

Queens Award for Enterprise: Sustainable Development 2001



Woking Borough Council has gained the Queens Award for Enterprise: Sustainable Development 2001 in respect of its Energy Services activities in the development of Sustainable Local Community Energy Systems.



The provision of sustainable distributed energy services is the supply of heating, cooling, lighting and power to meet the needs of institutions, businesses and residents alike.

The supplies meet the Government's criteria for sustainability and provide the community with "green" energy services in place of their "brown" energy supplies at an affordable price. Institutions and businesses gain because the supplies are exempt from the Climate Change Levy.

The Council has developed and implemented a number of small-scale local community energy systems which supply customers with electricity by private wire and heat by private district heating.

To achieve the full benefit of this innovative application of established technologies the Council has "commercialised" the initiative and formed a wholly owned Energy and Environmental Services Company (EESCO), Thamesway Limited and through it a public/private joint venture Energy Services Company (ESCO), Thamesway Energy Limited.

Thamesway Energy Limited will bring distributed energy services to local communities; its first Energy Station was officially opened in Woking town centre on 21 March 2001.

Councillor Mrs Rosemary Johnson, Chairman of Woking Borough Council's Executive Committee said

"The Council is honoured and delighted to have received this prestigious award for its Energy Services activities. We have worked hard over many years to improve the environmental conditions for residents of the Borough and make our contribution to the Government's international commitment to reduce harmful emissions. For us energy efficiency makes economic sense. For the Prime Minister to recommend the Council for this award and for the Queen to so honour us will make the Council, its staff and the residents of the Borough very proud."