After months of hard work by thousands of Cumbrian primary school children the winners of the R Factor 2009 were finally unveiled at a glitzy live finale at the Rheged Discovery Centre near Penrith on June 24.

Kirkbride Primary School from Wigton were crowned winners in the north Cumbria category with their song “Don’t be mean, you’ve got to be green”. The winners in the south of the county were Castle Park Primary School from Kendal with “Can we do it? Yes we can!”. Both songs were aired on commercial radio stations - CFM, the Bay, and Lakeland Radio - throughout Cumbria during July.

There were awards too for our runners up. Placed second and third in the south of the county were Crosscrake Primary from Stainton and Cambridge Primary from Barrow respectively. In the north were Rosley School near Wigton and Abbeytown’s Holm Cultram Abbey School.

Inside is a special double page spread of the R Factor LIVE.

The winners of R Factor 2009 are...

After months of hard work by thousands of Cumbrian primary school children the winners of the R Factor 2009 were finally unveiled at a glitzy live finale at the Rheged Discovery Centre near Penrith on June 24.

Kirkbride Primary School from Wigton were crowned winners in the north Cumbria category with their song “Don’t be mean, you’ve got to be green”. The winners in the south of the county were Castle Park Primary School from Kendal with “Can we do it? Yes we can!”. Both songs were aired on commercial radio stations - CFM, the Bay, and Lakeland Radio - throughout Cumbria during July.

There were awards too for our runners up. Placed second and third in the south of the county were Crosscrake Primary from Stainton and Cambridge Primary from Barrow respectively. In the north were Rosley School near Wigton and Abbeytown’s Holm Cultram Abbey School.

Inside is a special double page spread of the R Factor LIVE.

The winners of R Factor 2009 are...

After months of hard work by thousands of Cumbrian primary school children the winners of the R Factor 2009 were finally unveiled at a glitzy live finale at the Rheged Discovery Centre near Penrith on June 24.

Kirkbride Primary School from Wigton were crowned winners in the north Cumbria category with their song “Don’t be mean, you’ve got to be green”. The winners in the south of the county were Castle Park Primary School from Kendal with “Can we do it? Yes we can!”. Both songs were aired on commercial radio stations - CFM, the Bay, and Lakeland Radio - throughout Cumbria during July.

There were awards too for our runners up. Placed second and third in the south of the county were Crosscrake Primary from Stainton and Cambridge Primary from Barrow respectively. In the north were Rosley School near Wigton and Abbeytown’s Holm Cultram Abbey School.

Inside is a special double page spread of the R Factor LIVE.

The winners of R Factor 2009 are...

After months of hard work by thousands of Cumbrian primary school children the winners of the R Factor 2009 were finally unveiled at a glitzy live finale at the Rheged Discovery Centre near Penrith on June 24.

Kirkbride Primary School from Wigton were crowned winners in the north Cumbria category with their song “Don’t be mean, you’ve got to be green”. The winners in the south of the county were Castle Park Primary School from Kendal with “Can we do it? Yes we can!”. Both songs were aired on commercial radio stations - CFM, the Bay, and Lakeland Radio - throughout Cumbria during July.

There were awards too for our runners up. Placed second and third in the south of the county were Crosscrake Primary from Stainton and Cambridge Primary from Barrow respectively. In the north were Rosley School near Wigton and Abbeytown’s Holm Cultram Abbey School.

Inside is a special double page spread of the R Factor LIVE.
How are we performing?

The chart below indicates the total household waste recycled and composted by district and by the county as a whole from April 2008 to March 2009. All figures include recycling collected via Kerbside Collection Services, Recycle Points (also known as bring sites) and Household Waste Recycling Centres. The figures are provided by Cumbria County Council’s Waste Management Performance Team and reported to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

### Staying safe and litter free

Children from Allerdale had the chance to explore a mocked-up building site in a bid by Allerdale Borough Council to stop them getting hurt on the real thing.

