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Press release

For immediate release

SITA UK gains prestigious London contract

SITA UK

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SITA UK has won a new multi-million pound contract with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

SITA UK, the Council's current recycling, refuse collection and street cleansing contractor, offered the most competitive bid and an impressive set of service proposals, which included putting out more refuse collection and cleansing personnel than any other bidder.

From April, when the new contract starts, over 100 refuse collectors and around 180 street cleansing staff will leave the Council's depots every weekday to recycle, collect waste and keep the borough clean.

As part of the 16 year contract both parties have signed up to a Partnership Charter which is currently being finalised. The charter includes an agreement for SITA UK to provide £50,000 a year to support various new service improvement projects such as new recycling schemes, chewing gum and graffiti removal, the development of new street cleansing technologies and better staff training.



In addition, SITA UK will also be extending the 24 hour, seven days a week, street cleansing programme that it currently provides in the main shopping streets. The new service will include stretches of Fulham Road and Gloucester Road and Portobello and Golborne Roads. The experimental street washing initiative in the fruit and vegetable section of Portobello Market on Friday and Saturday evenings will now become permanent.

Marek Gordon, SITA UK's Chief Operating Officer for collection, said:

'Obviously we are very pleased that the Council has chosen us again as their partner. This contract has always been very important to SITA UK and, like the Council, we are very much looking forward to developing the partnership further. Kensington and Chelsea, like all other councils, has some tough recycling and recovery targets to achieve. It is very much our job to ensure that the Council achieves these and makes improvements to the borough that will ensure that it remains a clean and pleasant place to live and work.'

Cllr Richard Walker-Arnott, Cabinet Member for Environmental Health, Leisure and Waste, said: 'This is a big contract that will have a big impact on the everyday lives of our residents. We are confident that the enhanced services negotiated in the contract will mean real improvements for everyone living in the borough, and represent genuine value for money.'

'The Council is looking forward to working in close partnership with SITA UK and the local community to build on what has already been rated one of the best waste management services in the country. One of our tasks now is to



persuade more residents to love the streets they live in – that means recycling more and creating less rubbish.’

ENDS

Notes to editors

- 1. In the UK, SITA serves over 12 million people and more than 35,000 businesses with a range of waste collection and treatment options. It employs over 5,000 staff and has an annual turnover in excess of £500 million. The Company handles over 10 million tonnes of domestic, commercial and industrial waste through a network of recycling, composting, energy-from-waste and landfill facilities.***
- 2. SUEZ ENVIRONMENT, a division of SUEZ, provides equipment and services that protect the environment and deliver the essentials of life. Its activities include drinking water production and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, and waste treatment and recovery. Through its three international brands, Ondeo (water distribution), Degrémont (water treatment plants) and SITA (solid waste management), SUEZ ENVIRONMENT employs over 82,000 people worldwide and in 2003 generated a turnover of €12.31 billion.***

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