



Case Study: New Vehicle Technology for Slough Borough Council

Background

Enterprise was awarded a 15 year Environmental Services contract by Slough Borough Council from December 2002.

In order to provide a fully integrated service the Council and Enterprise formed a partnership to create Slough Enterprise.

The contract is both an Integrated Waste Management Contract (waste collection, recycling and disposal) and an Integrated Street Scene Contract (street cleansing, highways maintenance and grounds maintenance).

Initial Situation

The Council is focused on lowering its carbon footprint and in particular reducing the CO2 emissions from the vehicle fleet.

Refuse from Slough is collected by Slough Enterprise and is delivered to an Energy from Waste Facility (EfW) within the Borough. Refuse burnt in the EfW produces energy which is converted into electricity and sold to the National Grid.

Key Customer Requirements

Slough Borough Council required a partnership approach that would help to meet its aims of reducing its environmental impact.

A full evaluation of its current fleet operations was required.

Our Response

The Fleet team at Enterprise assisted the partnership Slough Enterprise to assess fully its fleet.

An evaluation of all available low and zero emission vehicles was undertaken.

As part of the evaluation the Smiths Edison 4.6t vehicles, which run on electric, were determined to be best placed to meet the needs of the local area and services provided by Slough Enterprise.

The Slough Enterprise team worked closely with the Council to create a closed loop sustainable carbon reduction programme.

This programme is closed loop as the refuse collected on the contract goes to EfW in Slough. This then turns into electricity that is purchased through National Grid by Slough Enterprise to run the electric vehicles.

The savings made on fuel costs from using this closed loop system offsets the purchase cost of the new vehicles, offering best value to the Council.

The evaluation also identified efficiency gains through highlighting that the existing fleet can be reduced by four vehicles.

Achievements

The partnership approach taken has benefited Slough Enterprise,

Slough Borough Council, SSE and the local community.

The use of the electric vehicles will directly reduce the carbon emitted whilst retaining full operational capabilities.

The introduction of the new vehicles has been cost effective, with innovative solutions being brought to reducing emissions in the fleet.

The whole life vehicle provision has provided improved performance and best value to our customer.

It is estimated that the cost to run the vehicles has reduced by around 80% when compared to the previous diesel fuelled vehicles.

The electric caged vehicles have given 100% carbon emission reduction for this part of the collection service.

To date, the introduction of the new vehicles into the fleet has led to an overall lowered carbon emissions output of 25%.

The key achievements are two-fold. We supplied an innovative vehicle solution and sustainable energy supply to Slough and developed a close partnership with our customer whilst undertaking the full operational review.

Summary

Slough Enterprise has ensured, through working in partnership with manufacturers and customers, that an innovative approach to reducing carbon emissions in Slough has been possible.

The success of the Slough Enterprise initiative has led to whole life contract solutions being developed across the Enterprise.

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