

DRAFT Media Release
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SCOTS' LOVE OF COMPOST PROMPTS EXPANSION OF RECYCLING CENTRE

An innovative organic recycling centre is set to see a further investment of £1.5 thanks to Scots' appetite for compost.

The announcement of the expansion of Scottish Water's highly successful Composting and Recycling plant at Deerdykes near Cumbernauld comes ahead of the start of Compost Awareness Week on Sunday 6 May.

Donald MacBrayne, Manager for Scottish Water Waste Services who run the Deerdykes facility, said: "Alongside traditional open air composting methods, our £3.5 million plant has four state-of-the-art tunnels with computer-controlled systems, blowers, fans and probes to monitor temperatures. These four tunnels help maintain optimum conditions for creating great compost. Our plan is to install a further four of these tunnels, increasing our capacity. We are responding to demand – there's definitely been a surge in the number of Scots recycling and looking for environmentally-friendly garden products."

The European Landfill Directive has set demanding targets for Councils to divert biodegradable materials from landfill. Failure to meet these targets will lead to stringent fines. The use of the In Vessel tunnels and the requirement for more to treat green and kitchen waste, highlights that Scotland is actively working to meet these targets.

FLAGSHIP PRODUCT

The flagship product produced at Deerdykes is called 'Pod', a top quality compost which is not only peat-free but can be used for a variety of horticultural uses such as landscaping, a dressing for turf, to encourage plant growth or as a top soil mix.

Pod is made from 100% green materials including grass clippings, wood chips and branches. In the first two years of operation the plant treated more than 50,000 tonnes of green and woody materials generated by Local Authorities' collections.

Pod has already been used in several large scale landscaping projects including a 500 tonnes deployment to the new Gartcosh Business Interchange in Lanarkshire, a 90-hectare business park on the site of a former steel works. Other customers include Glasgow Botanics, Historic Scotland and The National Trust for Scotland.

For further information about Pod please visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/compost. For further information about Compost Awareness Week please visit www.compost.org.uk.

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