

This is the third issue of RE:ACT, Veolia Environmental Services' newsletter with details on the next phase of works at the proposed 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.

Composting facility gets the green light

Veolia Environmental Services was granted planning permission for a major recycling facility for composting in September 2007. Work has now begun on site and is expected to be complete by spring 2010.

The facility will be located at the Woodland Centre in Whitesmith, between Hailsham and Uckfield, and will produce high quality soil conditioner for use by commercial growers,

landscapers and keen gardeners alike. The centre will be one of only a few in the UK to employ advanced enclosed composting technology which speeds up the rate of decomposition,

and each year will be able to process 46,000 tonnes of principally green garden waste collected from the area's household waste recycling sites and from kerbside collection schemes.

Development of the composting facility commenced in July 2008 after the relocation of a colony of Great Crested Newts to an alternative suitable habitat.



Brighton & Hove City Council getting tough on leaflets and litter

Flyers, leaflets and stickers littering the streets of Brighton & Hove could soon become a thing of the past as the council introduces new enforcement measures to control their distribution.

Dropped leaflets, cards and flyers are one of the major causes of litter in the city centre, but until now it has been difficult for the council to prosecute those responsible.

Using new powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act, the council is to designate areas where the distribution of free printed material without a licence is illegal. These areas include North Laine, The Lanes, North Street, West Street, Western Road, Queens Road, St James's Street and the seafront from Dukes Mound to the peace statue.

The licence conditions must also require the distributor to wear an identification badge issued by the council. All distributors, including charities, religious and political organisations, community groups and schools that are exempt from the licence scheme, must clear up any discarded material. Those caught breaking the law face fines of £75 which could rise to £2,500 for persistent offenders.

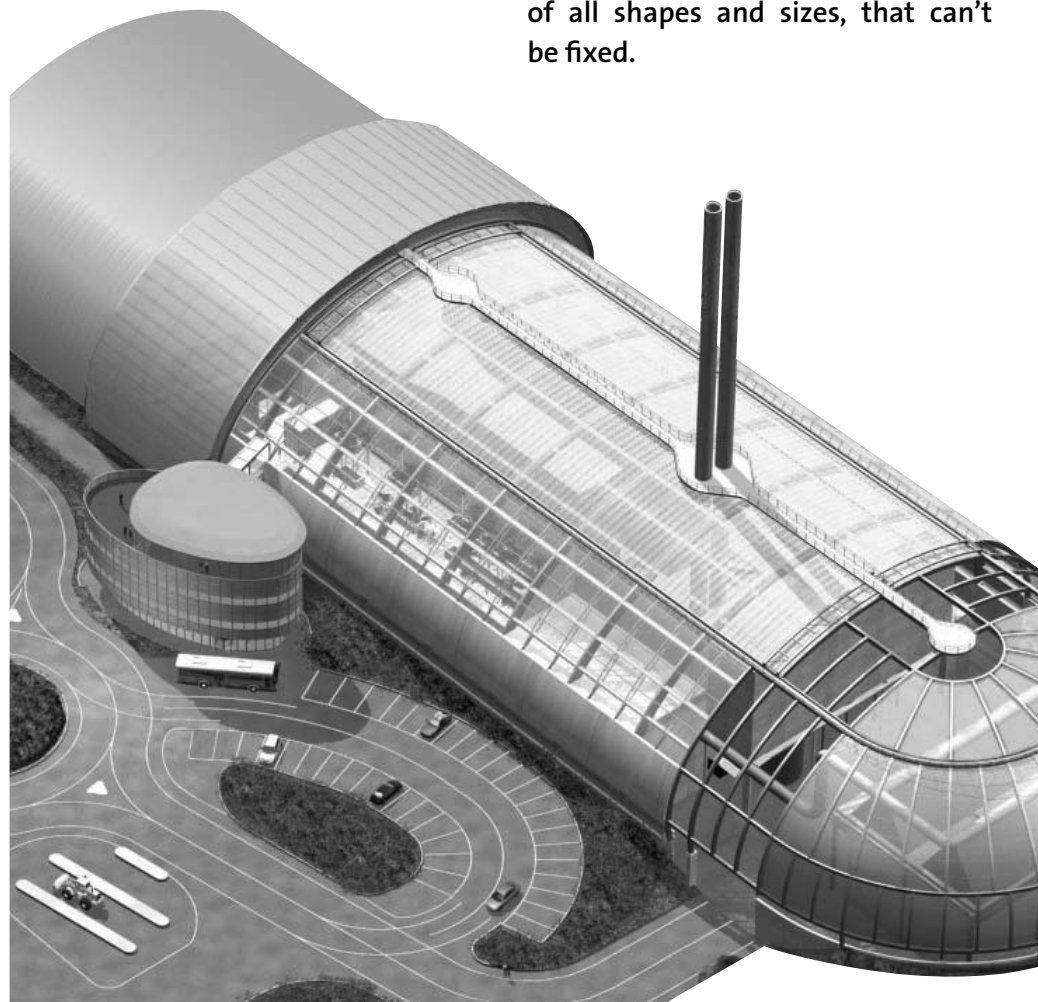
The council has consulted widely on the proposals and received positive feedback from both local businesses and the distribution and promotion industry.

