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Successful Projects Delivered by the Rural Regeneration Zone
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Environmental best practice



PROJECT
Shrewsbury Environmental
Technology Centre
(The Pump House)

SUPPORTED THROUGH
Rural Regeneration Zone

FUNDING RECEIVED
£500,000

When the established cluster of companies involved in environmental technologies based around the Swan Hill area of Shrewsbury faced relocation when their premises were being converted into residential properties in 2007, the idea of the Shrewsbury Environmental Technology Centre was born.

A £1.65 million joint venture, the project saw Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council, Indigo Seven and the Water Management Consultants pension fund come together with the Rural Regeneration Zone to develop a unique solution to the challenge.

This solution was the creation of a centre targeting companies involved in the sector at a Victorian Waterworks.

Most recently serving as a social club, the building is commonly known as the Pump House and has been redeveloped to the highest environmental standards with support from the Rural Regeneration Zone which invested £500,000 in the scheme.

Officially opened in May 2008, the Pump House is now home to a number of expanding businesses and sustainable transport companies, many of whom relocated from Swan Hill.

Among the organisations that have moved to the Centre is Marches Energy Agency which is responsible for the delivery of several environmental schemes, including the Rethink initiative which is supported by the Zone.

Richard Davies, Chief Executive of the Marches Energy Agency, said: "This is an absolutely ideal

home for the MEA as it fits in perfectly with our environmental principles.

"The building has been designed to be eco-friendly with exceptionally high levels of insulation, a wood fuel heating system and a full mechanical ventilation and heat recovery system.

"Given increasingly hot summers, there are high levels of thermal mass to prevent over-heating and to minimise water consumption there is a rainwater recovery system.

"Not only has the investment created high-quality office space in a derelict building in the middle of Shrewsbury, but it has also provided the platform for an 'eco cluster' of environmentally-friendly businesses with the potential to create almost 100 jobs."

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CONTACT

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