

# Press Release

May 2019

# Full steam ahead as Veolia's Freshview scheme arrives at Herne Hill Station

Veolia and Lambeth Council's Freshview scheme has partnered with the Herne Hill Forum and Turney School to install 10 new planters around Herne Hill's Station Square.

The planters were built over two separate sessions on Wednesday 15 May and Monday 20 May. Over the two days, almost 20 local residents and stakeholders volunteered their time to help build the planters, which were made from recycled scaffolding boards.

Eight pupils from Turney School, one of two SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) schools in Lambeth, also took part in the scheme by painting the planters and filling them with Veolia's Pro-Grow compost. The compost, provided through Veolia's Recycling Fund for Communities, is made from garden waste collected from homes across London - including Lambeth, and is peat free.

The planters were positioned around Station Square, which is the open space outside the train station and are a positive addition to the area which was semi-pedestrianised in 2012 to alleviate issues with traffic congestion. Station Square receives a high level of footfall with many commuters passing through on their way to Herne Hill Train Station which recorded almost 3 million entries and exits last year.

**Steve Verrier**, Veolia's Senior Contract Manager, said: "Freshview is a great example of the circular economy at work. We collect food and garden waste from households, recycle it into compost and use it to fill planters for community projects such as this. The planters are also made from scaffold boards that would have otherwise been thrown away, so it's great to be involved in projects that preserve and reuse valuable resources."

Jasia Warren, Project Manager for the Herne Hill Forum, said: "Quote requested"

### Clir Claire Holland, Lambeth Council's Cabinet Member for Environment & Sustainability, said:

"As a co-operative council, it's fantastic to see a range of stakeholders at Herne Hill come together to improve their local environment. Freshview has been running for 12 years and we continue to encourage residents to come forward to explore the different ways we can support them to improve their local area."

Veolia supports a range of community gardens, planter-building days and street improvements through the Freshview scheme it operates on behalf of Lambeth Council. Additionally, Veolia's Recycling Fund for Communities provides assistance to projects that inspire people to do the right thing with their waste and enhance their local environment.

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#### Notes to the Editor

#### **About Veolia UK**

**Veolia** Veolia London has activities in over half of London's boroughs. These activities range from recycling and waste management services for businesses and households, street cleansing and the maintenance of parks and open spaces, to the operation of modern waste recycling, treatment and disposal facilities.

**Veolia** group is the global leader in optimized resource management. With over 171,000 employees worldwide, the Group designs and provides water, waste and energy management solutions which contribute to the sustainable development of communities and industries. Through its three complementary business activities, Veolia helps to develop access to resources, preserve available resources, and to replenish them.

In 2018, the Veolia group supplied 95 million people with drinking water and 63 million people with wastewater service, produced nearly 56 million megawatt hours of energy and converted 49 million metric tons of waste into new materials and energy. Veolia Environnement (listed on Paris Euronext: VIE) recorded consolidated revenue of €25.91 billion in 2018 (USD 30.6 billion). www.veolia.com

#### **About Recycling Fund for Communities**

Launched in 2017, the Recycling Fund for Communities supports grassroots projects that protect the environment and encourage people to do the right thing with their waste. Veolia provides cash donations, equipment and resources. Full details of the fund can be found at www.veolia.co.uk/london/recyclingfund

#### **About Freshview**

Freshview was set up in 2007 by Lambeth Council. It aims to bring communities together by enabling them to make their own improvements to their local environment. Veolia provide tools, equipment and expertise, and enthusiastic community members gather volunteers and do the work, with help from Veolia staff. We will consider any project, such as turning disused areas into useful growing spaces, building planters to deter fly-tippers, or painting front garden walls to brighten up residential streets.

#### **About Herne Hill Forum**

Herne Hill Forum is a volunteer-led group of residents and traders, working tirelessly to help make Herne Hill an amazing place to live and work.

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