

# Yorworld

What's happening in Yorworld?

Winter 2009



Green partnership gets  
Royal seal of approval

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# Introduction

**At the time of writing (in winter 2009) the global economic recession continues to bite and Yorwaste, like many companies, has certainly not been immune from its effects.**

The markets for recycled materials remain volatile and there are no guarantees that the situation will improve in the short-term, but at least Yorwaste has the comfort of knowing it produces high quality recycled materials that will always be in demand.

The company is also in the position of providing services to both the public and private sector and whilst there has been tightening of belts in the so-called 'recession-proof' public sector, the fact we offer good value for money ensures the doors have remained open for Yorwaste, and we hope to be better placed than many others in the sector when the economy begins to show real signs of improvement.

Certainly, we are already pleased with the success of our trade waste and recycling collections, which have expanded and are in demand in North and West Yorkshire, and in areas such as Teesside.

It is also important, at this time, to ensure we are prudent with our money and that is why we take great care in ensuring we fund the right developments, i.e. those which will make a strategic difference to help us achieve our goals. So, for example, in the last 12 months we invested £1.2 million in increasing recycling capacity at our facilities in Tancred, near Catterick, and Seamer Carr, Scarborough. By extending these facilities we are now able to recycle an extra 100,000 tonnes of waste per year.

The Government's energy policy also represents another fiscal measure to attract investment in new and emerging technology which is able to convert waste into renewable energy.

We recently, with our partner the Energ Group, further developed our green energy generating capacity at our site at Harewood Whin, increasing the amount of electricity we generate from the landfill site to 5.2 MW. Across four facilities we now export a total of 8.5 MW of renewable energy to the National Grid.

We have also received planning permission from City of York Council for another new green power plant at Harewood Whin. This plant, which we are developing in partnership with renewable energy company Bioflame, would result in a further 2.5 MW of electricity being generated through recovery of energy from waste wood.

I am also delighted to report that engineering work on our existing sites has been completed on time and thanks should go to our partner, J N Bentley of Skipton, for its work in helping us achieve this.

**Steve Grieve**  
*Yorwaste Managing Director*

# Yorwaste reports record compost sales

**Yorwaste is reporting record sales of its nationally accredited compost.**

With more people than ever before now recycling their garden waste - helped largely by the kerbside collection services provided by Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils - Yorwaste is producing more compost at its Tancred site, near Scorton, than at any time in its history.

The quality of this compost is also very high as people are now very careful to ensure that nothing else other than garden waste is put in their green bins.

Along with the mixture of sunny and wet weather in 2009, which further improves the quality of compost, this has helped Yorwaste to sell thousands of tonnes compost, which it received national accreditation for in May 2009.

And the company is predicting that sales of the compost will remain high during autumn and winter as people maintain and prepare their gardens for spring/summer 2010.

Lindsey Skelton, Yorwaste's Site Manager at Tancred, said: "To meet the strict criteria needed for the accreditation we had to continually improve the standard of our compost, and we are now at the stage where we have a high quality product that is sought after by amateur and professional gardeners alike."

A total of 12,000 tonnes of green waste (grass, leaves, weeds, branches etc) collected from kerbsides in the Richmondshire and Hambleton area each year is taken to Tancred for composting, so people who buy the compost from the site are effectively putting it back in their gardens and helping the environment.

Councillor Bob Baker, Cabinet Member for Waste, said: "The green waste collections introduced by Hambleton District Council are already removing a huge amount of waste from landfill sites."

"We urge our residents to keep on recycling and take advantage of Yorwaste's compost offer at Tancred, which helps to close the loop on recycling."

The PAS 100 Quality Protocol accredited compost is sold to the general public and farmers/horticultural workers in 50-litre bags for just £2.50.

Tancred Site Manager, Lindsey Skelton, helps Plant Operative, Paul Cushley, to fill a compost bag.



# Yorwaste contributes to Project SLAM success

Yorwaste is currently providing waste services to Bovis Lend Lease as part of the multi-million pound Project SLAM (Single Living Accommodation Modernisation) to improve accommodation for army personnel based at Catterick Garrison, the largest army barracks in Europe.

Working in partnership with Bovis Lend Lease, Yorwaste has invested over £1 million in new waste management technology to enable Defence Estates (an arm of the Ministry of Defence) to meet its waste reduction targets on behalf of the MOD and Government. Since the project started, Yorwaste has helped Bovis Lend Lease to recycle 89% of all the waste, mainly construction, generated during the project.

