



# Waste Services Programme February 2008 Newsletter

## Welcome to the monthly newsletter for the South West Centre of Excellence Waste Services Programme.

The South West Centre of Excellence is a member of the LIFT SW Partnership, aiming to support local authorities deliver efficiency savings and improve their ability to deliver services to their citizens.

Please circulate to all interested colleagues.

### Waste Service Programme Support Fund Allocation

The Waste Service Programme offers direct support to local authorities to investigate the potential for efficiency savings through collaborative and partnership working. Work for the Dorset authorities is now underway and support to Gloucestershire councils has been confirmed. Further support confirmations are expected imminently.

The Dorset authorities are being provided with support to develop the outline business case to support decision-making regarding future service integration. This work is being carried out in the context of that County's pathfinder for enhanced two-tier working.

Support for the Gloucestershire authorities will seek to build on the business case that is already in place to develop a project plan and to start to investigate some of the important issues including, for instances, governance and cost-sharing.

Other authorities are expecting final responses in the next few days. Those authorities that have not secured funding at this stage but are interested in developing proposals for funding under future phases of the programme should contact **James Fulford** at [jamesfulford@eunomia.co.uk](mailto:jamesfulford@eunomia.co.uk)

### MSW Facility Mapping

The regional and sub-regional maps are now available to be viewed and downloaded from the LIFT SW partnership website. Each WDA and UA has a map dedicated to the sites currently utilised. On the regional level, there are maps available by each facility type.

These outputs are available here:

<http://www.swce.gov.uk/workstreams/environmentalserVICES/wastemapping/>

## LIFT SW Regional Improvement & Efficiency Partnership strategy – waste services

Waste is likely to remain a key area for authorities over the next CSR period (08/09-10/11) and this is reflected in the recent LIFT SW RIEP strategy submitted to CLG. The proposed budget for the waste programme of £810k (£270k p.a.) will be used to help authorities achieve cashable gains and build their capacity to deliver improved services. The programme will focus on a number of key outcomes:

- Decreased amounts of waste generated
- Reduced amounts of waste being disposed of to landfill
- Increased levels of recycling and composting rates
- 3% efficiency saving achieved on the cost of delivering waste services to citizens without a corresponding reduction in service levels
- At least one example of a shared, joint, or collaborative working project in waste services in every sub-region
- Increased knowledge of regional, national and international good practice in waste management by waste officers, members, and relevant portfolio holders
- Increased skills and capabilities of waste officers, members, and relevant portfolio holders to understand and deal with large scale, complex waste services projects and solutions.

### The main outputs are likely to be:

A Regional Education Programme: designed to reduce the total amount of waste generated, and increase recycling rates in the region. This will build on work already being undertaken by WRAP and local authorities.

Local authority ‘business transformation’ engagements: this will assist local authorities produce feasibility studies, initial business cases, or implementation plans for joint, shared, or collaborative working related projects (potentially including the commercial sector).

Local authority collaborative ‘procurement’ engagements: this will assist local authorities undertake collaborative procurement activities in the waste sector, including waste service contracts, commodities and goods, and smaller scale facilities.

Skills Development Training Programme: creation and funding of activities aimed specifically at building capacity within the waste sector (both at officer and member level) and potentially in associated sectors such as planning.

Waste Communications Programme: dissemination of information on processes, experiences, best practice and lessons learned using a variety of different media, including regional networking events (utilising groups such as the SW Waste Officers network & SW Recycling Officers forum), organised site visits, newsletters, case studies, e-forums, and the web.

For further information on the waste section of the LIFT SW RIEP strategy contact;

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### Coming Soon

February and March will see the release of a number of key outputs from the Waste Services Programme. Shortly, Eunomia staff will be contacting officers in all WCA's and WDA's in order to discuss contract end-points, procurement timetables, progress regarding facilities developments and expectations regarding future developments. This research will feed into a report that is intended to identify the current state of the region with respect to landfill directive targets and LATS. It's also hoped that this approach will help identify areas of common need, for instance around the procurement of goods and services so that a joint approach can be supported to take pressure off local authorities and to achieve better prices.

Later in February a number of case studies showcasing best practice in partnership working will be posted on the LIFT SW partnership website. These shall highlight a variety of topics and include examples of good practice from within the region, most notably Devon, Somerset and Cornwall, alongside examples of best practice from elsewhere in England.

### Contact

If you would like anything to add to this newsletter, please contact;

**Sam Taylor** at Eunomia [sam.taylor@eunomia.co.uk](mailto:sam.taylor@eunomia.co.uk)