Through the council’s child safety campaign, organised and run by its Building Control team, around 400 year six school children from Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth, Broughton, Dearham, Clifton and Harrington were educated about the dangers of playing on building sites.

Waste minimisation officer Mark Studholme also delivered a session on waste and recycling. The session focused on the impact of waste on the environment and people’s lives, including a presentation about litter and recycling in Allerdale.

This was followed by a short talk on littering, the problems it can cause and the dangers of moving vehicles, particularly refuse collection lorries, as well as a demonstration of how recyclables and refuse are kept in different compartments of the same vehicle.

There was also a chance to see how recyclables are held in glass storage bunkers and baled for reprocessing ready for making into new products.

### Meet the members

The Partnership Board meeting minutes and other documents are available at resourcecumbria.org.

Cumbria attends the Times waste education awards

On 9 June, Ian Garrow, Senior Waste Education Officer, attended the Times Educational Supplement (TES) Schools Awards as a guest of DEFRA’s Waste Resource Action Programme (WRAP), one of only two Local Government representatives invited. WRAP sponsored the Sustainable School award, won by Turners Hill Primary School, West Sussex.

The winning school has a fantastic approach to sustainability. They regularly recycle and compost. There are two wind turbines, photovoltaic roof panels and a three-acre site with 1,750 planted trees. An outside classroom has vegetable gardens, chickens and a wildlife garden. Pupils are taught about environmentally-friendly behaviour in their citizenship education, and an eco-committee has been formed.

As a result of discussions and contacts made at that event, the Waste Education Team have been asked to review the WRAP material targeted at both primary and secondary students, before it goes live on their website. In addition, our work investigating the scale of schools’ food waste in Cumbria has aroused the interest of WRAP and Wastewatch, who have both asked for further information as it becomes available.

Looking back

This time last year Cumbria was recycling and composting 38% of its waste.

The table below is your ready reckoner to waste statistics in Cumbria. The figures below relate to information gathered between April to March in both 2007/08 and 2008/09 to allow a like-for-like performance comparison.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Household Waste Created</td>
<td>262,491 tonnes</td>
<td>261,103 tonnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Household Waste Landfilled</td>
<td>161,380 tonnes</td>
<td>151,219 tonnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Waste Recycled</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Waste Composted</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Percentage Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilograms of Waste Generated per head in Cumbria</td>
<td>529 kg</td>
<td>525 kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking at LATS

In terms of LATS, we expect to be 48,000 tonnes in credit although this will be wiped out at the end of this year. Our estimate for the end of 2009/10 is that we will be 3000 tonnes in credit.

ALDERDALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BARROW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARLISLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COPELAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EDEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOUTH LAKELAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CUMBERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycled and Composted</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Last September, Resource Cumbria challenged all of Cumbria’s primary school pupils to create a song that would inspire Cumbria to reduce, reuse and recycle. And just like on TV’s hit show “X Factor” it would be the public who would decide which song would be crowned winner.

Cumbria’s R Factor project represents something quite unique in waste prevention. It utilises a popular reality TV format to not only educate school children, but captivate the wider Cumbrian public on the importance of the 3Rs.

In order to deliver such a project we knew that we would need a little help. Resource Cumbria therefore teamed up with professional music charity, MusicLinks, and CN Radio and embarked on a mission to make the R Factor the most exciting competition Cumbria’s primary schools had ever seen.

An amazing 139 schools signed up to take part in the talent quest - half of all Cumbrian primary schools. Those signing up were contacted by MusicLinks who arranged to go in and deliver their own tailored R Factor musical workshop dubbed ‘bootcamp’. Over 3000 pupils were directly involved in these sessions. Here they devised, performed and recorded their track ready to face our panel of expert judges.

Our panel scored the tracks on criteria, including ‘musicality’, ‘message’ and ‘radio worthiness’. They eventually selected just six (three from the north of the county and three from the south) to go through to face the public vote as the songs were aired on commercial radio.

