

Online toolkit boosts healthcare and sustainability planning

An online toolkit has been developed to help Kent health and planning professionals work better together with environment specialists.

The toolkit supports joined up working between these three professional areas to deliver projects that impact on the day to day lives of local people. The aim of this better co-ordination is improved health and wellbeing for all, a higher quality environment, and reduced health and social care costs.

The new Health and Sustainability Planning Resource is available at:

<http://healthsustainabilityplanning.co.uk/>

Stephanie Holt, Interim Director of Environment, Planning and Enforcement at Kent County Council, said:

“The toolkit will not only help improve the lives of local people, help professionals work better together and save public money by pooling resources on tasks such as evidence gathering, but critically will make sure that health services expansion is effectively planned to meet the needs of a growing population”.

The work is part of Coopenergy, a project co-funded by the EU's Intelligent Energy Europe Programme to help local authorities develop sustainable energy plans and projects. As part of Coopenergy, case studies have been developed for local authorities, to showcase examples of how authorities have teamed up to deliver sustainable energy projects in partnership. Case studies range from installing LED lighting and joint housing retrofit programmes, to shared energy consulting services. The case studies can be viewed at:

<http://www.coopenergy.eu/good-practice-resources>

Notes to editors

- The toolkit was produced, in part, through the work of the COOPENERGY Project.

- COOPENERGY is a three year project developing resources to support local authorities to take a collaborative, partnership approach to delivering sustainable energy initiatives. The project is co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme of the European Union
- More information on the Coopenergy project: www.coopenergy.eu
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