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**HILLS TO PROVIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE UNDER MoD'S
LARGEST PFI ESTATE CONTRACT**

Hills Waste Solutions, a division of the Wiltshire based Hills Group Limited, has successfully bid against two national competitors to be awarded a new waste management contract with Aspire Defence Services Limited.

The contract will run for an initial 3 year period with an option to extend for two years. Hills will provide waste collection and recycling services to four MoD garrisons situated across Salisbury Plain and Aldershot, which currently generate approximately 8,000 tonnes of waste annually.

The service is being provided as part of Project Allenby/Connaught, the largest estates PFI ever let by the Ministry of Defence, valued at some £8 billion which will run for 35 years, and is being delivered by Aspire Defence, a joint venture between Carillion and KBR.

Hills' success at securing the contract was attributed to innovations in both its pricing structure and recycling services. Charges for waste collection on a 'pay by weight' basis will enable Aspire to accurately measure the volume of waste generated and recycled. The introduction of Hills' new Redtop Recycler service will allow several recyclable materials to be collected in a single container.

Hills also brings expertise gained through existing long-term waste management contracts with major public and private sector organisations in the South West.

Commenting on the contract award Alex Marland, Development Manager for Hills Waste Solutions said, "We are delighted with the award of this contract. It

is ideally suited to Hills' new Redtop Recycler service for co-mingled recycling and marks the beginning of paying by weight in the trade waste sector."

During an initial 3 month calibration period, baseline data will be recorded from which Hills and Aspire will agree targets to reduce waste sent to landfill and increase recycling rates – a practice which supports the sustainability initiatives at the heart of Aspire's contract with the MOD and sets out to reduce soldiers' environmental impact.

Extensive planning has been undertaken to ensure symmetry of the service across all the garrisons to maximise the opportunities for soldiers and their families to recycle. Caroline Sloman, Bids Co-ordinator for Hills, who project managed the contract mobilisation, explains, "The facilities for waste collection are the same at each garrison - whether at home, in communal areas or in the workplace. This gives a clear, consistent message which, from past experience, we know will increase and encourage recycling."

Hills and Aspire Defence are already working successfully together in an existing partnership, now in its third year, which provides a waste management service specifically for construction waste generated on the Project Allenby/Connaught building programme. The fixed cost per cubic metre pricing structure allows Aspire to accurately forecast their construction waste disposal costs. Hills initially designed and continue to manage an on-site waste sorting facility which recycles 92% of the construction waste generated and, together with the crushing and re-use of the demolition waste, means Project Allenby/Connaught is recycling 97% of its combined waste.

Under Project Allenby/Connaught, the quality of life for over 18,700 soldiers, 20% of the British Army, is improving with to the provision of modern, high quality, fully serviced and purpose built living and working accommodation being provided by Aspire Defence.

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