ENERGY ACADEMY

action for sustainable living

Case Study

The Energy Academy

The Energy Academy is an exciting new initiative to deliver financial, health and environmental benefits for communities in the Altrincham area.

The Energy Academy is part of an EU-funded pilot scheme to assess the impact of community engagement schemes on reducing household energy consumption. The project is being run in conjunction with the Energy Saving Trust, Manchester Is My Planet, Trafford Council and AfSL.

Volunteers ask households to complete Home Energy Checks, which assess their energy usage and level of insulation based on a variety of factors. These forms are then sent to the Energy Saving Trust where the data is used to produce a personalised consumption report for each residence.

Volunteers work together in the local community with the support of an AfSL Coordinator by organising various activities such as 'The Big Green Music Night', and attending events such as the Timperley Country Fair, where a whopping 23 people signed Home Energy Checks and Pledges and amongst the many visitors were Frank Sidebottom and Lord Mayor of Trafford, Councillor David Rees Higgins!

Quotes from Energy Academy Volunteers and Community Members:

"Timperley Fair was a great day – it showed how local people are willing to do their bit and try and make a difference".

Local Project Manager Chris Shaw

"Pair working really helps when each individual has a different style or sphere of knowledge."

Local Project Manager Tony Li

"Edutainment is a beautiful way of engaging people. Weave your message into a gig or pub quiz and they're no longer faced with a dry lesson in global warming. The trick is to inform without being overbearing."

Local Project Manager Tony Li

"It was a pleasure to help spread the word for your organisation. It can be hard to get a message across and inform whilst keeping it entertaining, but I believe we managed to do just that. Thanks to you and your volunteers for all the work on the night."

Local Quiz Master Pete Smith

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