



# Media Release

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## **New Norse venture agreed for environmental services**

The contract has been signed for a ground-breaking new partnership to provide Daventry District residents with bin collections and other environmental services from next summer.

Daventry District Council (DDC) and Norse Commercial Services have entered into a 10-year agreement to work together in a joint services venture, called Daventry Norse. The partnership will launch on 4 June, 2018, immediately after the Council's current environmental services contract with Enterprise/Amey ends.

Norse Commercial Services Ltd is owned by Norfolk County Council and already provides services with 15 other local authorities, including Wellingborough. Under the new contract, the Council and Norse will share ownership and control of the joint venture to deliver, shape and improve the following frontline services:

- Waste and recycling collections for households and businesses
- Street cleaning – litter picking and street sweeping on public roads and paths, emptying litter and dog bins
- Grounds maintenance, such as cutting grass and maintaining trees, bushes on roadsides and Council land and maintaining play equipment
- Clearing fly-tipping and removing graffiti in public areas
- Maintaining Daventry Country Park
- Operating Daventry Market and public toilets in Daventry town centre
- Preparing burial plots.

The Daventry Norse venture will also involve significant investment in facilities and equipment for environmental services, including a new fleet of vehicles, machinery and equipment and the redevelopment of the environmental depot and offices at High March Daventry.

Daventry Norse will be introducing new waste and recycling collections to all households when the new contract starts on 4 June. Under the new 1-2-3 collection service, food waste will be collected weekly, a two-weekly wheelie bin collection for mixed recycling will be introduced to replace the weekly box collections of sorted recyclables and the black bin will be collected every three weeks. Households will also be able to opt in to a fortnightly garden waste service for an annual fee.

The new-look service was agreed by the Council in July last year following public consultation and a wide-ranging review of future waste and recycling options launched in summer 2015. DDC is working with Norse on preparing the new service and further details on how collections will change for residents will be available early next year.

Councillor Jo Gilford, Environment Portfolio Holder at Daventry District Council: said: “We are delighted to be entering this new venture with Norse Commercial Services, which will provide a sustainable future for our District’s environmental services, both environmentally and financially.

“As a joint venture that shares the control and ownership of services between the two partners, Daventry Norse is a very different approach to the current arrangement of an external contractor delivering the services on the Council’s behalf.



“When the contract starts next summer, Daventry Norse will be introducing the new 1-2-3 waste and recycling service which will mean households adjusting to some significant changes to their collections. However preparations for the new service are already under way to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for all our residents.”

Norse Managing Director Dean Wetteland said: “We are delighted to complete the signing of this latest joint venture in our portfolio of partnerships with local councils.

“Norse now operates 16 partnerships around the country, nine of which provide waste, recycling or environmental services. Our unique combination of public sector ethos and commercial flair has built a reputation for cost efficiency, quality and innovation in service delivery. The business model creates new external business opportunities, which generate new revenue streams and profit-share for our council partners.

We also help provide job security for the staff who transfer to our partnerships, and support the area’s supply chain through our buy-local policy.

“We are looking forward to working with such a progressive council as Daventry when the arrangement comes into force in the summer of 2018.”

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**For further information please contact:**

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*Daventry District Council is a local authority providing essential public services for Daventry District, supporting the daily needs of residents, businesses and visitors. To find out more visit [www.daventrydc.gov.uk](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk)*

## **About Norse Commercial Services**

- Started in 1990, Norse Commercial Services is a £200 million turnover company, employing over 10,000 people across England and Wales, and enjoying the long-term financial security of a £2billion+ forward order book.
- The company operates 15 joint ventures with local authorities and provides contract services direct to a wide range of public and private sector clients. Through its unique and powerful combination of public sector ethos and commercial flair, it has built a reputation for cost efficiency, quality and innovation in service delivery.

- In the last five years alone Norse has saved the public purse over £70million, whilst helping to protect front line services, provide job security and generate much needed income for financially stretched local authority partners.
- Norse is committed to responsible business and to thinking about how the services it delivers can improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing. The Norse Way is the Group's social responsibility strategy is shaped around what matters most to our staff, the business, and wider society and includes strengthening communities, improving skills, being dementia friendly and kind to the environment, buying locally and sustainably and shaping everything we do according to our four values – Quality, Innovation, Respect and Trust.
- Norse provides services including Facilities Management, Cleaning, Catering, Environmental, Waste Collection, Transport, Building Maintenance, Care Equipment, Engineering, Printing, Grounds Maintenance and Security.