

News Release

4 November 2010

New heat for Crawley community centre

The many users of the Broadfield Youth and Community Centre, on the Broadfield Barton shopping parade, Crawley, can look forward to warmer events and meetings thanks to a complete revamp of the centre's heating system.

The project has seen the replacement of old pipes and all the radiators in the main hall and the installation of a new pump for the boiler, benefiting the whole building. Funding for the work came from The Veolia Environmental Trust, which awarded a grant of £10,900 through the Landfill Communities Fund.

The hall's management committee initiated the work as the pump was leaking and beyond repair, and the heating in the main hall needed updating as it was not working properly. In fact, it was not heating the hall to a minimum standard, causing the daily pre-school group to shut due to OFSTED regulations. Also, groups using the hall on evenings and weekends would often cancel due to the cold.

As well as creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere, the improvements will increase efficiency, cutting bills and reducing the building's carbon footprint.

Opened in 1980, the Broadfield Youth and Community Centre is a focus for community activity in Crawley, acting as a venue for meetings and events. A wide range of users use the centre day and night, including pre-school and toddler groups, dance classes, education sessions, Brownies, Crawley Operatic Society, an over 50s group, The Friday Night Meal for homeless and low-income families, and coffee and advice sessions. It is also used for MP and councillor surgeries and is a popular venue for parties and other social events.

Speaking about the completion of the work, the centre's development manager, Tracy Frake, says, 'The Youth and Community Centre is a popular venue for a whole host of organisations and it's getting busier. These changes will mean we can provide users and hirers with the environment and service they expect and ensure the centre will remain a vital part of community life in Crawley.'

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The Executive Director of The Veolia Environmental Trust, Margaret Cobbold, adds, 'The Trust works to support community and environmental projects across the UK and it is always good to hear about the completion of a scheme we have supported. These improvements are an excellent example of how the Trust and the Landfill Communities Fund can make a real difference to vital facilities such as Broadfield Youth and Community Centre.'

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Editors' notes:

The Veolia Environmental Trust has been supporting community and environmental projects for over 12 years. Under the Landfill Communities Fund, landfill site operators can donate a percentage, currently 5.5%, of their landfill tax payment to these projects.

Since the Trust was established in 1997, Veolia Environmental Services (UK) plc has supported it by contributions of £42 million to 1080 projects.

The Trust has helped fund a diverse range of projects, including the repair of woodland footpaths, the renovation of community halls and the installation of playgrounds and play areas. For more information, or to find out how to apply for funding, visit the Trust's website www.veoliatrust.org.