Yorwaste has a waste recycling, composting and transfer facility at Tancred, just a few miles from Catterick, where the waste generated is processed by sorting, shredding, screening and bulking up. This allows Yorwaste to fulfil onward markets for the recycled material which in some instances enables Bovis Lend Lease to buy secondary aggregate produced by Yorwaste at Tancred.

This unique closed loop recycling approach demonstrates best practice in recycling and helps achieve the target of less waste landfill and reduction of the carbon footprint of the construction process.

Yorwaste also provides a co-mingled materials collection service, taking all of the collected materials to its recycling facility at Hessay, near York, where the materials are sorted, baled and then sent on for recycling. For example, paper is sent to UPM Kymmene in Shotton, Wales, to be re-used as newsprint. Cans are taken to Corus in Barnsley and any electrical items needing to be recycled are taken to Yorwaste's electrical recycling facility at Hessay.

In another innovative measure, the 700 tonnes of waste wood generated at the sites is sent to a garden nursery at nearby Ravensworth, only a few miles from the Garrison, where it undergoes a biomass treatment that results in green energy being produced. This energy helps to run the radiators that heat the nursery's greenhouses during cold weather.

“As the only integrated collection and waste processing business covering North Yorkshire, the final destination of customers' waste is normally one of our facilities.”

This partnership approach encourages continual improvement and the team supports the future plans for the nationally accredited PAS 100 compost that Yorwaste produces at its Tancred site to be sent to Catterick Garrison to be used as a soil conditioner.

In addition, Yorwaste and Bovis Lend Lease aim to achieve a zero to landfill target for the next few years, which will be achieved when all remaining waste is sent to Yorwaste's innovative, state-of-the-art pyrolysis facility in Scarborough.

Gareth Brown, Bovis Lend Lease Environmental and Sustainability Manager, said: “Bovis Lend Lease is committed to reducing waste, reducing the carbon footprint of the construction process and working in partnership with local communities. By partnering with Yorwaste, Bovis Lend Lease has been able to achieve all of these aims.

“This opportunity to work in partnership and consider the long term aims of our client has made a tangible difference in our approach to waste management in delivering Project SLAM in the region.”

Eric Flint, Yorwaste's Account Manager, adds: “We aim to offer customers the most cost-effective solution for their needs. By going beyond the simple provision of skips to building sites, we can be an effective 'green' partner for developers and construction companies.

“As the only integrated collection and waste processing business covering North Yorkshire, the final destination of customers' waste is normally one of our facilities. This means customers get the added benefit of avoiding long and potentially confusing audit trails.”

Yorwaste has invested over £1 million in new waste management technology

# Work set to start on green power plant

An innovative new project is to result in 30,000 tonnes of waste wood being turned into 'green' electricity - providing enough power for around 4,000 homes in York.

A joint venture between Yorwaste, the North Yorkshire recycling and waste management company, and Pickering-based clean energy-from-waste specialist, Bioflame, will result in the construction of a new green power plant at Yorwaste's integrated waste management facility at Harewood Whin, near York.

It follows a decision by City of York Council to grant planning permission for the £7 million project, which will be known as Yorwaste Heat & Power.

Waste wood - such as old kitchen worktops, window frames and timber - is difficult to recycle but under this project it will be brought to Harewood Whin to be shredded and then thermally treated.

Energy produced during this process will then pass through a steam boiler and into a turbine, which will produce 21,040 megawatt hours of clean renewable electricity per annum. The patented Bioflame clean burn technology ensures that the system performs to the strictest environmental code for emissions.

This electricity will then be fed back into the National Grid, providing enough power for around 4,000 homes.

Work on the new facility is set to get underway in 2010 and it will be operational by 2011. The plant will complement the existing green power generators, which already export 5.2 megawatts of electricity to the National Grid.

Tony Sharkey, Yorwaste's Director of Future Developments, said: "The wood that will be fed into the new facility is very low grade and this means it cannot be recycled in the normal way.

"However, this new technology will result in the waste being able to be recycled through the production of green renewable electricity that will power thousands of homes.

"We are very excited about this project and once it is fully operational it will mean Harewood Whin is one of the largest renewable electricity generating sites in the whole of Yorkshire."

Alex Thornton, New Business Manager at Bioflame, said: "This development will contribute significantly towards the region's binding obligation to ensure 20% of all electricity generated by 2020 comes from renewable sources.

"In addition, it will save nearly 9,000 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per annum by reducing the region's dependence on fossil fuel derived energy."

This electricity will then be fed back into the National Grid, providing enough power for around 4,000 homes.

