

Biffa Municipal press release

23rd December 2011

Christmas Cheer for Biffa

Biffa's Municipal division is ending 2011 'on a high' after being awarded four new contracts.

Under a five year contract that started in December for Warwickshire County Council, Biffa is handling the bulk transport of around 23,000 tonnes of general and 13,000 tonnes of green waste, as well as soil and hardcore, collected annually at seven of the county's HWRCs. Biffa will also have the opportunity to haul other waste streams from these sites.

From December 2013, the company will also run the transfer station at Birch Coppice in north Warwickshire, as well as the bulking and haulage of waste and recyclables to locations specified by the county council. The contract includes an option to extend for a further five years.

In neighbouring Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean District Council has awarded Biffa a three year contract, with a two year extension option, for the bulking, transfer and sale of around 5,000 tonnes of dry recyclables annually. Beginning in June 2012, the materials, collected from households as well as bring sites, will be transported to reprocessors across the UK.

Biffa already provides recycling and refuse collection services for the council, and is working closely with Forest of Dean on detailed planning for a major change of service. In mid-2012, the council will introduce fortnightly collections of residual waste from wheeled bins, a new subscription-based green waste service, and weekly food waste collections.

In the north-east, Hartlepool Borough Council has awarded Biffa a short-term contract to handle kerbside recycling collections for around 45,000 households, and the subsequent sale of dry recyclables. Biffa will service this contract from its Middlesbrough depot.

Finally, after a competitive tender process, Biffa has won a new one year refuse collection contract from South Staffordshire Council. Biffa is the incumbent refuse and recycling contractor, and the new agreement will synchronise with the recycling contract.

Pete Dickson, development director of Biffa's municipal division, said the 'welcome' news would help its hard-working staff finish the year 'on a high'.

"As an integrated waste management company, it is important that we develop our portfolio of services that can support the entire value chain."

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Notes to editors:

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The municipal division of recycling, waste and renewable energy business Biffa (www.biffa.co.uk) currently provides high quality, efficient recycling, refuse, street cleansing and grounds maintenance services for over 40 local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland. The division expanded considerably in late 2010 when municipal services specialist Verdant Group, and its 24 local authority contracts, joined Biffa when Greenstar UK was acquired. The municipal business makes over 2½ million collections per week, and employs in excess of 2,500 staff who use over 1,000 vehicles. Its notable successes include helping South Oxfordshire District Council achieve a recycling and composting rate of 70% during 2010, placing the council second in Defra's 2009-2010 league tables for overall recycling, composting and reuse and winning a LARAC Award for the most improved recycling authority. The first months of Vale of White Horse District Council's new service saw its recycling and composting rate match that of its South Oxfordshire neighbour, while a redesigned service for Surrey Heath Borough Council doubled its recycling and composting rate to almost 65%, helping it meet its 2025 target almost 15 years early.