

17 June 2010

Press Release

## **GOING GREEN BRINGS CLIMATE CHANGE AWARD FOR CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL COLLEGE**

**Cambridge Regional College has won a climate change award after cutting its carbon footprint by an impressive 10 per cent in just one year.**

Green initiatives included introducing an automatic system to turn off all student computers at night, improving the building management system and upgrading computer screens to more energy-efficient models.

The College won Highly Commended in the Cambridge Climate Change Charter awards ceremony, held in the city's Grafton Centre last night. The competition was open to all local organisations and businesses.

The 'going green' steps reduced CRC's emissions from 3,010 tonnes to 2,681 tonnes over the year, with further reductions in the carbon footprint expected next year when the College benefits from a biomass boiler, rainwater harvesting, smart lighting and the introduction of an environmental management system.

The awards were presented by Cambridge businesswoman Anne Ridgeon, a Governor at CRC, and were accompanied by a talk from Rosemary Randall, founder of Cambridge Carbon Footprint, on Communicating Climate Change. Throughout the day, visitors saw an exhibition of all the entrants in the Grafton Centre Great Court.

The awards scheme was set up to celebrate and promote the action taken by local businesses and organisations in addressing climate change. The ceremony was open to everyone so that businesses and organisations could learn from the steps taken by others to reduce their carbon footprint.

There were three categories – for small, medium and large organisations – with CRC taking Highly Commended in the medium category, along with the Leys School. The winner of the group was the Graton Centre.

CRC's award submission was put forward by Sarah Bearpark, Curriculum Leader in Sustainable Development at CRC, and Ian Clifton, The College's Operations Manager.

**- ends -**

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest Train to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.