

Being Part of It: the Contribution of Environmental Health to Health Challenge Wales

Forewords

Health Challenge Wales is both a means of recognising existing action to improve health and well-being, and a way of stimulating new action. Part of the way in which it seeks to do the latter is through spreading good practice.

That's why I am delighted to welcome *Being Part of It: the Contribution of Environmental Health to Health Challenge Wales* from the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health in Wales . In providing a showcase for good work that is already under way, the toolkit provides many good ideas and much practical advice on taking forward similar initiatives elsewhere in Wales .

Health Challenge Wales is an opportunity for everyone in Wales to play a part in improving health and well-being.

It's a challenge to individuals, to do what they can to improve the health of themselves and their families, and to organisations, to take action to improve the health of their customers, employees or service users, and to government, to help create the conditions necessary for people to lead healthy lives.

I have been impressed by the way in which local government has embraced the Challenge, and by the significant contribution Environmental Health has made to this response. I'm grateful too for the innovative way in which the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health is promoting this good work and its proactive approach in bringing it – and Health Challenge Wales - to a much wider audience.

**John Griffiths,
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services**

I am pleased to welcome this toolkit for Health Challenge Wales as a major contribution to improving public health in Wales .

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health has been pleased to work with the Welsh Assembly Government to produce this excellent example of Best Practice in action. One of our key aims is to work as a conduit for information and to disseminate Best Practice. This is only possible by working closely with those authorities at the forefront of Best Practice. I would thank all those authorities that have contributed to this toolkit and encourage others who are delivering Best Practice to work with us.

I am sure that authorities and practitioners will receive a lot of value from the toolkit and that will impact upon the health of their populations

**Alan Higgins
President, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health**