Next to entertain the crowd were our winners, Castle Park School from Kendal with their song “Can we do it? Yes we can!” and Kirkbride Primary with “Don’t be Mean, You’ve got to be green”. After they had raised the roof of the Rheged auditorium with their performances they were presented with their first prize platinum discs. The audience was then treated to the exclusive first play of the two professionally recorded songs prior to them being launched countywide on Monday 27 June.

Widely-renowned junk percussion band Weapons of Sound also took to the stage with an amazingly energetic and mesmerising performance using instruments created entirely from recycled materials.

Ian Garrow, Cumbria County Council’s Senior Waste Education Officer, said: “The whole R Factor competition has been a big success and I know the children have had a great time in putting together their songs while learning about the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling - an essential message that will hopefully stay with them for a lifetime.”

“This Live event at Rheged was a chance for them to show off their singing and song-writing talents in front of a live audience as well as getting the opportunity to see Weapons of Sound perform up close.”

“Everybody who has taken part in every stage of this competition has put in a great deal of hard work and the R Factor LIVE is the culmination of everybody’s efforts.”

As Cumbria’s fantastic new talent quest draws to a close our 6 finalists were invited to perform their songs at the glitzy showcase finale event. Review was in attendance for The R Factor LIVE and looks back at how the project developed.
Signing on the dotted line

Shanks Cumbria is submitting proposals to build the innovative new waste treatment facility at Sowerby Wood Industrial Estate, Barrow.

Over 25 possible sites were examined in the Barrow area and Shanks concluded that the 2.5ha site at Sowerby Woods Industrial Estate, (off Bouthwood Road, LA14 4RD) was the most suitable location for the South Cumbria Resource Park.

The South Cumbria Resource Park will use Shanks’ innovative Mechanical Biological Treatment technology to significantly reduce the amount of rubbish going into landfill and increase the amount of waste that is recycled. The Resource Park will consist of an MBT plant that can handle up to 75,000 tonnes of waste per annum, two weighbridges, a recylcate storage building and a single store administration building. The building housing the MBT plant will be around 140m long and 50m wide at its widest point and around 10m high. In appearance it will be very like any other industrial building to be found on the estate.

Shanks started a period of pre-planning public consultation on Monday 8 June lasting until Friday 17 July 2009 giving local residents and businesses the chance to have a say about the proposed development prior to a planning application being finalised and submitted later this year.

Shanks’ innovative technology means the amount of waste sent to landfill will fall by a massive 80 per cent – leading to a major reduction in the amount of methane the county produces. Methane is generated by the decomposition of waste in landfill and is a greenhouse gas around 20 times more harmful than carbon dioxide.

As well as slashing the volume of waste sent to landfill and removing the increasing financial costs the landfilling process involves, opting for the MBT waste disposal system will also save the county council having to pay out millions of pounds in fines. All councils have been tasked with finding alternatives to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.

Construction and the operation of MBT plants will have a minimal impact on people and the local environment as the Hespin Wood plant and the two new transfer stations are set to be built on existing waste facilities. There will also be no change in the way people’s bins are collected and they’ll still be able to do their own recycling through kerbside collections and taking waste to local recycle points or Household Waste Recycling Centres.

The MBT process allows waste to be shredded, dried and transformed into Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) which can be burned to provide an alternative source of energy to fossil fuels.

A planning application for an MBT plant at Hespin Wood was approved in April and a site at Sowerby Wood has been identified for Barrow.

Transfer stations will be constructed at Flusco near Penrith, and Distington to transport waste to the MBT plants. The existing transfer station at Kendall Fell will also be used.

