

New 'greener' Huyton Recycling Centre in Merseyside opens for business!

Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) and Veolia Environmental Services have officially opened the new £1.5m Huyton Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) on Wilson Road, Knowsley. The new facility has been built on the site of a former HGV depot on Wilson Road, within the Huyton Industrial Estate, replacing an existing older Recycling Centre on nearby Ellis Ashton Street. It is the second new replacement Centre that has been opened by MRWA in the Knowsley district area in the past few weeks.

The new Huyton Centre has the capacity to receive up to 20,000 tonnes of householders' waste and recyclable materials each year. Members of the public will be able to use the Recycling Centre to bring all sorts of household items from paper, cardboard and bottles, to larger items such as white goods, televisions and furniture, plus lots more beside.

An increased number of larger containers, plus more queuing space on site for cars and the provision of an overhead weather-protection canopy, will make it more convenient for members of the public to dispose of recyclable and waste items. The site also includes new expanded spaces for the collection of waste electrical items.

Development of the site has been being undertaken by Barhale Construction plc, who built the similar South Sefton Recycling facility for MRWA in 2004. The construction works follow a public consultation during 2010 by MRWA which included information open days and a mail-out to 16,000 local residents and businesses.

Councillor Joe DeAsha, Chairperson of MRWA, said: "We're really excited to be opening another new recycling centre. This fantastic new and improved facility will contribute to achieving improved recycling and composting across Merseyside. When we consulted residents they told us they were keen to recycle more and the facility accommodates a wide range of different categories of waste containers for recycling. It is another step towards our aim of zero waste to landfill. This new Centre is much more pleasant experience for visitors, and will be easier to navigate, which will hopefully encourage

more recycling."

The project also has some great 'sustainability' credentials having achieved an 84.8% 'Excellent' rating under the CEEQUAL Award Scheme (the Assessment and Awards Scheme for Improving Sustainability in Civil Engineering). CEEQUAL assesses and verifies performance across a very wide range of social and environmental issues, such as the protection of the local ecology and landscape, minimising the use of raw materials, water and energy, minimising greenhouse gas emissions, pollution prevention and control, and waste minimisation and management.



PICTURE ONE: (left to right) Carl Beer - MRWA Chief Executive opens the new Huyton Household Waste Recycling Centre with Adrian Jeffries - Veolia Operations Manager, Cllr Joe DeAsha - MRWA Chairperson, Cllr David Williams - Whiston Ward Knowsley Council, Cllr Graham Morgan - MRWA Deputy Chairperson, Mark Cutler, - Barhale Chief Executive, John Flaherty - Service Director for Neighbourhood Delivery Knowsley Council, and Cllr Alan Yates - Halewood South Ward Knowsley Council.

Darren Hynes, Regional Manager for Barhale Construction plc said: This supports Barhale's strategy to diversify and grow our business within the waste sector. Our company is committed to sustainable construction, and this is a wonderful example of contractor and client working together to achieve this goal. This facility is a great improvement for the local community and MRWA have gone to great lengths to ensure they meet their recycling targets with the provision of this new centre.

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PICTURE TWO: (Front) Perry Shard - Sustainability Delivery Manager at Balfour Beatty Regional Civil Engineering and CEEQUAL Assessor presents Cllr Joe DeAsha - MRWA Chairperson and Mark Cutler - Barhale Chief Executive, with CEEQUAL's 'EXCELLENT' certification in recognition of the new Centre's sustainability credentials. (Background left to right) Becky Strickland - Barhale, Darren Hynes - Barhale, Carl Beer - MRWA Chief Executive, Cllr Graham Morgan - MRWA Deputy Chairperson and John Flaherty - Service Director for Neighbourhood Delivery Knowsley Council.

Roger Venables, CEEQUAL Chief Executive, said: "We were delighted to receive the application for the Huyton facility to be formally assessed using CEEQUAL. It was one of the early waste management projects to adopt the CEEQUAL Methodology and we believe strongly that CEEQUAL is the right assessment tool for such projects. We congratulate the project team on their high score, which reflects their extensive adoption of best practice in both design and construction."

MRWA Chief Executive, Carl Beer, said: "This second new replacement Recycling Centre is part of a drive to improve all our facilities, as well as build brand new ones. Merseyside needs to reduce its reliance on landfill and our push for new and improved waste management amenities will help us to achieve this."

Alex Paterson, Veolia Environmental Services Director from the Authority's contractor said: "The development of the new Huyton Centre is an exciting addition to the Merseyside HWRC portfolio. The site is green, sustainable, will significantly increase recycling and will challenge the mindset of what waste facilities can and should be."

MRWA and Veolia operate 14 Household Waste Recycling Centres across the region which can accept a host of items – from cans, car batteries and cardboard to garden waste, glass, paper, scrap metal, textiles and timber, and more. Recycling rates at the sites topped more than 50% in 2010/11.

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Note to Editors

About CEEQUAL

1. CEEQUAL was originally developed by a team led by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and part-funded by the ICE Research and Development Enabling Fund and the UK Government.
2. Since the Scheme's launch in late 2003, more than 70 final and more than 40 interim CEEQUAL Awards have been made to a very wide range of civil engineering and public realm projects. Almost all projects that have received an Award are listed on the CEEQUAL website.
3. CEEQUAL measures how far beyond minimum legal compliance towards pinnacle best practice the project team has performed. There are four grades to the Awards: Pass, Good, Very Good and Excellent.
4. The Scheme is run through CEEQUAL Ltd, owned by a group of organisations that were actively involved in the development of the Scheme, including the ICE, the Association for Consultancy and Engineering, the Civil Engineering Contractors' Association and the Chartered Institution of Water and Environment Management.
5. Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (formerly Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority) is responsible for the disposal of municipal waste on Merseyside. Established in 1986 following the abolition of Merseyside County Council, it is a statutory Authority that works with all the local authorities on Merseyside – Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral. MRWA takes a lead in advocating recycling, waste minimisation and safe and effective disposal of waste for Merseyside's residents. www.merseysidewda.gov.uk
6. From April 1st until September 30th 2012 Merseyside's Household Waste Recycling Centres will be open from 8.00am until 8.00pm. *NB. Rainhill: Open 9.00am–6.00pm on Saturdays; 9.00am–3.00pm on Sundays. Rainford: Open 9.00am–6.00pm on Saturdays; 9.00am–3.00pm on Sundays.

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