



SiarNews

Recycling Newsletter

SPRING 2005

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A model way to go!

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has announced plans to develop a state of the art waste re-processing plant in the Creed Business Park on the outskirts of Stornoway, with a transfer station planned for Market Stance in Benbecula.

The Stornoway plant will be the first of its type in the United Kingdom and will combine anaerobic digestion technology and, in-vessel composting to process bio-degradable wastes. The site will also have process facilities for glass, cans and plastics, a civic amenity site and a small visitors/educational centre.

Both high-grade and low-grade compost will be produced at the site with the low-grade compost being used as a landfill restoration material and the high-grade compost will, following suitable trials, be used for horticultural applications.

The project is being developed in conjunction with Earth-Tech, an experienced developer of waste management and re-processing facilities and is planned for completion during 2006.



An artists impression of the new facility

The centre-piece of the development will be the anaerobic digestion facility that will produce methane gas from the processing of the organic waste. This gas will then be used to generate green electricity to power the plant itself and export the surplus to the grid. The plant will, therefore, be completely self contained and self-sufficient.

An organic waste collection service is planned to commence in early 2006. Organic material such as garden waste, cardboard, paper, vegetable waste etc. will be collected from all homes throughout the Western Isles for processing at the Creed site.

The project is being developed in conjunction with Earth-Tech, an experienced developer of waste management and re-processing facilities and is planned for completion during 2006.

Community Recycling Points

The Community Recycling Point Network (the familiar blue banks) has increased dramatically in the first quarter of 2005 to a total of 51 throughout the Western Isles.

There is now one recycling point for every 200 households around the Western Isles, in rural areas and each recycling point will accept glass, aluminium and steel cans and all types of plastics.

Many of the recycling points also bring direct benefits to the communities in which they are located. Community Groups have elected to help Com-

hairle nan Eilean Siar by managing the sites in return for payments to the group for the service. The management of the site involves keeping the area around the Bank tidy and advising the Comhairle when the Bank needs to be emptied. An annual payment is made to the responsible group concerned based on the number of times the Bank is emptied.

Visit www.cne-siar.gov.uk/recycling for detailed maps of each recycling point or check out the back page of this newsletter.



Reduce Reuse Recycle
let's get it sorted



Quick Recycling Guide



Learning the 3R's at Scalpay School. (above) and Paible School (below). That's Reduce Reuse Recycle!



Did you know?
The Western Isles generates nearly 1 tonne of Waste per person per year!



Above—Pupils at Tong Schools give their own talk on Recycling. Right—They know the 3R's at Stonybridge too!



The most common questions asked of the Waste Aware Western Isles Team is what and how to recycle. So, to help, here is a short guide to Recycling in the Western Isles. This simple guide applies to the Kerbside Collection and the Recycling Points.

Paper Newspaper, office paper, brochures, catalogues, greetings cards, and junk mail can all be recycled. We are unable to accept cardboard or envelopes at this stage. Please note that the Tetra-Pak type milk cartons cannot be accepted either.

Plastics All types of plastics can be accepted, including milk containers, juice bottles, yogurt pots, margarine tubs, shampoo and fabric softener bottles etc.

Please rinse each one thoroughly to make sure any residue of the contents are removed and take off any non-plastic labels, if possible.

Glass All glass containers can be accepted. Again please rinse them thoroughly and where possible remove the labels. We are unable to accept Pyrex style glass or ceramic materials.

Cans Both aluminium and steel food and drinks cans are suitable for recycling. Please rinse them to remove any traces of the contents and remove any labels where possible.

If you have any additional queries as to what can be recycled then contact the Waste Aware Western Isles Team on 01851 709900 or email recycling@cne-siar.gov.uk.

Kerbside Collection

The Cearns and parts of the Manor Park areas of Stornoway are participating in a Pilot Kerbside Collection of recyclable material. The Pilot Scheme, operated by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, is designed to test a number of collection systems for recyclates.

