

# RE:ACT



REDUCE : REUSE : RECYCLE : RECOVER

Issue five June 2010

This is the fifth issue of RE:ACT, Veolia Environmental Services newsletter with details on the next phase of works at the recycling and waste facilities throughout East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. The newsletter also features updates on other activities happening throughout the area.

Veolia Environmental Services, on behalf of East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council, provides an integrated waste management service designed to manage the area's household waste more sustainably.

## Recycling facility nominated for top design award!

The Hollingdean Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Brighton was recently shortlisted for a prestigious design award in this year's Let's Recycle Awards for Excellence in recycling and waste management.

Designed by world renowned architect Jean-Robert Mazaud, the Facility, part of the integrated waste management contract in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, opened in 2008. Since then it has sorted

and transported more than 100,000 tonnes of household waste for recycling, recovery and disposal.

It was the seventh year of the Let's Recycle Awards, now established as one of the

biggest environmental award schemes in the country. Keith McGurk managing director for Veolia Environmental Services South Downs said, "We were delighted that this facility provided for residents of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove was recognised by being a finalist for this award. Veolia Environmental Services is continuously working with the Council to ensure services and recycling rates continue to improve."

A spokesperson for Brighton & Hove City Council added:

"Collecting, sorting and disposing of household waste is a huge task for any Council and we are pleased that this state of the art facility has enabled us to speed up collection times, increase recycling and dispose of waste cleanly and efficiently.

"Being shortlisted for this prestigious award recognises the excellent partnership working between both Councils and Veolia, along with our commitment to providing excellent refuse and recycling facilities for all our residents."



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# North Quay Energy Recovery Facility – Taking shape

## Progress to date

Construction activities are well underway and will continue through to completion in late 2011. Piling work is complete as is the vast majority of the concreting so now the full height of the building can be seen. This spring saw the first internal process equipment being delivered, assembled & installed on site and this will be ongoing until the end of the year.

Once the equipment such as the boiler and turbine are in place the building will be externally clad.

## Working with local people

Veolia Environmental Services' contractor, is a consortium formed by Von Roll Inova and Hochtief who are providing the process engineering and civil engineering works respectively. Later this year the consortium will employ an average of 250 workers, peaking at about 350, the highest number since construction commenced.

Many of these workers live within 20 miles of the site and fulfill numerous tasks e.g. crane drivers, engineers, electricians, site operatives/labourers, stores men, administration and

security staff. The majority of subcontractors working on site also come from the local area e.g. Newhaven, Peacehaven, Seaford, Brighton, Lewes and Crawley.

In summary the building of this facility has supported a number of jobs within the construction industry and made a significant contribution to the local area.

The knock on effect in the local services sector such as accommodation and business in general all provide further positive contributions to the local area.

Finding out more - Regular North Quay Bulletins on progress are produced and available to view on our website which you can subscribe to.

A construction Liaison Group meets regularly to discuss the project, members are made up of local stakeholders and the aim of the Group is to provide a good neighbour liaison.

**If you have any queries about the development works please contact us via our website: [www.veoliaenvironmentalservices.co.uk/southdowns/pages/erf.asp](http://www.veoliaenvironmentalservices.co.uk/southdowns/pages/erf.asp) in the enquiry section or call: 01273 426553.**



# Recycling unwanted toys is

## New toy collection banks have appeared all over Brighton & Hove as the city expands its recycling service.

Families are being asked to drop off unwanted toys and games at the banks to provide playthings for less fortunate children, and to raise money for the Rockinghorse appeal.

The Council introduced the new initiative earlier this year in partnership with BCR Global, the company behind the Council highly successful bra recycling initiative.

All complete, re-usable toys, including teddies, dolls games and battery operated toys can be dropped off at one of 11 banks throughout the city. The toys will be distributed, within the UK or to Pakistan where they will be cleaned, repaired if necessary and sold on at affordable prices.

The project helps sustain local communities in less fortunate countries providing business opportunities and affordable toys.

Every tonne of toys collected will result in a £25 donation to The Rockinghorse Children's Charity, for sick youngsters in Sussex.