Deputy Council Leader, Stewart Young, said: “This contract will truly revolutionise waste disposal in Cumbria by massively reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill and providing the county with a cost-effective system for dealing with waste for many years to come.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Hats on for recycling

Carlisle City Council recently trialed the use of reusable blue ‘box hats’ on green kerbside recycling boxes (for paper, glass, tins and cans) in two wards (Scottby - rural mixed village housing and Denton Holme - urban, predominantly terrace/semi). Over 2,000 hats were given to residents who presented their box at the kerbside in these wards. Every property received a leaflet advising them about the trial and informing them how to request a box hat if they missed the original distribution. The aim of the hats are to:

- Reduce littering caused by recycling boxes being incorrectly filled, resulting in papers blowing about the street.
- Keep the recycling waste clean (passers by can no longer throw litter into open boxes).
- Reduce the frequency and costs of litterpicks and street sweeping.
- Keep the contents dry.
- Reduce waste disposal costs through an increase in participation in kerbside recycling.
- Improve the quality of the service residents receive overall and to promote community involvement through the city councils ‘Cleaner, Greener and Safer’ campaign.

A freepost survey was conducted in May 2009 in Denton Holme ward. This asked residents to comment on the trial (a survey for Scotby is underway). A participation count also revealed a Greenbox set out rate of 61% (of these 51% were using their box hats).

The survey achieved a response rate of 25% with 214 surveys being returned. Of these 54% found the hats useful. The majority of responses were positive, for example “just much better with the hat cover on” and “far less litter now”.

Pen was finally put to paper this June on the deal with Shanks Waste Solutions that will revolutionise waste disposal in Cumbria and slash the amount of rubbish sent to landfill.

Financial close has been reached on a 25-year agreement worth more than £700 million between Cumbria County Council and Shanks Group plc – a move that will see much of the county’s waste sent to mechanical biological treatment (MBT) plants in Hespin Wood near Carlisle and Sowerby Wood, Barrow.

The waste contract kicks off with immediate effect, although people will not notice any major changes until construction of the MBT plants gets underway later this year.

MBT is a sustainable and progressive waste technology and the partnership with Shanks means the amount of waste sent to landfill will fall by a massive 80 per cent – leading to a major reduction in the amount of methane the county produces. Methane is generated by the decomposition of waste in landfill and is a greenhouse gas around 20 times more harmful than carbon dioxide.

As well as slashing the volume of waste sent to landfill and removing the increasing financial costs the landfilling process involves, opting for the MBT waste disposal system will also save the county council having to pay out millions of pounds in fines. All councils have been tasked with finding alternatives to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.

Construction and the operation of MBT plants will have a minimal impact on people and the local environment as the Hespin Wood plant and the two new transfer stations are set to be built on existing waste facilities. There will also be no change in the way people’s bins are collected and they’ll still be able to do their own recycling through kerbside collections and taking waste to local recycle points or Household Waste Recycling Centres.

The MBT process allows waste to be shredded, dried and transformed into Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) which can be burned to provide an alternative source of energy to fossil fuels.

A planning application for an MBT plant at Hespin Wood was approved in April and a site at Sowerby Wood has been identified for Barrow.

Transfer stations will be constructed at Flusco near Penrith, and Distington to transport waste to the MBT plants. The existing transfer station at Kendall Fell will also be used.

Deputy Council Leader, Stewart Young, said: “This contract will truly revolutionise waste disposal in Cumbria by massively reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill and providing the county with a cost-effective system for dealing with waste for many years to come.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Construction and the operation of MBT plants will have a minimal impact on people and the local environment as the Hespin Wood plant and the two new transfer stations are set to be built on existing waste facilities. There will also be no change in the way people’s bins are collected and they’ll still be able to do their own recycling through kerbside collections and taking waste to local recycle points or Household Waste Recycling Centres.

The MBT process allows waste to be shredded, dried and transformed into Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) which can be burned to provide an alternative source of energy to fossil fuels.

A planning application for an MBT plant at Hespin Wood was approved in April and a site at Sowerby Wood has been identified for Barrow.

Transfer stations will be constructed at Flusco near Penrith, and Distington to transport waste to the MBT plants. The existing transfer station at Kendall Fell will also be used.

