

## **Eworking made easy**

Tired of the working nine to five? Well the reality for most Meath commuters is that their working life takes up far more than the 8 hours actually spent in the workplace. Meath commuters regularly are up at 6am and earlier joining the daily traffic nightmare into Dublin.

Eworking may be the solution. It involves working from home, whether you continue working for your current employer or start your own business. The leap of working in an office to working from home may at first seem unattainable. However with technological advances such as Broadband, Voice over Internet protocol telephony (VOIP) and virtual private networks, your company may already be considering allowing staff to work from home.

If home working seems ideal for you, the first and the easiest step of all is to check your company's policy on home working. If you work in an environment where your day-to-day work is based around the Internet, email and telephone the option to ework may be more straightforward than you think.

If there are currently no other staff eworking in your company begin by researching to ensure that broadband is available to you at your home. Put together a proposal for your manager outlining the benefits to the company of eworking. Build your proposal around the benefits to the company rather than the benefits to your home life, as this will hold more sway with company executives and add further weight to your proposal.

Companies may be concerned about productivity of home workers but research has shown that home workers are more productive than office based employees, with Nortel reporting increases of 22%.

Over the coming weeks, I will be investigating the next steps for those considering the work from home option, covering such topics as broadband availability in Meath, researching your business, the costs involved and the advantages for both employer and employee.

For further information on eworking check out [www.ework.ie](http://www.ework.ie)

Susan Brady runs her own home business Virtualassistant.ie agency for further details check out [www.virtualassistant.ie](http://www.virtualassistant.ie)

Written by Susan Brady May 2007