

Welcome to issue 4 of the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) newsletter. Here we aim to keep you updated with any changes or updates for the ESOS Scheme or matters of potential interest to ESOS stakeholders.

Useful Links

[ESOS Guidance](#)

[ESOS Website](#)

[ESOS Compliance Notification](#)

[Approaches to ESOS audits](#)

Contact Us

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Businesses busy complying with ESOS, shows DECC survey

In 2014 DECC commissioned 'IFF Research' to conduct a series of 6 waves of a tracker survey with large businesses in scope of the ESOS. Four waves of the research have been completed – in September 2014, November 2014, March 2015 and June 2015. Each wave asks 100 large businesses about ESOS and energy audits. The results are weighted to be representative of the UK's large business population.

The vast majority of businesses are aware of ESOS and are taking steps to comply according to the survey. Four hundred organisations have now been surveyed and, with less than six months to the ESOS compliance date of 5 December, the findings provide welcome news about how businesses are complying with the new scheme, which is expected to save businesses over £250m per year on their energy bills.

Contrary to earlier indications from other surveys, DECC's research suggests that in June 2015, 89% businesses had heard of ESOS. This is a significant rise in awareness compared to findings in November 2014 which showed that just over half

of organisations (56%) had heard of the scheme at that time.

In June 2015, 78% of businesses were aware that they must comply with ESOS by 5 December. Over half of businesses (56%) reported that they have already taken steps to start complying with ESOS and 94% of those intending to conduct an audit were confident that they would be compliant by the deadline.

There has been increasing support for the view that conducting an ESOS survey would help organisations identify cost-effective energy savings, with 44% (up from 28% in November 2014) of those surveyed in June 2015 holding this view. Only 2% of respondents thought that their businesses would fail to act on findings from their ESOS audits.

A report of the research will be published on the www.gov.uk website in Autumn 2015.

With less than six months to go, the ESOS deadline will be here before you know it. By getting started now, you'll be able to get a clear picture of the savings you can make from energy efficiency measures identified through ESOS and if applicable, integrate this in to your business strategy to implement the audit findings.

If you are in scope of ESOS but not yet taking steps to comply, or are interested in becoming a lead assessor, then now is the time to catch-up with the majority of ESOS participants.

Business Energy Challenge

It is free to join the Mayor's Business Energy Challenge (BEC) and win an award for your business's efforts to cut energy use from your London locations.

Share your energy use data (under confidential terms) for the chance to win an award and feature in the BEC Awards at City Hall in November, hosted by the Mayor.

Your business could achieve a Gold, Silver or Bronze award, and/or one of the new special awards. Even if you don't win an award your business's contribution to developing a better understanding of energy efficiency in London will

be recognised by a certificate from the Mayor of London. To enter please visit <https://www.london.gov.uk/bec> or email bec@london.gov.uk

(Closing date 9 September 2015)

Call for case studies

In March 2016, the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC – a charity focussed on sustainability in the built environment) will hold a free “ESOS Showcase” event. This will review the lessons learned from the first year of the scheme, and will highlight examples of best practice from participants. The Environment Agency has accepted an invitation to participate at the event, which is being organised independently by UKGBC. UKGBC are keen to hear from organisations who may wish to put themselves forward as best practice case studies. For more information visit <http://www.ukgbc.org/event/esos-showcase> or contact richard.griffiths@ukgbc.org