

# MRWA UPDATE

Summer 2014 / Issue 17



MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

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## Revamped Ravenhead reopens with top green accolade

**MRWA's Ravenhead Recycling Centre at Burtonhead Road in St Helens re-opened recently, with a green badge of honour.**

£1m improvements to the Centre include a new split-level layout to make depositing of waste and recyclables easier, with a canopy over the skip area and a new Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) building.

A new access road for operational and public vehicles incorporates bypass lanes to allow residents vehicles to exit or overtake when skips are occupied. The site also has additional road space and improved traffic management, which will help keep vehicles off the highway.

Carl Beer, MRWA Chief Executive, said: "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."

As part of the construction, MRWA has worked with Cheetham Hill Construction to achieve an 'Excellent' rating as part of CEEQUAL which is a sustainability assessment, rating and awards scheme for civil engineering.

The CEEQUAL assessment took into account a number of factors when judging the new Centre, which include: Ecology and biodiversity, People and community, Land use and landscape, and Energy and carbon.

The Ravenhead facility is MRWA's third to gain the CEEQUAL award, following Kirkby and Huyton Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Perry Shard, from CEEQUAL said: "This is the third time that I have presented an award to this team, and the most striking thing for me is how the approach has been improved upon each time. It is a great example of the using the CEEQUAL framework to create a more considered long-term solution. There are

features and aspects of this project which are usually only seen on much larger and more high profile projects, so really well done for considering them as part of the design and then committing to them during construction."



# Partners come together to make 'recycling their business'



The litter bin waste collected currently collected across the city in the most part is recyclable. Previously destined for landfill - recyclable items such as cans, paper, cardboard, plastic and glass bottles - are now sorted and extracted out, so that the valuable recyclable materials can be reprocessed. It's estimated that more than 50% of the litter and street waste collected in Liverpool is now recycled.

Cllr Graham Morgan, Chairperson of MRWA, said: "This is a really important time for the city, and the region as a whole, with the eyes of the world looking at how we do business. By something as simple as increasing the amount of litter bins and recycling, we can ensure that our region impresses at every level."

**With more than 200 tonnes of litter bin waste produced by residents and visitors to Liverpool in the average month, Merseyside waste and recycling partners have come together to recycle street litter bin waste.**

Liverpool City Council, Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority and their contractors Amey and Veolia will be introducing extra hi-visibility bins at high traffic areas throughout Liverpool during a busy season of events.

## Authority workplace gets clean bill of health



**MRWA has achieved an 'Excellent' rating in five of the standards for its health and wellbeing programme.**

The Authority has been recognised for its work in delivering positive health initiatives to its 36 Liverpool city centre staff after being assessed by Health@Work, the independent charity that looks to work with organisations to help create healthier and happier employees.

The Workplace Wellbeing Charter is an opportunity for employers to demonstrate their commitment to the health and wellbeing of their workforce. There are three levels to the Charter: Commitment, Achievement and the highest attainable level, Excellence. In March 2014 MRWA was assessed and accredited with 'Excellence' in five of eight standards of health & wellbeing: Leadership, Attendance Management, Alcohol and substance misuse, Smoking and Healthy Eating. In the other three standards –

Health & Safety, Mental Health & Stress and Physical Activity – MRWA was accredited with an 'Achievement' rating.

Sean Corcoran at Health@Work said: "It was a pleasure to work with MRWA, for the size of the organisation would normally be accredited at Commitment level, they have far exceeded the results we would have expected. I fully expect MRWA to gain Excellence across all standards when they are re-accredited in March 2016. Congratulations and well done!"

# Liverpool City Region takes up food waste challenge



Cllr Tony Concepcion, Deputy Chairperson of MRWA; Carl Beer, Chief Executive of MRWA; Mark Thomas, Regional Corporate Affairs Manager of Tesco North; and Cllr Steve Munby of Liverpool City Council.

**Staff from MRWA and WRAP (the Waste Resources Action Programme) were recently in Liverpool city centre serving free fruit smoothies to members of the public from a 'Liquid Greens Machine'.**

The event was a part of the Love Food Hate Waste 'Ten Cities Challenge', with members of the public also being asked to 'Do One Thing Differently' in a bid to reduce the amount of food going to landfill.

In June, WRAP's Love Food Hate Waste campaign announced Liverpool City Region as one of just 10 cities across the whole

of the UK chosen to focus on fighting food waste in 2014-16 - changing our kitchen habits and showing it's possible for us all to make a difference and prevent our food from becoming waste.

Emma Marsh, Head of Love Food Hate Waste said: "We all have our own reasons for why food gets thrown away at home, so there isn't a one size fits all solution. We want to be able to get people to look at the huge volume of food and drink that's ending up in the bin and consider the one thing they might do differently to make sure that food gets tasted, not wasted."

Councillor Graham Morgan, Chair of Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority, said: "We're keen to take on the 10 City Challenge to further the Love Food Hate Waste message. We want people to look at the food in their bin, the unused food and drink they're throwing away, and to think about how they can change that behaviour which will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and ultimately save us all money."

At the event 1,500 people were engaged with and 196 LFHW 'pledges' made.

# What's in your black bag?



CLlr Laura Robertson-Collins, Chair of Liverpool City Council's Neighbourhoods Select Committee (centre) with MRWA Chief Executive, Carl Beer (left) and Mike Carroll (right) from Veolia

## A campaign to improve recycling rates at Household Waste Recycling Centres is being rolled out across Merseyside.

The education campaign launched by MRWA and contractor Veolia is focussing on black bin bags of household 'waste' which are sent to landfill and involves staff at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) asking visitors to think about what materials can be recycled at their local HWRC's and consider how they can reduce the amount of 'black bin bag' waste going to landfill.

The campaign provides members of the public the opportunity to learn more about what can and can't be recycled at HWRC's whilst encouraging people to sort recyclable materials at home.

CLlr Robertson-Collins said: "This is an important step for staff at the Household Waste Recycling Centre to actively engage with the people using the centre and to raise awareness. Many people still just do not realise that almost all 'waste' can be re-used or recycled! Well done to MRWA for working to prevent things going to landfill unnecessarily"

MRWA Chairperson, Councillor Graham Morgan said:

"The pilot has been great. People have been surprised when they learned what they could have recycled using kerbside collections or recycling containers at HWRCs."

The black bag campaign, which piloted at St Helens' redeveloped Ravenhead site, will now be extended to HWRCs elsewhere across Merseyside.

## Who are we?

Merseyside Recycling & Waste Authority (MRWA) is a statutory authority established in 1986 following the abolition of Merseyside County Council to undertake the waste disposal functions for local authorities across Merseyside – Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, Wirral and St Helens. MRWA takes the lead in advocating waste minimisation, recycling and the safe and effective disposal of waste for Merseyside's residents.

## Contact us

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MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

**MERSEYSIDE... A PLACE WHERE NOTHING IS WASTED**



for Merseyside and Halton