Councillor Geoffrey Theobald, Cabinet member for Environment said: *"We are always on the lookout for new ways to promote recycling in the city and we are pleased to introduce yet another exciting initiative."*

*"We are hoping the scheme will encourage families to have a good clear out of the toy cupboard, and fill the banks with their unwanted toys."*

Analiese Doctrove, Community Fundraiser for Rockinghorse added: *"This is the first time that Rockinghorse has ever been involved with a project like this and we are so grateful to be working with Brighton & Hove City Council on such a fantastic idea!"*





# Recycling rates continue to climb!

**Residents in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove have helped boost recycling rates in the region by more than 10% while almost halving the amount of rubbish sent to landfill.**

Figures recently released by Veolia Environmental Services, the Council's waste management contractor, show that since 2003 the amount of waste being sent to landfill from East Sussex and Brighton & Hove has dropped from 80% to 46% while recycling has risen from 20% to 33%.

The improvement looks set to continue following the opening of the Materials Recycling Facility at Hollingdean, improvements to existing Household Waste Recycling sites, including those at Leighton Road in Hove and Sheepcote Valley in Brighton, and the opening of a new composting facility at Whitesmith. The new composting facility is capable of processing 46,000 tonnes of green waste each year.

Veolia Environmental Services is also working with both Councils to explore new markets and expand the range of materials collected for recycling.

Since 2003, the waste management facilities for East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council have been run by Veolia Environmental Services, under a 25 year contract.

To deliver the service, Veolia Environmental Services has developed and constructed a network of facilities, designed to increase recycling, composting and recovery and to reduce dependence on landfill.

In addition, the opening of the Energy Recovery Facility (ERF), currently under construction in Newhaven, will ensure that household waste not suitable for recycling is diverted from landfill and turned into a resource delivering 16.5 megawatts of electricity to the National Grid, enough to power 25,000 homes.

Keith McGurk Managing Director of Veolia Environmental Services South Downs comments; *"Residents deserve great credit for reducing waste and increasing recycling over recent years. Veolia Environmental Services is very proud to be able to support the desire that exists in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove to reuse and recycle more and turn waste into a resource"*.

Brighton & Hove City Councillor Geoffrey Theobald, Cabinet Member for Environment, said:

*"This is very good news and a fitting tribute to the partnership working between both Councils and Veolia Environmental Services. But ultimately it is the residents of Brighton & Hove and East Sussex who deserve the credit as they are clearly making great efforts to reduce and recycle their household waste."*

*"We recognise that we still have a long way to go, but hope that further improvements to our recycling collection service, such as expanding the scheme to blocks of flats and increasing the range of materials collected, will improve results ever further."*

## s child's play



Toy banks can be found at the following recycling points:

King Alfred Leisure Centre

Wickes DIY  
Davigdor Road, Lyon Close

Sainsbury's West Hove

Chalky Road  
Opposite Community College

Preston Drove Entrance

Queen's Park Terrace  
Next to Pepper Pot

Upper Rock Gardens

Norfolk Square

The Level East side

Hove Household Waste Recovery Site  
Old Shoreham Road

# COMPOST FOR LESS!

**Wormeries and food waste digesters are being offered to Brighton & Hove residents at reduced prices as part of a drive to cut down on food waste in the city.**



Wormeries are available in three sizes and cost from £26, plus £9.95 delivery. These do not need to be kept outside and so could be particularly suitable for people living in flats without a garden.

The food waste digester or 'hot composter', known as a Green Johanna, costs £39.95 and can be used for all cooked and uncooked food waste including vegetable scraps, meat, fish, bones, dairy products and organic garden waste such as plants, leaves and grass cuttings. Designed for use in the garden,

the contents reach significantly higher temperatures than traditional garden composters, breaking down waste faster.

The Council is also offering compost bins at bargain prices. Just £5 buys you a 220 litre bin, and £11 for a 330 litre bin.

The bins, which are made from recycled material, can be delivered to your door for just £5.

You'll be surprised at how much you can compost - from grass cuttings and vegetable peelings to scrunched up cardboard, teabags, egg shells, coffee granules and even shredded confidential documents.

And just months after installing one in the garden, householders will be producing their own free nutrient rich compost for all their garden plants.

Composting also helps to drastically reduce the amount of household waste going to landfill.

