Serco launches £10m waste transfer station for Sandwell

Wednesday 24 April

Serco together with Sandwell Council have opened a new £10 million waste transfer station in Tipton. Eagle Lane Transfer Hub in Danks Way, Tipton, handles more than 1,700 tonnes of waste and recycling each week collected from homes across the borough.

Eagle Lane Transfer Hub, which has an annual capacity of 200,000 tonnes, is an innovative approach to speeding up waste transfer times and will deliver a more efficient collection service to the residents in Sandwell.

All rubbish collected from Sandwell’s residents including domestic, garden and food waste as well as recycling, is taken to the transfer station when collection vehicles are full. Materials are then bulked up and sent to either recycling centre processors or waste treatment facilities.

Serco’s Director Jason Holtom said, "We’re delighted to see Eagle Lane Transfer Hub completed and open on time. Having our own transfer station gives us greater control of our services and speeds up things up for our drivers. As a result we’re already delivering a quicker and more efficient service."

Jason added: "I’d like to thank everybody involved in the planning and construction of the site and welcome the staff that are operating the site in such a committed and enthusiastic way."

The site measures more than 23,500 square metres with the main building measuring 4,460 square metres. More than 100 new jobs have been created during the planning and construction phase of the development and eight new full time members of staff work now operate the site.

Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell Cabinet member for Neighbourhood Services, said, “Since teaming up with Serco in 2010 we have dramatically improved waste and recycling services for residents. Recycling rates have rocketed and we’re sending less to landfill which means avoiding expensive landfill taxes. The opening of Eagle Lane Transfer Hub is another important milestone that underlines our dedication to continuing to improving services in Sandwell."
Media Release

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Editors notes:

About Serco's Environmental Services
Serco’s environmental services business includes the delivery of refuse and recycling, street cleansing, vehicle maintenance, landscaping and grounds maintenance. We also continue to expand our scope of services within the waste management sector with the introduction of waste treatment and processing.

The business has seen extraordinary growth over the last few years: we now operate 15 contracts across 16 local authorities throughout the UK, including our groundbreaking shared services contract with Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council which was the first of its kind awarded in 2006, employing over 400 staff. In 2011 Serco Environmental Services had an annual turnover of £113m.

As a next-generation service provider, Serco recognised early on that it was not enough to simply provide a scheduled service of refuse collection and street sweeping. It was incumbent upon everyone in the business to deliver added value and innovation to the local authorities and to fully engage with the communities we work within.

Serco soon developed the reputation of being a results focused service provider, known for consistently achieving results in the top quarter across the full range of government key performance indicators which naturally made us the partner of choice for Local Authorities to work with.

About Serco
Serco is a FTSE 100 international service company, which combines commercial know-how with a deep public service ethos.

We improve essential services by managing people, processes, technology and assets more effectively. We advise policy makers, design innovative solutions, integrate systems and - most of all - deliver to the public.
Serco supports governments, agencies and companies around the world who seek a trusted partner with a solid track record of providing assured service excellence. Our people offer operational, management and consulting expertise in the aviation, BPO, defence, education, environmental services, facilities management, health, home affairs, information and communications technology, knowledge services, local government, science, transport, welfare to work and the commercial sectors.

More information can be found at www.serco.com