

## Casepak remains top choice for local authorities

More than 76,000 tonnes of local authority dry mixed recyclables will be processed at Casepak's Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) as a result of the team securing three new local authority contracts.

Casepak has been awarded a contract by **Leicestershire County Council** to process 64,000 tonnes per annum of dry mixed recyclables. It is anticipated that the contract will save the County Council up to £43 million by 2030.

Casepak currently processes a combined 38,000 tonnes per annum of recyclable materials from **Blaby District Council**, **Charnwood Borough Council** and **Harborough District Council** at the MRF, as well as an additional 6,000TPA from Recycling and Household Waste sites across Leicestershire at our Collections and Processing Facility in Enderby.

The new contract, which has been awarded to Casepak for a minimum of four years, with the option to extend up to 10 years, will see Casepak gain an extra 20,000TPA of co-mingled recyclables from **Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council**, **Melton Borough Council**, and **Oadby and Wigston Borough Council**.

**Rutland County Council** has also awarded Casepak a three year contract to process 3,800 tonnes of co-mingled materials per annum following a competitive selection process. The new deal, which began in May 2017, will see Casepak's partnership with the council continue until 2020.

Casepak has also won a contract to process 9,000 tonnes of mixed kerbside material from 54,000 homes through **Erewash Borough Council** until 2022.

### BBC Radio Leicester presenter gets a MRF masterclass



In May we welcomed BBC Radio Leicester presenter, Helen McCarthy to the MRF to share our top tips for recycling in a bid to help householders avoid confusion about what can and can't be put into their recycling bins.

Helen met with MRF Operations Manager, Lee Bradbury and Assistant Operations Manager, Jacob Smith.

Lee Bradbury said, "We hope Helen's visit provided an insight into the work that goes into sorting and separating the thousands of tonnes of material the MRF processes on a daily basis. A big thanks to BBC Radio Leicester for highlighting the importance of household recycling – Helen, you are welcome back anytime!"

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# Waste sector must lead drive for circular economy post-Brexit

By Mark Smith, Joint-Managing Director

In the last edition of *The Recycler*, I wrote about how the circular economy needs to be central to a post-Brexit waste policy.

Now more than one year on since the UK's vote to leave the European Union many of us in the waste and recycling sector are still anxiously awaiting some firm statements from Government about the role that our industry will play in a post-Brexit economy.

However, specific policies relating to waste management, and how our withdrawal from the EU might affect recycling targets and legislation, have been fairly thin on the ground, particularly as the long-awaited 25-year environment plan, due to be published by Defra earlier this year, has been delayed.

China's recently announced ban on plastic scrap imports has also created turmoil in the waste market. For many years, Europe's waste management systems have been actively supporting and assisting the treatment of low quality plastics waste in China, but from the start of 2018 imports of such materials will be banned. Today, this surplus is unable to be totally absorbed in the EU as it does not meet the quality requirements of the European recyclers, demonstrating the urgency needed to implement a real and sustainable waste market in Europe.

## So what could Brexit mean for recycling and waste management providers in the UK?

The Department for Exiting the European Union published its Great Repeal Bill earlier in the year, which states that existing European environment law should be safeguarded to give stakeholders "maximum certainty as we leave the EU." The wording of the Bill recognises the important contributions that EU environmental legislation has played in delivering "tangible environmental benefits".

EU membership has certainly been a positive force in introducing ambitious recycling targets to the UK's policy agenda.

The UK has made great progress in raising recycling rates, from a meagre 10% at the turn of the millennium to nearly 45% last year. Under EU rules Britain has reduced the proportion of municipal waste dumped in landfill sites from 80% in 2000-01 to 20% in 2014-15.

To abandon our commitment to improving environmental sustainability would risk undoing all of the good work of the past and limit our capacity to continue to improve.

Recycling targets provide certainty in our sector and the wider economy. Committing to long-term targets will provide the investment framework to drive the UK's progress towards an ever-greater resource efficiency and enable the latest technologies and processes to be incorporated into the nation's waste management infrastructure to boost efficiency. In addition to this, maintaining compliance with the EU environmental laws is vital for our continued ability to trade with our European partners on an equal footing.

Of equal importance is our ability to close the loop on domestic recycling, to improve our resource efficiency and reduce the consumption of scarce resources. If the circular economy can be achieved, it will establish a robust platform for sustainable economic growth, contributing to the UK's competitiveness and productivity.

