



A short training course to help UK businesses improve waste management has been launched by the Chartered Institute of Waste Management (CIWM).

The Waste Smart course will replace the CIWM's Waste Awareness Certificate (WAC) and will be offered at foundation and advanced levels. The one day course aims to educate businesses on how to cut their waste costs, comply with all legislation and become more resource efficient.

The training has been developed with the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and other bodies including the Environment Agency, the Environmental Services Association and the Waste Management Industry Training and Advisory Board.

It covers a basic overview of waste and resources, the environmental impact of waste and the visible and hidden costs associated with it, as well as the relevant waste legislation. The advanced course of includes modules on waste auditing and strategic management.

CIWM chief executive Steve Lee said: "In these tough economic times, waste is becoming an increasingly important and visible bottom line issue. Research from Defra indicates that businesses could save up to £18bn a year by taking simple and relatively cost neutral steps to reduce their waste."