

## TEN YEARS IN HUDDERSFIELD

- » SITA UK in Huddersfield recently celebrated ten years of a successful waste partnership with Kirklees Council.

The 25-year contract was signed in 1998 with the aim that by working together, SITA UK and Kirklees Council could achieve a minimum of 60 per cent diversion from landfill.

As part of the contract, SITA UK took over five household waste recycling centres, the old incinerator and transfer station at Vine Street near the centre of Huddersfield and the old transfer station at Lower Spen Valley, which was replaced in 2001 by the Thornhill transfer station in Dewsbury.

The Vine Street incinerator was transformed into the energy-from-waste facility, which opened in 2000 with an attached materials recycling facility. By reusing an existing site, SITA UK was able to use some of the remaining features, reducing the need for new construction material.

The materials recycling facility is capable of handling up to 25,000 tonnes of separated and commingled recyclable material collected each year from the kerbside and from the household waste recycling centres.

These materials are processed by a mechanical sorting system which separates the waste into streams such as paper, plastic and metal cans, which are then baled and taken off-site for recycling.

Householders and residents of Kirklees bring bulky waste materials and recycling including glass, metals, plastics, paper, cardboard, textiles, oil, chemicals, garden waste, soil and rubble, wood, scrap metal and electrical equipment to the household waste recycling centres located throughout the Kirklees area.

Our offices in Huddersfield now house a new visitor centre for schools and community groups. This will enable visitors to better understand the processes of how waste is handled. »



### KEY FACTS

- » The materials recycling facility at Vine Street is capable of handling 25,000 tonnes per annum of waste.
- » The energy-from-waste centre processes 136,000 tonnes of waste each year.
- » The Thornhill transfer station is able to handle 150,000 tonnes of waste annually.
- » The energy-from-waste centre generates approximately 10 MW of electricity, enough to supply the annual electricity needs of around 15,000 homes.
- » Currently Kirklees composts around 11,000 tonnes of waste every year.



## IN THE COMMUNITY

The new visitor centre was recently opened by pupils of Lindley Junior School in Huddersfield. The centre tells the story of how non-recycled waste from Kirklees is disposed of and offers youngsters a number of fun recycling activities such as sorting aluminium and steel cans and identifying recyclable waste from rubbish.

The centre, which is designed to provide information to all ages, not just children, allows visitors to take a tour of the plant so that they are able to see what happens to waste after it has been collected from their doorstep.

The lucky pupils from Lindley Junior School were treated to a turn in the crane operator's chair at the opening ceremony. Lindley school teacher Caroline Thomas said, "It has been so great for the children to be involved. We learn about recycling and the need to protect the environment in school, but this has enabled the children to do practical work and see for themselves how it all works. The visit has been very interesting, I'm sure we will all remember it for a long time".



## ABOUT SITA UK

SITA UK, a subsidiary of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT, is a recycling and resource management company, generating environmental, social and economic value from our nation's waste. The company has been re-engineered to generate more value from waste in support of our vision of creating a society where the majority of waste materials are reused, recycled or recovered for their energy content. In essence we want to create a society where there is 'no more waste' because we recognise the intrinsic value of the materials we handle as a secondary resource.

SITA UK serves over 12 million people and handles more than nine million tonnes of domestic, commercial and industrial waste through a network of recycling, composting, energy-from-waste and landfill facilities. SITA UK employs over 5,500 staff and has an annual turnover in excess of £750 million.

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