The waste management sector has an important role to play in Britain's post-Brexit landscape, and we need to ensure we are in the vanguard of any discussions, working together to ensure progress towards the ultimate goal of a circular economy.



## Enderby's extra efficiency

To enhance efficiency at our Collections and Processing Facility (CPF) in Enderby, we've recently installed £300,000 worth of processing machinery, and health and safety equipment.

The CPF processes approximately 450 tonnes of material per day. This figure is increasing rapidly which means procedures, equipment and staff need to be in optimum condition.

We installed a new Lyndex paper conditioner to work in tandem with the existing Lyndex baler which provides real-time feedback so the team can see exactly how much material is being processed.

O.Kay engineering were commissioned to develop a bespoke conveyor system capable of recognising load weights on each belt, meaning the machine can adjust its speed accordingly to achieve maximum throughput.

Our investment also included a range of health and safety improvements, including a new spark arrest system and a state-of-the-art safety belt interlock system with weight sensors.



“ The new baler's real time data has already made a significant difference helping us breakdown trends in performance and look at ways we can streamline workflows. ”

Dave Cullen, Production Manager

We have already seen improvements at the site, with productivity boosted and bale weights increasing by 10%. In addition, transportation and fuel costs have been reduced which means a reduced carbon footprint for Casepak.

## Spydir-R installed to boost polymer detection

Casepak has also invested in Spydir-R polymer sorting equipment. The new upgrade to our mixed fibre stream removes all plastic film and film bags via an air transfer system and detects any other plastic that has contaminated the stream.

Spydir-R rapidly identifies a large range of polymers by analysing their infrared signature. The new technology has increased throughput by one tonne per hour.

## Casepak takes on charity challenges



2017 has proved to be a successful fundraising year, with the Casepak team taking part in a variety of charity events and helping to raise more than £1,500 for worthwhile causes.

In April we supported a Leicester local who ran the London Marathon to raise £1,000 for the charity Wishes 4 Kids.

Later in June we joined forces with another Leices-

ter-based business, PH Hull to take part in the gruelling Samworth Brothers Charity Challenge. A fantastic £500 was raised for Leicester charity Rainbows Children's Hospice.

A further £150 was collected for Home Start (Blaby, Oadby and Wigston) through crowd-funding.

We are very proud of our team at Casepak, well done everyone and keep up the good work!

# Streamlined recycling system = more efficient operations for KeCo



## Objective

KeCo Food Service Packaging, based in Cambridgeshire, was looking for a solution to improve the efficiency of its waste recovery system, with a view to minimising manual handling and reducing labour costs.



The company creates and supplies convenience food packaging and produces a large amount of waste card and plastic materials. These materials needed to be removed from the site as effectively as possible.

KeCo approached Casepak and tasked the team with providing a new strategy for the company's waste and recycling processes.

## Solution

Following a complete review of KeCo's waste and recycling procedure, Casepak developed a new plan for the company to follow. Part of new solution was to install a complete waste extraction system on-site. This included a Thetford T2 Compactor, a baler and a compaction container for the collection and removal of waste card and plastic materials.

Casepak also provided KeCo with four 1,100 litre wheelie bins to simplify waste collection.

The extraction system helped to create a more manageable waste disposal solution, allowing material to be handled much more simply and efficiently.

Recyclables are collected by Casepak and delivered and sorted at the Collections and Processing Facility.

## Outcome

Casepak's tailored approach to recycling solutions helped to improve the overall efficiency of KeCo's day-to-day operations. Not only has the new plan helped to reduce manual handling, but it has also helped to save space and money.

Jamie Kearns, Director at KeCo, said: "Although we are a new start-up business, we have been using Casepak's services for our waste control over the past 20 years through other businesses, and have a great relationship with them. In our opinion, they are the industry leaders and provide a first class solution for our business.

“ We are already seeing the benefits; departmental output figures have increased by 40 per cent and manual handling has diminished. ”

For more information on KeCo Food Service Packaging, please visit [www.kecofsp.com](http://www.kecofsp.com)

**See for yourself  
visit the MRF**

Call us on 0116 286 7772 to arrange a visit  
or email [info@casepak.co.uk](mailto:info@casepak.co.uk)