

# DPAS get the green light for ISO 14001

Provider of dental plan administration services DPAS, are delighted to have been awarded the internationally recognised ISO 14001 Standard for Environmental Management.

We are all concerned about the environment; global warming, the ozone layer, water pollution and the depletion of Earth's natural resources are all high on the agenda. DPAS Chairman Quentin Skinner and his senior management team are keen to take these environmental issues seriously and understand that ISO 14001 can help DPAS become more efficient and improve the legacy they leave behind for future generations. ISO 14001 is an internationally recognised standard through which DPAS have been able to demonstrate an advanced level of competence in managing the environmental impact of their activities and processes. By taking a systematic approach to identifying the areas which can easily be improved, such as reducing the amount of paper wasted and asking suppliers for environmentally sound products, DPAS found the process to not be quite as arduous as you might expect. The whole DPAS team have keenly embraced the idea and made changes

where possible within their own departments, from turning off lights when not needed, to lowering the heating by a couple of degrees, all simple enough, but as a whole having a significant impact on improving environmental efficiency.

Recycling of waste is another area DPAS investigated and discovered that their local council were able to offer them a range of bins into which materials can be placed for recycling, reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfill. These small measures all add up and together not only improve the environmental impact of DPAS' business but also help to lower costs.

DPAS have also improved their

equipment selection processes in line with ISO 14001, which includes asking suppliers for information on the carbon footprint of any equipment supplied. This enables DPAS to make the most suitable environmental choices and select the most efficient products for the future.

The ISO 14001 team was led by Environmental Representative, Sam Russell and Financial Controller, Catherine Wellings, who explains how, "The process of gaining accreditation to ISO 14001 has taken us about 12 months, but it has been a rewarding process and one that has certainly focused our attention on improving our environmental impact."



The ISO 14001 team at DPAS