GETTING THE M

Congratulations, you

- You do your best to recycle, separating out the paper, cans, glass and other recyclables
- You may have a green waste kerbside collection service, so you use that too
- You take plastic bottles to your local bring banks or household waste recycling sites
- You're a family of four or more and you don't throw away more than a bin bag full a week
- You buy products with a high recycled content e.g. recycled kitchen roll
- You make compost from your green waste or take it to the recycling centre and drop it into the correct container there
- You take your old clothes and bric-a-brac to the local charity shop and you avoid over packaged goods in the supermarket to avoid creating waste in the first place
- You prevent the contamination of your recyclables by emptying out any contents from containers and use your old washing up water to rinse the bottles and cans
- You never put food waste or the wrong materials in with your recyclables because you know such contamination can result in the recyclables being rejected by the reprocessor

However, there are some materials you can't recycle. There will always be things that are best binned, from the used cotton bud to broken toys of all shapes and sizes, that can't be fixed.



COST OUT OF YOUR WASTE are a champion recycler if:

Once these discarded items have been mixed together, it is better in environmental terms to reduce the amount that goes to landfill and to generate energy out of the waste. Landfill gives off methane, a greenhouse gas that is 21 times more potent than CO₂ - and landfill space is running out fast.

NEWHAVEN ERF

Closer to a sustainable future

The energy recovery facility at North Quay is being built to process the residual waste that cannot be recycled or composted from the households of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. In 2007, planning permission was granted by East Sussex County Council for an energy recovery facility at North Quay, Newhaven and now Veolia's contractors are able to proceed.

The construction works have started and the facility is expected to be operational in late 2011. It will be able to take up to 210,000 tonnes of

waste a year - about half the municipal waste currently produced in the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove area. It will generate 16.5 megawatts of electricity which will be exported to the electricity distribution network - enough to produce heat, light and hot water for around 25,000 homes, as well as providing power for the facility itself.

The energy recovery facility will burn the residual waste in controlled conditions reducing the volume by 90%. Thereafter metals will be extracted for further recycling. As a by-product, electricity is generated when the hot gases from the combustion process pass through pipes which heat water and produce steam which is then used to drive a turbo-generator. This electricity will be fed into the distribution network and in addition, the facility could potentially supply a district heating scheme (which would require additional investment in infrastructure and precise markets identified). Gases from the boiler go through an extensive cleaning

process to ensure they comply with the latest EU regulations and the flue gas cleaning residues can also be re-used (mainly as a substitute material to neutralise acids) or taken to a suitable disposal site.

Finding out more

Bulletins on progress at North Quay are available to view on www.veolia.co.uk/southdowns under the energy recovery facility section along with other useful information.

As part of a good neighbour policy, we are liaising with local organisations and neighbours to ensure that any disruption caused by the construction process is reduced to a minimum.



Pebsham waste facilities

The household waste recycling site at Pebsham will move from its current location to across the road next to the waste transfer station. The proposed facility will be a modern split level site making it much easier and quicker to recycle unwanted items.

Veolia has submitted a planning application for the relocation of the existing household waste recycling site in December 2008. East Sussex County Council will seek to extend the planning permission on the existing site to cover the construction period for the new facility.

Veolia in the community

We are delighted to renew our membership with the Business Community Partnership (BCP) for 2009. The BCP brings together commercial, community and voluntary sector organisations to support community development and encourage social entrepreneurship.

Last year Veolia took part in two team challenges arranged through the Brighton & Hove Business Community Partnership's "Employee Volunteering" scheme.

We transformed an old allotment, and gave a local day centre a make-over. Previous challenges have included work for the charity Off the Fence, Hove YMCA and Belgrave Day Centre. Organisations interested in joining the BCP can call Charlie Allsebrook on 01273 770075 or visit www.bhbc.org.uk.



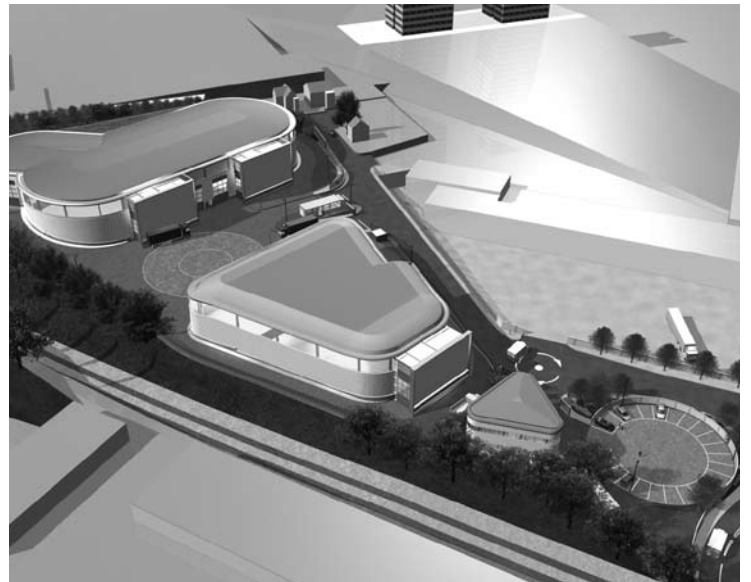
Wadhurst top of the county for recycling

