

MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING AND WASTE AUTHORITY COMMUNITY FUND 2013-14

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is the Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA)?

MRWA 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 the lead in advocating recycling, waste minimisation and safe and effective disposal of waste for Merseyside residents.

Who is Veolia Environmental Services Ltd?

Veolia is a leading waste management company in the UK and as a contractor to the Authority manage the facilities and Household Waste Recycling Centres across Merseyside and Halton. Veolia is committed to protecting the environment and improving the lives of the communities in which it operates

Why is Halton included in the Fund?

Halton Borough Council has the statutory responsibility for the collection, treatment and disposal of municipal waste in its area and forms part of the Liverpool City Region. As the responsible body for waste in its area, Halton works with MRWA and the Merseyside districts as the Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership.

What geographical area does the Community Fund cover?

Within the Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership which covers the five Merseyside local authority areas as above and Halton.

All projects must benefit communities within one of more of these district areas.

Can you submit an application if any of the organisations involved in the application are based outside Merseyside and Halton?

Yes but applications will only be accepted if the project directly benefits Merseyside and Halton communities and reduces the impact of Local Authority Collected Municipal waste in the Partnership area.

Why does this year's Fund propose to award larger amounts of funding which benefit less projects?

The financial support has more than doubled this year so the Authority is setting the bar high to support a smaller number of projects which will deliver committed outputs and benefits on a larger scale than in previous years.

Can you submit more than one application/project?

Yes but each application will be based on its own merits and subject to the same competition and evaluation criteria.

Can you submit an application for a project which covers commercial and industrial or construction and demolition waste?

No. All applications must relate to Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste i.e. waste from households, as well as other wastes, which because of its nature of composition is similar to waste from households. This includes waste collected from schools.

Can you submit an application for a project which does not directly focus on sustainable waste management but will deliver wider environmental and community improvements?

No. The project must deliver the outputs as set out in the evaluation criteria in the application form.

Why is one of the criteria about reducing carbon emissions?

Reducing carbon emissions is a key objective and driver within the adopted Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside. There are significant opportunities to support the low carbon economy through sustainable waste management. These include avoiding sending bio-degradable waste to landfill and the embedded carbon benefits within recycling.

Can you submit an application for a project which is already in receipt of financial support from the Authority in the same financial year?

No.

Can you submit an application after the deadline of 28th June 2013?

No.

Do projects have to be completed by 31 March 2014?

Yes. Successful applicants will be required to provide a report when the project is completed. For those projects which will not be completed until the end of March 2014, the applicant will provide a progress update by mid-March 2014 followed by an end report within six weeks of project completion.

Can you submit an application for a project which extends across more than one financial year?

Yes, an applicant can plan to continue the project beyond the current financial year. However, projects would only receive an award on an annual basis so eligible organisations would apply for funding in each additional year that the Fund exists. The application would need to meet the revised or reaffirmed evaluation criteria established and would be in competition with other projects submitted for each year.

Can you appeal against a decision not to award funding?

No, the decision of the Authority is final.

What will happen if you don't complete the project or fail to meet the agreed outputs in the application?

All awards will be subject to the Authority's Financial Procedural Rules. A service level agreement (SLA) will be made with winning applicants including arrangement for payment in advance of goods and services being received. This SLA will be based on committed outputs within the applications and establishes a mechanism to allow the Authority to seek recompense from the applicant should the project outputs not be met.

When may the Authority announce a further round of the Community Fund?

The Authority agrees its budget at the first meeting of each calendar year. If Members agree to continue with the Community Fund, a decision on the detailed fund will be made at the following Authority meeting (most likely in April) and an announcement made shortly after that.