

Press Release

26 November 2012

Shanks appointed to manage South West Wales' food waste

Leading international waste management business, Shanks Group plc ('Shanks'), has been selected as Preferred Bidder by the South West Wales Regional Waste Partnership to manage all of the region's food waste.

Under the 20 year contract Shanks will develop a new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility, capable of processing 60,000 to 90,000 tonnes per annum, located at the company's New Inn site at Pontypool, South Wales. The facility will be built and operated by Shanks' specialist organic waste processing business and will divert more than 97% of the waste it processes from landfill whilst generating sufficient green energy to power approximately 4,000 homes.

Shanks has already submitted a planning application to Torfaen County Borough Council for the development of the new AD plant at New Inn.

Ian Goodfellow, Shanks UK Managing Director, said: *"We are delighted to have been selected as Preferred Bidder for the South West Wales Regional Waste Partnership and look forward to working closely with them as we finalise our plans to make more from the region's food waste."*

The South West Wales Regional Waste Partnership includes Swansea, Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Bridgend councils.

Shanks has been chosen as preferred bidder following a rigorous procurement process. The company will help the local authorities to meet Wales' recycling target of 70% by 2025 as well as help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Cllr Ted Latham, Chair of the Joint Committee, governing the project, said: *"If we are to meet the targets set by the Welsh Government and the EU then we must develop new waste treatment facilities and that includes anaerobic digestion. Not only is this because landfill space is running out but also because of the harmful environmental effects of landfill."*

"The priority for each of the partner authorities is to recycle and compost as much of our waste as possible. It has been extremely important to work collaboratively on this project and we are delighted to announce Shanks as our preferred bidder."

Shanks has also been shortlisted for the Heads of Valleys and Cardiff Council's Organic Waste Treatment Project which, if successful, would see Shanks treat up to 90,000 tonnes of food waste in their Pontypool AD facility.

Shanks continues to strengthen its position in the organics market, where it has over one million tonnes of treatment capacity across Europe. In addition to the proposed facility at Pontypool the company operates a 60,000 tonnes per year AD plant in Cumbernauld, Scotland, is building a 48,000 tonnes per year AD plant in Bicester, Oxfordshire and also operates Europe's largest AD facility in Amsterdam which has an annual capacity of 100,000 tonnes (together with 300,000 tonnes per year waste water treatment facility).

For further information please contact:

Austen Lees, Head of Corporate Communications, Shanks Group plc
Telephone +44 (0)1908 650580, mobile +44 (0)7773 813210, email
austen.lees@shanks.co.uk

Shanks Group plc is a leading international sustainable waste management business with operations in the Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom and Canada.

The Group provides a range of recycling and energy recovery solutions to customers in both the public and private sector. The Group employs over 4,000 employees and last year it handled 7.8 million tonnes of waste achieving an overall recycling and recovery rate of 78%.

The Group has a significant organic waste treatment capacity of over 1 million tonnes.

Shanks is a FTSE 250 company listed on the London Stock Exchange. In May 2012 it reported annual revenues of £750 million and trading profits of £53.4 million. The company was established in 1880 and is based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

For more information visit www.shanksplc.com