



Making more from waste

Press Release

4th September, 2012

Shanks to help Bedfordshire councils improve recycling rates and reduce costs

Councils appoint Shanks to divert over 70% of black bin waste from landfill and incineration

Leading international waste management business, Shanks Group plc ('Shanks' or 'the Company'), today announces that it has been appointed by Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council to help both authorities achieve significant improvements in their recycling rates while also reducing costs for residents.

Under the six year contract with Bedford Borough Council, Shanks will manage all of the local authority's black bin waste – amounting to 50,000 tonnes per annum – which has previously been sent to landfill and incineration. From the beginning of October, Shanks will use its mechanical and biological treatment ('MBT') plant at Frog Island in London to remove recyclable materials from the waste, delivering recycling and landfill diversion rates in excess of 70%. The MBT process will produce solid recovered fuel (SRF), which is used in energy generation and is a sustainable alternative to fossil fuel.

Central Bedfordshire Council has also appointed Shanks to manage its municipal waste. Under an initial two and half year contract, Shanks will utilise its Frog Island MBT plant to recycle and treat black bin waste – amounting to 26,000 tonnes per annum – that was previously sent to landfill or incinerated, again delivering diversion rates in excess of 70%.

Ian Goodfellow, UK MD of Shanks, said: *"We are delighted to have secured the contracts with Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire councils, both of which endorse Shanks' sustainable approach to processing and recycling waste, while at the same time delivering cost effective waste management solutions for local authorities."*

Mayor of Bedford Borough, Dave Hodgson, said: *"I have always been opposed to mass burn incineration and landfill and I am delighted after years of hard work that we will now see our waste being recycled and processed in a way which will deliver an immediate increase in our recycling rates while also generating outstanding savings for residents."*

ENDS



Making more from waste

For further information please contact:

Austen Lees, Head of Corporate Communications, Shanks Group Plc
Telephone +44 (0)1908 650580, mobile +44 (0)7773 813210, email
austen.lees@shanks.co.uk

Shanks Group plc is a leading international sustainable waste management business with operations in the Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom and Canada.

The Group provides a range of recycling and energy recovery solutions to customers in both the public and private sector. The Group employs over 4,000 employees and last year it handled 7.8 million tonnes of waste achieving an overall recycling and recovery rate of 78%.

The Group has a significant organic waste treatment capacity of over 1 million tonnes. Shanks is a FTSE 250 company listed on the London Stock Exchange. In May 2012 it reported annual revenues of £750 million and trading profits of £53.4 million. The company was established in 1880 and is based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

Shanks Group plc
Dunedin House,
Auckland Park
Mount Farm,
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire MK1 1BU
United Kingdom

T + 44 (0)1908 650 580
F + 44 (0)1908 650 651
www.shankspc.com