## Recycling success at Great Yorkshire Show

**Yorwaste this year exceeded the target it set for recycling waste generated during the 2009 Great Yorkshire Show.**

The company, which was appointed to provide waste management, cleaning and litter collection services during the three-day show, had estimated it would recycle 60% of all waste it collected.

Over the three days an amazing 105 tonnes of waste was collected and Yorwaste was able to recycle 61% of this.

The waste collected by Yorwaste was taken to its recycling facilities at Harewood Whin and Hessay, near York.

The cans, bottles, plastics, paper and cardboard will now be sent for reprocessing to specialist recycling facilities across the UK and will then be ready to be reused.

# Green waste partnership gets Royal seal of approval

**A unique partnership between two farmers and Yorwaste has prevented around 8,000 tonnes of garden waste being sent to landfill.**

In 2005 John Seymour and his son Tom, who own and run Dromanby Farm in Kirby in Cleveland, near Stokesley, began accepting garden waste (otherwise known as green waste) from Yorwaste, as part of the kerbside collection scheme the company operates in partnership with Hambleton District Council.

Each fortnight green waste is taken to the farm where it is shredded and eventually transformed into a soil conditioner that is used on the farmers' fields.

And in the four years that the partnership has been operating it is estimated that 8,000 tonnes of garden waste has been composted and prevented from being sent to landfill.

Taking the locally produced garden waste directly to the Seymours' farm has also helped the environment, providing a local processing site for the green waste collected in the Stokesley and Great Ayton area, thereby reducing carbon emissions.

News of this scheme also came to the attention of Royalty recently when the Seymours were asked by Buckingham Palace if they could loan their shredding machine for three weeks - an offer they could obviously not turn down!

John Seymour said: "The partnership with Yorwaste has proved very effective and we are delighted that we have been able to play such an important role in helping the environment by composting approximately 2,000 tonnes of green waste each year, providing a local solution for a local recycling initiative.

"It is also pleasing for us that by composting the green waste we produce a high quality soil conditioner we can use on the farm and this has helped towards the quality of the barley and oilseed rape we produce."

Tony Sharkey, Yorwaste's Director of Future Developments, said: "Partnerships like this are the way forward for the waste management industry because not only do they have a very positive environmental impact, they also promote the use of local solutions for dealing with waste."

Once the green waste is shredded by the Seymours' tractor-powered machine, it is put onto a concrete pad and laid out in the form of a windrow. These rows are turned regularly to help oxygen get into the green waste and as it generates heat in the process, water is also added to ensure it remains moist.

Tony Sharkey and Tom Seymour on top of a pile of compost.



## Benn sets out plans to make the UK a “zero waste” nation

Speaking at a recent waste summit, The Secretary of State for the Environment, Hilary Benn, announced he wants to halve the amount of waste going to landfill over in next ten years.

A consultation will begin next year with a view to banning more recyclable and compostable items from going to landfill, and a new zero waste standard for local authorities will also be created to recognise areas which are going above and beyond national waste targets, whilst supporting them with small grants for further development.

## Selby Renewable Energy Park

Work on the UK’s largest food waste recycling plant is set to get underway in Selby by early in 2010.

The anaerobic digestion plant, which is situated at the former Tate & Lyle sugar factory, will export 32,000 MW of renewable electricity to the National Grid when it becomes operational at the end of 2010.

The £20 million project will also give an important boost to the local economy, creating 120 new jobs and providing a low cost heat source for local businesses.

## England reaches 37.6% household waste recycling rate

England achieved a 37.6% household waste recycling and compost rate in 2008/09, Defra has revealed.

However, the 3.1% increase from the 34% in 2007/08 represents a further fall in the pace that the rate is rising - compared to the 4.2% increase seen in 2006/07 and 3.6% in 2007/08.



## New Directors

Yorwaste has made two new non-executive director appointments.

John Phillips (right in the photograph above) and Martin Buckley (on the left) have joined the Yorwaste Board in a non-executive capacity, replacing David Ashton and Tim Readman, who have both retired after 17 years with the company.

John has spent most of his career in the waste industry, while Martin comes from a manufacturing background.

Yorwaste Managing Director, Steve Grieve, said: “We are pleased to welcome both John and Martin to the company and wish them every success in their roles.

“They have a wealth of experience working at the very highest professional levels and we believe their involvement will contribute greatly to the further growth of Yorwaste over the next few years.

“Yorwaste would also like to thank David and Tim for their long and dedicated service.

They have been with the company since it was established in 1992 and have played a major role in helping growing the company and ensuring value for money for people across North Yorkshire and the City of York who use our services.”

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