The first collection in the scheme was in early April with plans to extend the pilot at the end of June to other areas of Stornoway

Households in the two areas have different systems to collect and store recyclable material. The Waste Aware Team are collecting feedback from households in each area to help the Comhairle make a decision on the best overall system.

The Bandwagon!

The Waste Aware Western Isles mobile unit is all ready to go for a long summer of action. The unit will be a regular visitor to events and shows throughout the Western Isles from June to September.

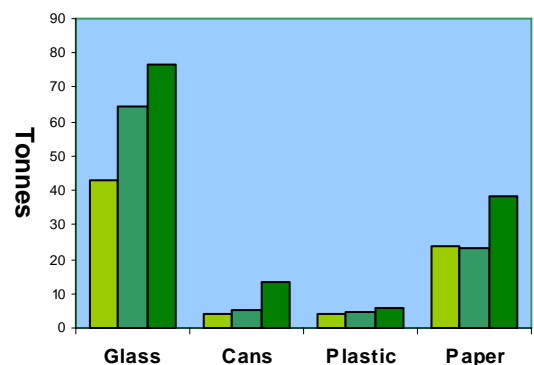
The Waste Aware Team will be present in the mobile unit to offer help and support to anyone with recycling enquiries. There will be a video running, "Recycling in the Western Isles" and computer games for all ages.

If you would like the mobile unit as a feature at a show or event in your community then contact the Waste Aware Western Isles Team on 01851 709900.

On the up—Recycling Figures

Over the last year recycling figures in the Western Isles have increased steadily with the volumes for each type of material showing a very positive increase. Good access to Community Recycling Points and more public awareness are all thought to be factors in this increase. The graphs show the weights of each material Recycled in the last three quarters since June 2004.

The graph shows the figures for each type of material recycled in the last three quarterly periods to March 2005.



A big THANK YOU! To everyone for helping to make this possible.

Schools Section

Yellow Woods Challenge

Kirk, the Yellow Woods Challenge Mascot, visited the Western Isles in April to help the Waste Aware Team launch participation in this year's Yellow Woods Challenge. The Challenge has been taken up by over 20 schools in the Western Isles.

The National Competition is organised by Yellow Pages allowing local authority areas to compete every year. The idea is simple - schools collect as many out of date Yellow Pages as possible which are then sent for recycling. There are local, regional and national prizes for the schools that collect the most Yellow Pages per pupil.

Yellow Pages is launching its new 2005/06 Highlands and Islands edition in May 2005 just in time to allow the schools to collect the out of date copies before the summer break. With places for only 80 authority areas each year, the Waste Aware Western Isles Team successfully negotiated the inclusion of the Western Isles in the scheme for the first time. Prizes are awarded on copies collected per pupil, so even the schools with the smallest rolls have an excellent chance of winning.

Schools will have a month to collect as many copies of Yellow Pages as they can. Then in mid June, the Waste Aware Team will collect and count the Yellow Pages from participating schools. An announcement on the winners is expected at the end of June.

A Character!

Congratulations to Marina, the winner of the Waste Aware Western Isles Character Competition. Marina, from Tong School, received £50 in vouchers for the winning entry with the school receiving a cheque for £250 toward equipment for the school.

The Competition, launched in January, asked pupils throughout the Western Isles to come up with ideas for a mascot character that could be used in the Waste Aware Campaign. With over a hundred entries from 10 schools, the competition was tough and difficult to judge, but Marina's entry was chosen as the overall winner.

Kirk visits Bayble School to help promote the Challenge



Out and About

Much of the work of the Waste Aware Team is in taking the Reduce Reuse Recycle message out and about to schools and communities.

Right and below are a selection of pictures taken on recent visits to schools throughout the Western Isles.

Each visit helps the children to understand more about the 3 R's and the chance to see some products that help reducing or have been recycled. There is also a quiz and a recycling game for the groups to try.



Below left Knock School and right Eriskay School



**Above - Tolsta Playgroup
Right (top to bottom)-
Airidhantium,
Bernera,
Daliburgh,
Sandwickhill
Playgroup and
Stornoway Play-
group.**



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Community Recycling Initiative

