

The Ground Source Heat Pump Association (GSHPA) was formed in June 2006 to serve as the focal point for organisations with business interests in Ground Source Energy.

## **AIMS**

The GSHPA seeks to

- promote the highest standards of integrity, professionalism and technical competence within the ground source energy industry to ensure consumer confidence.
- share best practice and develop and disseminate industry approved technical standards, training criteria and codes of practice.
- represent the ground source heating & cooling industry, promoting sustainable use of the technology and engaging with government and other bodies to influence relevant policymaking.
- provide benefits to members.

All members undertake to abide by the Association's Code of Ethical Practice and GSHPA Standards.

## **WORK**

A few years ago, ground source heat pumps played a small part in the UK's heating industry. As the climate change agenda became mainstream, significant growth occurred. The result is that this critically important technology is now recognised as a significant contributor to minimising global warming.

Among the Association's successes to date are:

### Low Carbon Buildings Programme

- keeping the installation time from grant offer letter at six months, when most technologies were cut
- winning an extra £6 million for the programme in the March 2007 budget
- avoiding some of the negative publicity obtained by other Associations.

### Microgeneration Certification Scheme

- influencing the MCS Working Group 6 (WG6), (see 'Sub Committees')
- at MCS Steering Group level gaining, with others, industry governance of the scheme. This should have significant long term benefits.

### Sustainable Heat Alliance

- Cabinet level ministers and other mandarins now recognise the importance of heat as well as transport and electricity in national energy policy.

### General Issues

- Raising the profile of GSHPs within the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target, CERT (previously called EEC2)
- Maintaining PPS22 (the Merton Rule) in the light of threats from parts of the construction industry
- Improving the Microgeneration Strategy in relation to '15% RE by 2020' target
- Helping to develop the Microgeneration Certification Scheme
- and, on the European level, coordinating actions with the European Heat Pump Association and the European Geothermal Energy Council to work on improving European Renewable Heat directives.