

## Bridge-it Partnership Herefordshire

**Bridge-it Partnership Herefordshire** is a new subsidised environmental business support programme for SMEs in Herefordshire that is run and managed by Groundwork Birmingham and supported by Economic Investment & Development. Groundwork Birmingham is a local environmental regeneration charity, which is part of the Groundwork Federation. It forms part of the 7-year £26 million Environmental Business Action programme that is managed by the Environment Agency. The 'Environmental Business Action' programme is funded via the European Social Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and Advantage West Midlands.

The partnership is formed between Economic Investment & Development (Herefordshire Council); Groundwork Birmingham; Business Link Herefordshire & Worcestershire; Herefordshire Partnership Environment Ambition Group; the Environment Agency; and Business in the Community. It aims to ensure Bridge-it is delivered across Herefordshire in an efficient manner and is linked to other initiatives to ensure added values to businesses. 'Bridge-it Partnership Herefordshire' provides an opportunity for SME's to reap the financial benefits of environmental management through Groundwork Birmingham offering their services at a subsidised rate to bridge the perception gap that many SME's have about the environment. It also provides support and assistance, to save money through efficiency and complying with legislation. The programme offers consultation at a subsidised rate for such services as:

- Environmental Business reviews
- Practical Environmental Management Training Course (PEM)
- Short Courses & workshops
- FREE awareness seminars

The real strength of this programme is that it provides environmental support tailored to meet the specific requirements of each organisation and provide training to ensure businesses have the capacity to maintain the environmental practices put in place, in order to continually improve and receive on-going benefit.

To find out more about Bridge-it, please call Hannah Grant-Parkes at Business Link Herefordshire & Worcestershire on 0845 4508610 or e-mail [birminghamebs@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:birminghamebs@groundwork.org.uk).