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The Rt Hon Mr Michael Gove,
Secretary of State for Environment, Food
and Rural Affairs,
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 4DF

November 20th, 2018

Dear Secretary of State,

The Resource and Waste Strategy is imminent and we understand it is now passing through a process of revision before publication prior to the Christmas holidays, we assume.

Many of those interested in the outcomes of the Strategy have been discussing amongst ourselves how best we could contribute to what you have yourself said is a “once in a lifetime opportunity” to ensure the UK has a long-term plan for its resources and wastes management.

One of the key elements is getting food waste collection and treatment right, for a whole series of reasons: climate change, recycling targets, better management of dry wastes, renewable energy production, topsoil recovery through composting, waste reduction and prevention, new employment and not least, respecting the new Waste Framework Directive time line of 31.12.2023 for mandatory food waste collections across the EU.

We know and understand the challenges: LA funding, existing contractual obligations, collection methodologies, treatment options and others. But they are not insurmountable if the political will to tackle food waste is shown and central Government leadership is given.

A wide ranging group has come together as the Food Waste Coalition to send one simple, core message to you and the Government:

“We call on the Government to fast track universal food waste collections.”

Having asked stakeholders across the UK to support this simple message we have been impressed by the wide range of signatories received in just a few days. As you can see from the attached list and logos these include multinational and national corporations, UK SMEs, associations whose memberships vary from the dozens to the millions, and several councils who want to face the future with the certainty of their obligations around food waste collections. Of course, each stakeholder will have their own nuanced reasoning for



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supporting the call; however, all of them support the principle of the need to resolve the food waste issue now in the forthcoming Strategy.

I will update you as the list grows, as it is destined to do, over the next weeks; but I wanted to get this initial list of 40+ signatories to you before the Strategy is finalised so that you can understand the overwhelming desire there is amongst a varied group of stakeholders to get this right, now.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Newman'.

David Newman
Managing Director

2 attachments