



Doncaster Community Recycling Partnership (DCRP)

Background

Formed in 2000, Doncaster Community Recycling Partnership (DCRP) is a social enterprise responsible for providing recycling services for over 69,000 households within the Doncaster borough.

The company was established as the result of an initial 12 month pilot scheme. Since then DCRP has continued to innovate and develop, firmly establishing itself as one of the region's most successful not-for-profit business

Responding to a need

At the heart of DCRP's business is the provision of green recycling boxes, which the company provides to nearly half of all homes in the Doncaster area. Following a competitive tender, the organisation successfully secured a contract with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council to provide recycling services.

The green box scheme enables households to dispose of their recyclable waste through a kerbside collection system. Currently the firm collects tin cans, textiles, paper, glass, paper, ink cartridges and mobile phones, all of which is recycled under the Community Recycling Partnerships' no waste strategy. The organisation also hopes to add plastic bottles to the scheme in the near future.

DCRP recognises the necessity and benefit in engaging with the community and regularly liaises with schools, libraries and local communities to promote the business and educate people about the value of recycling and environmental issues.



PROFILE IN BRIEF

Doncaster Community Recycling Partnership (DCRP)

Services offered:

- Green box kerbside recycling collection
- Business waste collection
- Recycling services

Who do you work with?

- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- Local businesses

Contact details:

Doncaster Community Recycling Partnership Ltd

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Doncaster
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Amazing achievements

Doncaster Community Recycling Partnership has achieved a number of resounding successes for their work winning numerous awards including the Marks and Spencer award for social enterprise and the best recycler.

General manager Stuart Jackson attributes the firm's success to a number of factors;

"We work in a niche market and operate a sound business model that affords us the opportunity to offer a competitive price."

He also believes the firm's decision to operate as social enterprise proved invaluable.

"With social enterprises, there's no public image of a hidden agenda that you get from commercial businesses. However, there's often a lack of distinction between social enterprises and voluntary organisations that gives the impression of unqualified work or a low quality product. This is not the case and often the work provided by social enterprises is of the same, if not better standard than you would expect from private organisations. Social enterprises are just businesses with a heart."

Looking ahead

Despite its formidable success, DCRP refuses to rest on the laurels. Its contract with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council will continue to run until 2009, when the partnership hopes to extend it further, as well as working with additional local authorities.

DCRP also hopes to diversify its existing services by developing its residential collection scheme into a commercial venture which would include providing private client work such as confidential waste services.

With more businesses recognising the need to comply with environmental policy and of the growing importance of making a green commitment across the business community, the recycling partnership hopes to continue strengthening and diversifying its array of commercial recycling services.

