

## What WRWA does with your waste

In May 2002 WRWA entered into a long-term contract, known as the Waste Management Services Agreement (WMSA), with Cory Environmental Limited (now trading as Cory Riverside Energy). This contract is helping WRWA to realise its aim of maximising reuse and recycling and providing a greener future for management of its waste.

The waste management services provided by WRWA and Cory involve waste and recyclable material being delivered to the Authority's two transfer stations, at Smugglers Way in Wandsworth and Cringle Street in Battersea, for either reuse, recycling or treatment.

Western Riverside Transfer Station, near Wandsworth Bridge, can handle over 6,500 tonnes of waste and recyclables per week. WRWA's second transfer station, Cringle Dock, is located next to Battersea Power Station and can handle over 6,000 tonnes of waste and recyclables every week.

Both transfer stations use state-of-the-art technology in waste containerisation and operate efficiently and to the highest environmental standards.

Cory takes advantage of spare capacity at the transfer stations for the receipt of local trade and commercial waste.

WRWA currently provides an integral Household Waste and Recycling Centre (previously known as a Civic Amenity Site) at its Smugglers Way transfer station and Lambeth Council also provides its own, additional, Reuse and Recycling Centre at Vale Street, West Norwood.

WRWA receives co-mingled and separated recyclables at its transfer

stations and a new Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) was constructed at Smugglers Way in 2010/11, so that most of the separation and baling process is now carried out on site and the baled materials are then transported on to their various market outlets elsewhere in the UK or abroad.

Green Waste collected kerbside by the constituent councils and at WRWA's Household Waste and Recycling Centre is bulked at the transfer stations for onward transportation to a number of centralised composting facilities within, or just outside, the London area.

Most of the waste that cannot be reused or recycled is compacted into containers before being loaded onto barges for their onward river journey. Historically, this was to Cory's landfill site located on the Thames Estuary at Mucking, Essex, but since the completion of the Riverside Resource Recovery Limited's (RRRL) Energy from Waste Facility at Belvedere, in the London Borough of Bexley, the waste has been used for energy recovery. The Authority is now sending "zero waste" direct to landfill and is generating enough electricity to power over 100,000 homes.

Collaborative negotiation between the Authority and Cory Riverside Energy

led, in March 2017, to a successful restructuring of the Belvedere Energy from Waste (EfW) Facility's long term borrowing which will generate significant financial savings for the Authority as a consequence. The Facility will, for decades to come, ensure a secure and environmentally sound treatment method for that portion of waste which cannot be reused or recycled.

In November 2017 Cory published plans to build an integrated, low-carbon energy park at its site in Belvedere, South East London. This would complement Cory's existing Riverside EfW Facility and comprise a range of technologies, including waste energy recovery, anaerobic digestion, solar panels, and battery storage.



### The Government's Waste Hierarchy

Prevention



Preparing for Reuse



Recycling



Other Recovery



Disposal

Year-on-year increases in the rate of landfill tax mean that the **landfilling** of waste has become an **uneconomic proposition** as well as one which is found

It would also enable more of London's residual "black bag" waste to be converted into green electricity, particularly during times of peak usage, and produce cheap heat for export to nearby homes and businesses. In addition, it would continue to convert the residual ash left over at the end of the process into construction materials useful for building London's homes and roads. The application is expected to be submitted to the Government's Planning Inspectorate in late 2018 and, if the planning process is successful, construction is targeted to begin in 2021, with the Energy Park to be fully operational by 2024.