnover of £140,000. Since opening in April, 2005, the company has helped more than 3,000 patients. It believes that, in terms of environmental performance, a small company can make a big difference. The clinic itself is run on 100 per cent renewable energy and all staff either walk or cycle to work. Judges were particularly impressed with the way in which this business has lobbied larger suppliers to cut down on packaging, ultimately benefiting the whole industry.