For more information visit:  
[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/compost](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/compost)

or call: 0844 571 4444 to order a compost bin

or: 0800 0192064 for a wormery or food digester



## Kids take up the recycling challenge and win prizes!

**Veolia Environmental Services – masters of recycling spent a weekend in February showing Kids in Brighton aged 7-14 what and how they can recycle and capture the imagination of kids young and old.**

The recycling challenge - to sort a basket of everyday stuff into - paper, cans and plastic bottles, and non recyclables was in high demand. For added fun a stopwatch was on hand to see how fast they could do it.

Winners over the weekend that were the best recyclers had times of an amazing 22 and 24 seconds each received a Veolia Environmental Services goodie bag.

Also Veolia had games for the kids to play to get them thinking about buying

products with less packaging and some hands on models for the kids to do and find out about the sciencey magic behind Veolia's recycling facility in Hollingdean, Brighton which helps turn waste back into useful stuff.

*"Our aim is to get everyone thinking about waste and viewing it as an opportunity and not something to waste", says Jeannette Buckle of Veolia. "It's a great opportunity for us to answer everyone's questions and help them recycle more."* She continued.

The event at Hove Park Upper School was part of the Brighton Science Festival which takes place each year in February across Brighton.



Lauren and Lydia – recycling champions

# Household waste recycling rates reach new high!

Figures for last year reveal that East Sussex and Brighton & Hove's household waste recycling sites have recycled and composted 50% of waste deposited by residents at the sites, which are operated by Veolia Environmental Services in partnership with East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council.

## Around 34,300 tonnes of waste - the weight of almost 90 Boeing 747 aeroplanes has been composted and recycled.

The figures break down to include:

<b>15,100</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>2,800</b>
<b>tonnes of green garden waste</b>	<b>tonnes of cardboard and paper</b>	<b>tonnes of wood</b>

These materials have now provided the resources to make new and useful products including compost and newsprint.

Keith McGurk, managing director for Veolia Environmental Services South Downs, commented on the figures:

*"This is a great effort. By taking advantage of the facilities available at household waste and recycling sites around the County and City, the public can make a real contribution to the environment by reducing waste and providing resources to make new products. These statistics show the increasing importance the people of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove are placing on recycling, and are tremendously encouraging for the next year."*



## Veolia raises £17,000 for breast cancer campaign!

Employees of Veolia Environmental Services, the UK's leading recycling and waste management company, 'wasted' no time in getting fully behind Breast Cancer Campaign's 'Wear it Pink' initiative and raised a staggering £17,100.

Everyone from operatives to office staff, threw themselves into fundraising activity by donning all things pink, including hats, high vis jackets, wigs and T shirts. Sites also held pink fancy dress themed events and one contract manager dressed as Pink Panther for the day, all in aid of the cancer charity.



Veolia has been supporting Breast Cancer Campaign's 'Wear it Pink' event since 2007 and in 2009 the company raised more than double compared to 2008.

The partnership with Breast Cancer Care forms part of the company's commitment to playing an active role in the local communities in which it operates, this also includes giving all employees half a day to volunteer for a local charity.

Kevin Hurst, Marketing and Communications Director said: "We are delighted to be able to make this donation to Breast Cancer Care which would not have been possible without the enthusiasm and creativity of our workforce. They show time and time again that they are passionate about getting involved and supporting local and national initiatives."

# Don't miss the Rethink Rubbish bus



Our specially designed mobile exhibition unit is packed full of information on how to **reduce and recycle your rubbish**.

We visit schools, shopping centres, fetes and fairs throughout East Sussex and are available to hire with staff for free.

To book the bus or find out where you can get on board call 01273 482323 [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/rethinkrubbish](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/rethinkrubbish)



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small actions, big changes

*colourful displays, multimedia computers, games  
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**T H A N K Y O U**

*from everyone at*



The Council's in-house refuse & recycling service

We would like to thank everyone for helping us recycle 25,000 tonnes of rubbish this year. That's equivalent to 1678 double decker buses – more than six times the size of the Brighton & Hove Bus Company fleet.

Everyone who recycles cans in Brighton & Hove is also helping to grow fruit trees in Malawi through our partnership with Alupro and the charity Ripple Africa.

Latest figures show that in the past year we have all contributed to growing 204 fruit trees for families in rural Malawi. The more we recycle, the more fruit trees will be grown.

This newsletter has been sent to you as an individual interested in local waste issues and the progress being made in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove on the waste management strategy. If you wish to continue to receive your copy of RE: **ACT** no action is necessary. Otherwise, please tick below.

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