

## Profile: Karen Gardham | Sustainability Consultant

Karen has many years experience of environmental policy making, and action planning. Her work has helped organisations save money and resources, and embed efficient working practices into their operations. Her experience of working in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors has led to an understanding of the differing pressures they face and how to succeed within them.

She started Green Minded in 2008 to help organisations of all sizes create a positive impact on the environment and society, creating a culture where corporate social responsibility is not only the norm, but a desirable way to run a business.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Developing a **Climate Change Action Plan** for the city of Brighton & Hove, which was declared the most sustainable city in Britain<sup>1</sup>, partly due to its commitment to tackling climate change
- Running an award winning **waste minimisation campaign** achieving a **40% reduction** in waste amongst 350 staff in two offices
- Successfully **negotiating** with developers of **major developments** to include sustainability measures in planning briefs and applications;
- **Securing the support** of international built environment firms in supporting a major employee volunteering project as part of their corporate social responsibility aims.
- Organising an annual sustainability conference featured as a **case study of best practice in communicating sustainability** by the local government improvement agency;
- **Developing a network** of active volunteer supporters for an international environmental charity

### EXPERIENCE IN DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES

- Developing environmental and sustainability policies
- Mapping the corporate social responsibility of a business
- Negotiating and securing staff support for business-wide action plans
- Writing procurement guidance
- Writing planning guidance for developers
- Developing and monitoring key performance indicators
- Delivering sustainability training, both general and specific to areas of work
- Planning and delivering awareness campaigns
- Project management
- Working alongside busy professionals and managing conflicting interests to reach a common aim

### TRAINING

- IEMA accredited Environmental Management and Auditing - distinction
- Masters degree in Environment, Development & Policy
- PRINCE II Foundation Project Management
- Renewable Energy Essentials
- Calculating your carbon footprint

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.forumforthefuture.org/files/sustainablecities07.pdf>