The household waste recycling site in Wadhurst is currently the best performing in the entire county. Recent figures have revealed that the site has recycled and reused 63% of its waste since April 2007, diverting nearly 1300 tonnes of waste away from depleting local landfill.

The site has been welcoming people and their waste for the past thirty years, come rain or shine. It has seen some major changes during this time and boasts a wide range of recycling services, including,

glass, plastic bottles, wood, TVs and computer monitors.

Wadhurst household waste recycling site is one of the 14 operated by Veolia in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, all of which have seen increases in recycling levels. Since April 2007, they have recycled and reused a combined average of almost 54% of the waste delivered to them by local residents. The challenge is on to see which site will come out on top this year!



Brighton preparing to recycle even more than before!

Construction of the new facility on Hollingdean Lane is now complete and is fully operational. The materials recovery facility and waste transfer station will be key parts of an integrated waste management solution for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. The facility will help increase recycling rates and divert waste from landfill.

The waste transfer station is now receiving and bulking up residual waste for forward transportation to its final destination.

The materials recovery facility now receives and sorts recyclable materials collected from households (such as paper, cans, plastic bottles and glass) maximising their recycling potential. The location of the facility will reduce the distance travelled by many refuse vehicles and the time they spend on roads in the city, which will ultimately help reduce congestion and have a positive environmental impact.



Veolia's Pink Ladies raise £3,400!

Congratulations to site users and staff at Veolia Environmental Services South Downs who raised £3,400 with a pink-themed fancy dress day on 31st October in aid of 'Wear it Pink' - the Breast Cancer Campaign's biggest annual fundraising event.

Veolia staff in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove stepped up to the plate, with many donning glamorous pink outfits, complete with pink wigs and pink feather boas.

All the money raised by Veolia will help the Breast Cancer Campaign continue its research, which currently supports 112 research projects worth almost £14.5 million in 50 centres of excellence across the UK. The charity's mission is to beat breast cancer by funding innovative, world-class research to understand how it develops, leading to improved diagnosis, treatment, prevention and cure.



The Waste Strategy

The aim is to decrease the amount of waste going to landfill by:
Reducing • Reusing • Recycling • Composting • Energy Recovery



With the Christmas and New Year holiday period at an end, we are hoping this year to improve upon the outstanding effort made by residents to recycle after last year's festivities.

By the end of last year's seasonal celebrations, Veolia had collected over

1,500 tonnes of waste

recycling or composting including wrapping paper, packaging and Christmas trees.

400 tonnes of green waste,
350 tonnes of cardboard and paper
120 tonnes of glass

were taken to the household waste recycling sites throughout East Sussex and Brighton & Hove and were therefore diverted from landfill.



Household waste tonnages

	Total waste (t)	Recycling Rate
2003/4	368,100	20.1%
2004/5	374,300	22.6%
2005/6	368,500	26.1%
2006/7	371,000	28.26%
2007/8	363,600	31.56%

County's Youth Waste Summit

More than 100 school children from across East Sussex have shared ideas on how to reduce, re-use and recycle household waste.

The youngsters from 10 schools joined East Sussex County Council at the county's first Youth Waste Summit.

They voted on hand-held electronic devices – like those in the hit TV quiz programme *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* – for the best ideas to manage rubbish after seeing a series of presentations from fellow pupils from across the county.

They were also able to quiz a Question Time-type panel, including the Council's Lead Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor Matthew Lock, and the department's Director, Rupert Clubb, on how the authority is encouraging green solutions to waste issues.

After the conference at the King's Centre in Eastbourne, Cllr Lock said: "It was very encouraging to see so many young people take such an interest in the crucial issue of how we will deal with our waste in the coming years. These pupils are the future decision makers and it is fantastic that they are already so keen to get the message out that we cannot go on producing unrecyclable waste at the rate we are now indefinitely.

"The ideas they shared were the culmination of a year of serious thought in their schools about these issues and I would like to congratulate them on the many imaginative solutions they came up with on the problem of how to reduce waste."

At the end of the summit, students from the 10 schools signed a joint declaration, committing to reduce, re-use and recycle waste.

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



rethink rubbish
small actions, big changes

*colourful displays, multimedia computers, games
quizzes, compost bin displays, washable nappy displays,
leaflets, advice*



T H A N K Y O U

from everyone at

cityclean

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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