

# BUSINESS

## Veolia picks up Queen's Award for sustainability

**V**eolia has been named as a winner of a Queen's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development, the UK's highest accolade for business success. The award was received for setting the sustainability benchmark and its new business strategy which focuses on manufacturing green energy and calories and places it at the centre of the circular economy. The company, which has operations across Hertfordshire, recycles over one million tonnes of waste annually and converts non-recyclable waste into energy

sufficient to provide electricity and heat to over 300,000 homes. Estelle Brachlianoff, Veolia environment executive vice-president UK & Ireland, said: "It is an honour to be recognised by Her Majesty the Queen for the work we have done over the last five years

**"...for us sustainability is not part of our business, it is our business**

Estelle Brachlianoff

transforming the business. "This award highlights the work all 14,000 members of staff have undertaken to continue to drive the business forward – for us sustainability is not part of our business, it is our business." Approximately 160 Queen's Awards have been announced this year for outstanding business achievement in the fields of International Trade, Innovation and Sustainable Development. The awards are made annually by HM The Queen, and are only given for the highest levels of excellence demonstrated in each category.

### Award for new homes in Hertford Road



New homes in Stevenage have been judged as one of the UK's top 50 affordable housing developments built in 2013.

The homes, which are on Hertford Road, were selected by a panel of housing and regeneration experts assembled by Inside Housing magazine.

The Guinness South homes, costing £4.11 million, were delivered without any grant and 48 of those are affordable housing.

The top 50 awards, which were announced at a ceremony last month, were sponsored by H + H and Winckworth Sherwood and were endorsed by the Homes and Communities Agency.

Martin Hilditch, acting editor of Inside Housing,

said: "The developments that made this year's top 50 will improve the lives of thousands of people across the UK.

"It's been inspiring to see so much great work and to be able to shout about such impressive schemes. This really is the cream of the housing crop."

The properties were built on a formerly reserved school site and feature rooftop photovoltaic panels which generate cheaper electricity for residents. Residents also received travel plans to encourage them to use public transport.

Judge Stuart Macdonald said of Guinness South: "They really pushed themselves to deliver a scheme that was affordable for a large number of people."

## Join us at the Herts B2B exhibition

Want to showcase your company to a wider business audience?

If you do, join Archant Herts & Cambs, the publisher of *The Comet*, at Hertfordshire's leading business to business event on June 19 at the prestigious Hatfield House.

The event, which runs from 10am to 4.30pm, will provide you with a unique opportunity to meet hundreds of potential new clients and develop profitable business relationships.

By exhibiting at this event, you will also raise your brand awareness and company profile whilst engaging with a local



business audience to help maximise your profits.

Guest speaker includes HSBC's Head of Economics for its UK commercial banking business,

Mark Berrisford-Smith. Given the fast changing economic climate, this promises to be an enjoyable and informative presentation.

For as little as £295 plus VAT you can have a stand with local and national businesses including HSBC, Crane & Staples, Costco and Corona Energy. If you would like to join us on June 19 you can book your stand by contacting Ashleigh Jackson on 01438 866081 or email ashleigh.jackson@archant.co.uk.

To pre-register or for further information visit the website www.hertsb2bexpo.co.uk

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