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## Landfill Tax Up by 20 percent and Compulsory Carbon Reduction Registration (CRC)

Eco-Eating scheme launched this week by Cawleys to mark the start of a campaign for carbon credit recognition for best practice waste management.

Posted via [Industry Today](#). Are you into it?

As business is hit today by the double whammy of landfill tax increases and the introduction of compulsory carbon reduction registration, pioneering waste management company Cawleys is launching the Eco - Eating scheme to demonstrate that an organisation which sends its food waste to AD is making a massive reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions and should be rewarded by the government under the CRC scheme.

Cawleys is campaigning on behalf of companies which divert their food waste from landfill to energy-generating facilities such as anaerobic digestion (AD) to be able to offset this against their energy consumption under the CRC scheme.

Today (1 April) sees the annual landfill tax for businesses rising by £8 per tonne to £48 per tonne. And, for the first time, organisations consuming over 6,000 mega watt hours of electricity per year (equivalent to a bill of around £50,000 pa), will have to register with the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC). This mandatory carbon emissions trading scheme is designed to reduce energy consumption and encourage the uptake of clean-tech services and products. It will affect some 5,000 businesses including hotel and restaurant chains as well as manufacturers and the largest business premises.

Whilst acknowledging the need for the increase in landfill tax and CRC registration, Kate Cawley of Cawleys feels that the approach being adopted by the government is not giving positive incentives or rewards to organisations which are making a significant reduction in the amount of greenhouse gases they produce when they divert their food waste from landfill.

Kate Cawley is calling on the Environment Agency to allow businesses which dispose of their food waste to AD to offset this against their energy consumption under the CRC Scheme.

"Rotting food dumped in landfill creates methane, a climate change gas that is 22 times more powerful than CO<sub>2</sub>. It makes sense that any organisation which diverts its food waste from landfill to AD (where electricity and fertiliser are the only by-products) should be allowed to offset this greenhouse gas reduction against their energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions."

To celebrate the huge environmental benefit of sending food to AD Cawleys is launching this week Eco-Eating, a scheme which gives public endorsement and proof of credentials to any food outlet which sends its food waste to AD with Cawleys. Kate Cawley elaborates:

"The government should be rewarding businesses which make a massive reduction in the amount of greenhouse gas they produce when they divert their food waste from landfill and send it to AD. A positive reward in the form of credits under the CRC scheme is an obvious and fair solution, and would demonstrate that CRC is about saving the environment not raising taxes. Membership of Eco-Eating gives highly visible, public

proof that this organisation has taken very effective steps to reduce its production of climate change gases."

Last week Defra published plans to increase the number of AD plants in the UK in a bid to speed up development of the treatment technology in the country and divert more food waste from landfill. Kate Cawley argues that the logical way to support this process would be to offer carbon credits to those organisations which send their food waste to the new AD plants.

Cawleys food waste customers who includes household names such as Waitrose, DSA, Morgan Stanley and hotels such as Wyndham Grand in Chelsea Harbour, receive a monthly report of the electricity and fertiliser they have generated and the reduction in greenhouse gases they have achieved through food waste recycling. It would be a simple step to supply this data to the CRC: as straightforward as supplying electricity meter readings.