



# PRESS RELEASE

## Join the food waste revolution

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HOUSEHOLDS can now dispose of their kitchen waste in a much greener manner, thanks to a new initiative being launched next week.

Copeland residents can get food waste digesters at a fraction of the normal cost under ascheme being run by Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.

The food digesters are garden-based units similar to compost bins, capable of taking all kinds of food waste, including cooked and uncooked meat, fish and dairy products.

Putting kitchen waste in the food digesters is really good for the environment – it will reduce the need to collect and treat around 170 tonnes of Copeland's waste each year, subsequently reducing the amount of CO2 emitted during this process.

The food waste digesters are being launched at Whitehaven Market on Thursday August 14 from 11am. Staff from both councils will be on hand to discuss the scheme and explain how the food digesters work.

Councillor Peter Kane, Copland Borough Council Portfolio holder for Environment, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for people to make a real difference to the environment and I hope as

many as possible will sign up for the scheme. Food digesters are a much greener way of disposing of your kitchen waste, and mean less waste will be going into people's bins."

Councillor Clare Feeney-Johnson, Cumbria County Council Cabinet member for Environment, said: "We know from public feedback that these food digesters are really sought after, so I'm delighted we're able to offer them at a fraction of the normal price.

"By using these units to treat food waste within the home, households will not only reduce their carbon footprint but also help us to make significant savings on waste treatment costs."

Two types of food digester units are available – the Green Johannas and Green Cones.

The Green Johanna is designed to sit in a shady part of the garden and can take all sorts of cooked and uncooked food waste as well as a proportion of garden waste. It produces compost which can be used in the garden. The Green Johanna has a recommended retail price of £108.90 but will be available to Copeland residents at a discounted cost of **just £20**.

The Green Cone is the right choice for anyone who is less green fingered. It is designed to sit in a sunny position of a well-drained garden. Unlike the Johanna, the cone needs to be dug into the garden. Once again it accepts all cooked and uncooked food waste which is dropped into the underground digestion chamber – nature does the rest reducing the contents to its natural components of water and carbon dioxide. The Green Cone normally costs £79.50 but is available for **just £15**.

For more information about food waste digesters, visit [www.recycleforcumbria.org](http://www.recycleforcumbria.org).

Householders can purchase a unit directly from Great Green Systems by calling freephone on 0800 013 1304 or visiting [www.greatgreensystems.com/promotions/ggscumbria](http://www.greatgreensystems.com/promotions/ggscumbria). Alternatively, order forms are available from council offices and local libraries.

The project has been made possible thanks to funding from the Waste Infrastructure Capital Grant Scheme.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: Members of the media are invited to attend a photo opportunity to mark the launch of the food waste digesters at 11am in Whitehaven Market place – look out for our gazebo.

***Ends***

**Notes for Editors**

- For media enquiries, please contact Leila Cox on 01946 598315.
- Copeland Borough Council – Proud of our past. Energised for our future.
- Copeland Borough Council’s vision – Working to improve lives, communities and the prosperity of Copeland.