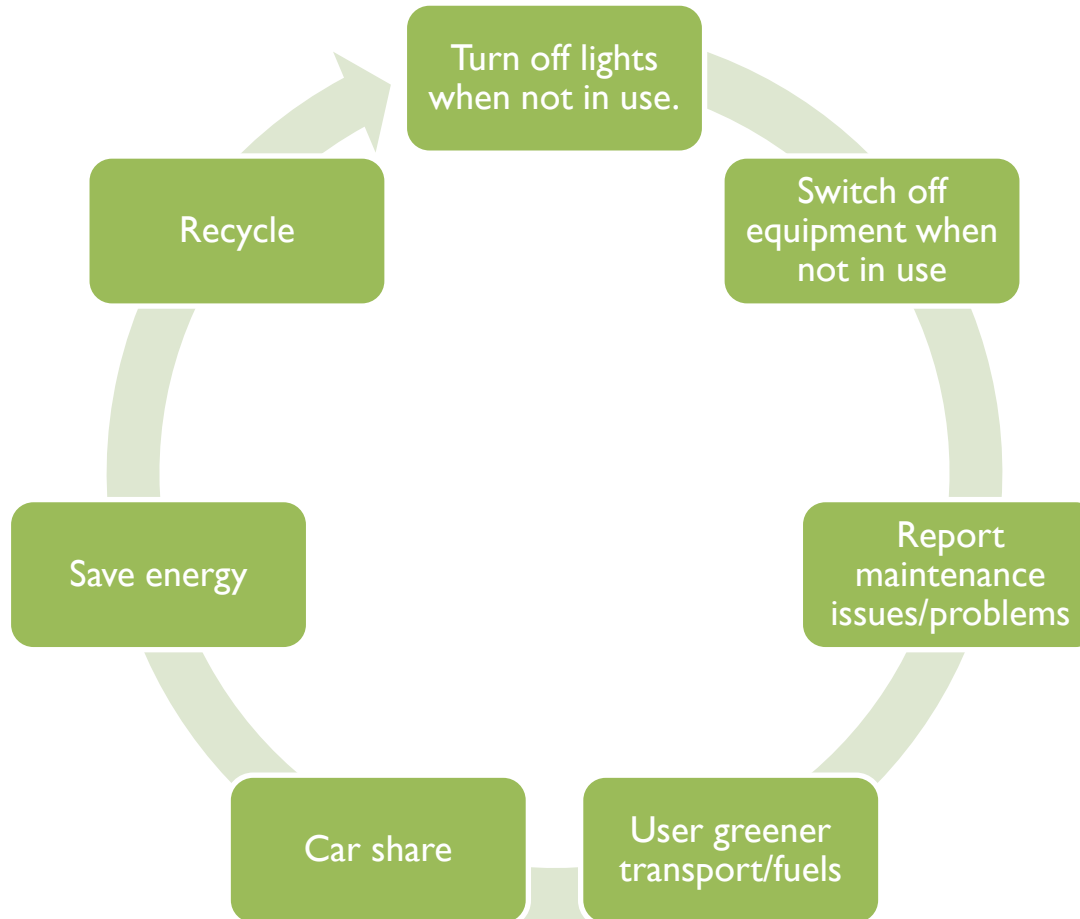# GAP Tool Box Talk: Environment

Purpose

In recent years it has been impossible to avoid hearing about the global environmental problems such as:

- Global Warming

- Destruction of tropical rain forests

- Continuing increase in CO_2 emissions

- Increasing extinction rates

What can we do to help?

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Switch off equipment when not in use
- Report maintenance issues/problems
- User greener transport/fuels
- Car share
- Save energy
- Recycle

Main reasons for supporting a 'Greener' Environment:

Moral:

- Doing your bit for the environment

Legal:

- Environmental laws are here and getting stricter

Financial:

- Efficient use of resources means saving money

Loyalty:

- Environmentally friendly companies enjoy a good reputation

Moral

All businesses use energy, water and materials such as paper

If each UK company made just 5 fewer photocopies per day, we would save 2,500,000 reams of paper

This would mean:

- Felling 200,000 fewer trees
- Reducing the amount of landfill space being taken up
- Reducing the amount of process energy, chemicals and transportation involved in paper manufacture

DO YOUR BIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - RECYCLE

Legal

- There is now more environmental legislation at national and European level than ever before.

- Most pollution incidents or breaches of waste laws are the result of poor awareness or poorly controlled procedures

- IGNORANCE IS NO DEFENCE
  Courts take a very severe view of environmental offences

Financial

- The efficient use of resources means saving money
- Reduced energy consumption
- Routine and regular maintenance
- Reducing CO_2 emissions

Loyalty

- Environmentally friendly companies enjoy a better reputation
- Many large companies are increasingly looking to suppliers who take account of environmental issues
- Ensures corporate responsibility policies are adhered to

Environmental Management Systems

- Many firms are now adopting formal management practices which show interested parties that they are taking their Environmental Responsibility as seriously as other aspects of their business

- There are formal standards which can help business

- One such system is ISO 14001 which GAP has been accredited with

What are we doing to support the environment?

- Supply equipment that has environmentally friendly credentials

- Reducing packaging

- Rainwater collection tanks at our depots

- Bio-hydraulic oil available for our plant machinery

- Recycling:
    - Paper
    - Plastics
    - Cardboard
    - Aluminium Cans

Examples of GAP's Eco Friendly Fleet

8.0t Kubota Excavator
KX080-4

Eco Site Dumpers

VB-9 Lighting Tower