Deputy Council Leader, Stewart Young, said: “This contract will truly revolutionise waste disposal in Cumbria by massively reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill and providing the county with a cost-effective system for dealing with waste for many years to come.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Construction and the operation of MBT plants will have a minimal impact on people and the local environment as the Hespin Wood plant and the two new transfer stations are set to be built on existing waste facilities. There will also be no change in the way people’s bins are collected and they’ll still be able to do their own recycling through kerbside collections and taking waste to local recycle points or Household Waste Recycling Centres.

The MBT process allows waste to be shredded, dried and transformed into Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) which can be burned to provide an alternative source of energy to fossil fuels.

A planning application for an MBT plant at Hespin Wood was approved in April and a site at Sowerby Wood has been identified for Barrow.

Transfer stations will be constructed at Flusco near Penrith, and Distington to transport waste to the MBT plants. The existing transfer station at Kendall Fell will also be used.

Deputy Council Leader, Stewart Young, said: “This contract will truly revolutionise waste disposal in Cumbria by massively reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill and providing the county with a cost-effective system for dealing with waste for many years to come.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Tom Drury, Shanks group chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with our client Cumbria County Council and beginning the task of minimising the amount of waste sent to landfill and maximising the opportunities for recovery and recycling of materials.”

Construction and the operation of MBT plants will have a minimal impact on people and the local environment as the Hespin Wood plant and the two new transfer stations are set to be built on existing waste facilities. There will also be no change in the way people’s bins are collected and they’ll still be able to do their own recycling through kerbside collections and taking waste to local recycle points or Household Waste Recycling Centres.

The MBT process allows waste to be shredded, dried and transformed into Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) which can be burned to provide an alternative source of energy to fossil fuels.
Tackling our tourists waste

With some of the most stunning natural landscapes on earth it is no surprise that 14 million tourists visit Cumbria every year. And while this provides a super boost for the local economy, it poses serious issues for the amount of waste the county generates.

It is estimated that the tourist industry alone is responsible for generating some 45,000 tonnes of rubbish in Cumbria. Resource Cumbria wanted a better understanding of the issues faced by the hospitality sector so applied for funding from the Government’s Business Resource Efficiency and Waste fund to investigate the situation further.

The partnership employed Resource Futures to undertake a study of waste generated by the tourist industry. A waste composition analysis was carried out on waste collected from 48 tourism businesses that used the commercial waste services of Allerdale Borough Council and South Lakeland District Council. This took place during the week of Autumn half term in October last year - a peak visitor period in the county.

The analysis has shown that food waste is by far the largest fraction present in waste collected from tourism businesses (restaurants, pubs, cafes, hotels, B&Bs and guesthouses). Of this food waste created, there is a ratio of two to one for cooked food and meat compared to raw vegetables, indicating that there is scope for this waste stream to be seriously reduced if waste prevention measures were introduced into the sector. This would reduce costs to the businesses in terms of raw materials used, staff time and gas and electricity involved in meal preparation.

As well as the compositional analysis, 342 local business also took part in a telephone survey. The results highlighted poor provision of commercial recycling services within the sector and a lack of knowledge of where services exist. There is also an increasing level of interest in “green” accreditation schemes.

It is apparent from the study that waste prevention measures are becoming increasingly important in the Cumbrian hospitality sector.

Cumbria County Council’s Waste Prevention Manager Martin Allman said “As a county we love to welcome our tourists. However the problem is that they take away great memories of their fantastic time in Cumbria and leave behind all of the rubbish they created when they were here.”

“We encourage our hospitality sector to take action to help reduce Cumbria’s Tourist Waste - and there are real financial incentives for them to do just that. Waste prevention measures can really streamline a business and even make it more attractive to the Cumbrian tourist.”

Working in partnership with Envirolink North West, Resource Cumbria will soon be distributing information to each of the county’s hospitality sector businesses to help start them on the road to a greener business. Based on the successful household recycling pack we have produced a waste reduction business pack containing tips and guidance as well as contact details for collection services and organisations who can provide more hands on advice and support.

This pack is available for download at recycleforcumbria.org.