

Central Bedfordshire Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Companies selected for next stage of BEaR Project

Seven companies are being invited to submit their outline ideas for dealing with waste as part of the Central Bedfordshire Energy and Recycling (BEaR) Project.

Bidders will start discussions with the Council to outline how they intend to deal with the household waste left over after recycling. Bidders will be expected to put forward high quality environmental solutions that offer value for money for Central Bedfordshire.

Shortlisted bidders are (in alphabetical order):

- **AmeyCespa Consortium**
- **Covanta Energy Limited Consortium**
- **Interserve Investments Limited Consortium**
- **New Earth Solutions Group Limited Consortium**
- **Veolia ES Aurora Limited**
- **Viridor Waste Management Limited**
- **Waste Recycling Group Limited Consortium**

Cllr Budge Wells, spokesman for the BEaR Project, said: "I'm very pleased with the numbers of bidders going through to the next stage. With this many companies in the running, there is real potential for a range of solutions to come forward.

"Whatever solution is chosen, waste reduction and recycling continues to be top priority for our Council; however we need to establish greener ways of treating the remaining waste, rather than sending it to landfill."

Shortlisted companies are also required to put forward proposals for the following additional services:

- Re-develop the Household Waste Recycling Centres at Ampthill, Biggleswade and Leighton Buzzard and re-locate the Dunstable site;
- Provide gritting salt storage barns in strategic locations;
- Provide a Waste Transfer Station so that various types of waste can be bulked up before being sent for treatment; and
- Provide for the treatment of organic waste in their main proposal.

Over the next few months, the BEaR Project team will evaluate the technical, financial and legal aspects of each solution and a further short list of bidders is likely to be announced in spring 2011. The number of bidders in competition for the waste contract will reduce through several distinct stages of evaluation until a 'Preferred Bidder' is selected in the spring of 2012.