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Wallsend club partners with Energy Action to save substantially on energy costs

By [Energy Action](#)

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The Wallsend Diggers Club in Wallsend, NSW has partnered with [Energy Action](#) to reduce energy costs and become more energy-efficient in their operations.

With a membership base exceeding 18,000, the Wallsend Diggers Club is a not-for-profit club offering a range of services to the local community. Incorporating a kids' zone, car park for over 300 cars, a function centre and the D Bar and Grill restaurant, the extensive Wallsend site incurs high energy costs.

Wallsend Diggers has partnered with Energy Action since 2009 for all their energy management needs. Seeking to make the existing lighting more efficient, the club used the Australian Energy Exchange (AEX), owned and operated by Energy Action to secure a new energy contract in early 2012. The Australian Energy Exchange is an online energy

procurement platform that sees energy retailers bid against one another to supply an organisation's energy, resulting in substantial savings for customers.

The auction resulted in a two-year forward contract, which will save Wallsend more than \$14,000 per year.

Energy Action also undertook an audit of all the lighting in the club and its car park covering more than 400 fluorescent tubes, 400 fluorescent lamps and 30 halogen lamps. All the bulbs in the club were upgraded using energy efficient replacements. The new bulbs have a 5-year/36,000 hour warranty providing the club with peace of mind for the years ahead.

Energy Action also managed all of Wallsend Diggers' rebates, securing a rebate of 45% on the new bulbs through the Energy Saving Scheme and the Clean Technology Grant Fund. The remaining cost of replacing the bulbs will be covered through efficiency savings within 18 months of the implementation.

Energy Action also implemented new lighting technology in the car park to increase efficiencies and cost savings. A combination of static and motion sensor lighting was installed to minimise energy use while maintaining the safety of patrons using the car park.

Wallsend Diggers has also taken advantage of Energy Action's Activ8 contract management and monitoring service, wherein Energy Action checks and validates all of the club's energy bills to ensure all charges are correct. A daily energy monitoring report is also provided to flag any potential issues, ensuring that the club is well equipped to immediately act on any discrepancies.

The partnership between Wallsend Diggers and Energy Action represents the club's commitment to becoming more energy efficient and increasing its energy awareness while simultaneously reducing its operation costs and enhancing its green credentials.

According to John Hume, CEO of Wallsend Diggers, Energy Action addressed all of the club's specific lighting requirements, balancing the ambience with the need to make efficiencies by installing bespoke energy efficient bulbs without a bright glare. The forward-looking energy contract also allows Wallsend Diggers to have a much better overview of energy charges.

Mr Hume adds that Energy Action's monitoring service assures peace of mind to the club by identifying and resolving issues immediately. The regular reporting also enables the club to track the effectiveness of its energy-saving initiatives.

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