



verdant

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VERDANT TAKES ON GREENSTAR CONTRACTS

Verdant has expanded its customer base by around 10% after taking over the operational management of four Greenstar contracts. Described by Verdant managing director Roger Edwards as 'making absolute sense', the transfer follows Greenstar's acquisition of Verdant last November.



The quartet of transferred contracts – East Lothian Council, Cannock Chase District Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and South Staffordshire Council – give Verdant a presence in northern England and Scotland for the first time. The February transfer saw local staff move to Verdant employment while operations, all focused on fortnightly recycling collections, became Verdant-branded.

Verdant contract portfolio manager Chris Halfpenny said: "The transfer has been welcomed both by councils and local staff who have been impressed by Verdant's track record and specialist municipal expertise."



TREBLE TOPS

Verdant's continuing business growth has brought three promotions. Former development director Roger Edwards returns to its Sevenoaks HQ as managing director, having spent over a year in a similar role running the Waste Services UK subsidiary. He remained on Verdant's board during this time, and will now lead the company's continuing success in providing outsourced waste, recycling, cleansing and grounds maintenance services.



Mick Gumble has been promoted to be Verdant's third contract portfolio manager. He was business manager for Verdant's Arun District Council contract, and now has operational responsibility for seven local authority contracts – Bridgend, Camberley, Arun, Chiltern, South Bucks, South Oxfordshire and Wycombe.

Arun's business manager is now Laura Greenfield-Parker, who has been promoted from operations manager on the contract.

DUNSTABLE ACQUISITION

AT the end of March, Verdant's parent, Greenstar UK, acquired Dunstable Waste Group Ltd, a Bedfordshire commercial waste and recycling business trading as Firbank Chiltern. It handles around 50,000 tonnes of waste and recyclable materials annually, collects general waste, glass and mixed recyclables from commercial and industrial customers, and operates a 5,000 tonnes pa aluminium can recycling facility. Its licensed waste transfer station and materials recycling facility (MRF) sorts close to 15,000 tonnes of recyclates each year.



QUALIFICATIONS COUNT

Over 100 Verdant staff who provide waste and recycling collection, street and beach cleansing, and Green Waste Club services for Arun District Council are working towards National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) in waste management operations.

The training is being provided by the South West Regional Assessment Centre, and is funded by the Learning Skills Council. The training comprises some classroom work, work place practicals, training demonstrations, and IOSH health & safety at work. Verdant contract portfolio manager Mick Gumble commented: " Simon, Keith and Ian of LONTAC have worked well with local business manager Laura Greenfield-Parker, and they have all put in a tremendous effort which has helped us achieve the best standards for our staff ."

SUPPORTING WELSH MOUNTAIN RESUCE

Verdant's Anglesey operation is providing vitally-needed sponsorship for the local Aberglaslyn Mountain Rescue team. Arranged by business manager Andy Dutton, Verdant's vehicle workshops will provide free servicing facilities for the team's hard-worked Land Rover.

One of North Wales' most active mountain rescue teams,

it operates in and around the rugged Snowdonia National Park. The 30 highly trained volunteers provide a 24/7/365 rescue service that can involve the police, the Royal Air Force, search dogs and others trying to find lost or injured climbers, ramblers and animals.

Said Andy: "The rescue team does a fantastic job on a shoestring, and we're delighted to help support this life-saving work."

GREEN WASTE CLUBS BURST INTO SPRING

Green Waste Club



The four Green Waste Clubs operated by Verdant are gearing up for the usual Spring upturn. The 28,000 members of the subscription-based Clubs – at Arun, Surrey Heath, East Northamptonshire and South Oxfordshire – last year collected some 15,000 tonnes of green waste which was composted, rather than being sent to landfill. Verdant MD Roger Edwards said: "More attention is being paid to recycling green waste and the clubs continue to go from strength to strength."

VERDANT AT LGA 08

In keeping with its expertise and growing market presence, Verdant will again be exhibiting at this year's LGA exhibition, Bournemouth International Centre 1st - 3rd July, Stand Number P20. As well as promoting Verdant's waste, recycling, cleansing and grounds maintenance services, the stand will also provide information on Greenstar's integrated recycling service, ranging from domestic and commercial recyclable collections to state of the art processing facilities.



Local Government Association