
Sustainable Choice News

Issue 6, June 5, 2014

SURVEY TIME

will be released in July with the questions sent to each General Manager for allocation. Keep an eye out and start gathering your data. The survey questions are consistent with those asked in 2013, and the pre-survey assistant tool dividing questions into business units is available [online](#) to assist. Remember that this survey is not designed to have input from just one person at council. One key person is required to coordinate responses however input is required from all business units. This group activity is best placed with your sustainable procurement working group. See [here](#) for a guide on how to establish and maintain your working group.

World Environment Day 5 June 2014

World Environment Day (WED) is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years it has grown to be a broad, global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders

OPEN for Nominations!

Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards

The 2014 Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards are now open for nominations, and we are again running the popular Sustainable Procurement Award. Get your nominations in for any individual projects or holistic strategic changes your council has made, which showcases improvements and excellence in Sustainable Procurement. Below is Andrew Reynolds of Rockdale City Council accepting the trophy and certificate at the 2013 ceremony. Rockdale City Council were the overall winners for the sustainable procurement category for their strategic approach and employment of a sustainable procurement officer. Nominating is FREE, entry is online, enter now by clicking [here](#) to access the nomination form



Rockdale City Council: Overall Winner of the Sustainable Procurement category 2013.

Sustainable Choice Training

Training is now completely booked for this financial year. Over the past 7 years, Sustainable Choice has trained 775 council staff members from 53 councils across NSW at a heavily subsidised rate. After much success and upon request of members to provide more intensive tailored training, we have changed our training offering to include more options for you to choose from. The cost has increased, however the fees are tiered

Sustainable Choice is a partnership program between Local Government NSW and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

World Environment Day

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in over 100 countries. It also serves as the 'people's day' for doing something positive for the environment, galvanizing individual actions into a collective power that generates an exponential positive impact on the planet. More information is [here](#).

Sustainable Choice Training continued...

according to the training required. Contact the Sustainable Choice team for further information.

CASE STUDIES - more case studies are available at Resources under the [Case Study Tab](#). We know there are other projects and programs out there that are case study worthy. Contact the Sustainable Choice Team for the case study template. It's easy!

Solar PV Retailer Code - Clean Energy Council

The Clean Energy Council has developed the [Solar PV Retailer Code of Conduct](#) for solar retailers. It is a voluntary scheme for businesses that sell solar systems and by signing the code, retailers commit to responsible sales and marketing activities including a 5 year whole of life warranty. The Solar PV Retailer Code of Conduct has been authorised by the ACCC signatories to the code can be identified by the Clean Energy Council approved retailer logo.



Online Supplier Database

The online database is here to stay. At a recent presentation to our colleagues within the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, the database enhancements were well received. We will be concentrating on further improvements over the coming months. Watch this space! Thank you to all the councils who have informed local suppliers about this service. Please continue to tell the suppliers in your community about Sustainable Choice. It is a free sustainability verification service for Local Government. Assessment is explained online in the [icon explained](#) section and suppliers simply register through the [website](#) and provide evidence against each icon.

Prospective Tenders - Sustainable Choice registration a MUST

Bring your tender process to a new level with the inclusion of Sustainable Choice in your public documents. The Sustainable Choice online database has a fast turnaround approval system so that prospective businesses looking to work with your council can prove their sustainability measures through the Sustainable Choice verification system. Sustainable Choice assesses companies on their sustainability attributes, requiring evidence to support their claims and supply chain verification for their products and services.

Third party tender organisations such as SSROC and LGP are already utilising the Sustainable Choice service. Requiring businesses you deal with to be registered with Sustainable Choice means they have had their claims of sustainability verified. Need some help with tenders and sustainability? Contact us today to arrange an onsite meeting.

GRANTS and Funding

The Australian Government budget has been released and there are a number of changes proposed for funding streams to the community and Local Government. Listed below are links to additional information.

[Boating Infrastructure Grants](#) - no applications in June/July. Future potential programs to be assessed in September

[Public Reserves Management Fund](#) - Round 2 applications currently expected in August

[Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation](#) - call for applications expected in August

Contact the Sustainable Choice team today

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