

## DAKOFA, Avfall Sverige and CIWM, supported by the City of Copenhagen & Ramboll, sign agreements to put in place an Exchange Programme between the UK, Sweden & Denmark

Building on the success of the EU funded Leonardo Programme DAKOFA, Avfall Sverige and CIWM, supported by The City of Copenhagen and Ramboll have signed agreements to set up a waste industry skills exchange programme between Denmark, Sweden and the UK.

Designed as an experiential (learning through doing) programme, 5 workers from Scandinavia will be able to take part each year for the next 4 years.

The exchange project will offer skills exchange for front line staff working in the industry to improve Operational, Health Safety & Environment performance. Our industry is undergoing major changes as the EU accelerates towards the Circular Economy. This project is part of efforts to accelerate skills transfer between the participating countries as we each prepare for the challenges ahead. Organisations taking part in exchanges will be expected to meet the travel and subsistence costs for their employees and make a contribution to the administrative costs of the programme.

This is a unique opportunity for Municipalities and waste and resource management companies to share work experiences with colleagues in the UK. It will enable them to send current employees for on-site experience over a two-week period alongside employees in the waste and resource management industry in the UK. The EU Leonardo Programme demonstrated that exchanging best practice in this way is a cost effective method to challenge our current approach to operational, health, safety, and environmental procedures, not in the classroom but through working side by side with colleagues facing similar problems. We believe it will build reciprocal business advantages for the UK, Swedish and Danish waste industries as we tackle the challenges of moving towards the Circular Economy in Europe.

During 2017 we will offer first choice to those organisations that hosted UK participants from the UK under the Leonardo Programme. In 2018 we will have an open application process and plan to make the programme a two-way exchange with 5 UK employees exchanging into Denmark and Sweden. Each participant will have agreed learning objectives and full reports prepared by each participant will be shared for the benefit of the waste industries in the three participating countries.

DAKOFA, Avfall Sverige and CIWM are the key UK professional bodies for the Waste Industry in Denmark, Sweden and the UK. The City of Copenhagen is a key pioneer in the drive towards the Circular Economy and RAMBOLL a leading consulting and engineering company working in the Waste and Resource Management Sector

The first exchanges are planned for October/November 2017 and a further ten opportunities will be available in September 2018.