APPENDIX A.1
COMPOST BIN PROMOTIONAL LEAFLET AND QUESTIONNAIRE
DISTRIBUTED IN THE RBC STUDY AREA
WHY COMPOST?

Why compost?
Many of us simply throw our household waste away without a thought to where it goes or what happens to it. In fact, the bulk of what we discard from our homes ends up in landfill sites - large holes in the ground that are ultimately filled up with rubbish.

New environmental legislation and a chronic shortage of landfill space means that new methods of dealing with waste must be found. We will all need to try and recycle more, taking responsibility for some of our domestic waste.

Composting our kitchen and garden waste is one way in which we can all help - using this material as an alternative to peat-based soil conditioners. This cuts down on waste and keeps the garden blooming.

The special offer
Runnymede Borough Council in conjunction with researchers at Imperial College, London, and The Norlands Foundation, is working on a project to see exactly what impact home composting will have. We are keen to learn more about you, and so in return for filling out a short questionnaire, you can purchase a £50 Milko Premium Home Composter for just £5 - a saving of 90% on the usual retail price.

Help us even more
If you are interested in participating in this research, you can tick the box on the questionnaire to offer your help. We need a group of householders to try out different ideas and take measurements using simple equipment. We will then be able to see which method works best.

What to do next
Remember, you don't have to be involved in the research to take advantage of this offer - you just need to fill in the questionnaire and order form and send it freepost back to us.

If you would like any further information about home composting or about this offer, please call our local rate helpline 0845 307 4418.
QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Which type of property do you live in?

2. How many people live in your property? 

3. Do you have access to any of the following? (please tick)
   - Garden
   - Allotment
   - Shared garden
   - Patio/yard/balcony

4. What are the approximate dimensions of your lawn?
   Measurements in yards: ____________ or in metres: ____________

5. How do you get rid of kitchen and/or garden waste? (please tick)
   - Compost
   - Dump/trash (rubbish amenity site)
   - Wheelie bin
   - Burn it (bonfire, solid fuel burner)
   - Other (please specify) 

6. If you are interested in participating in the research project on home composting, please tick the box below and give us your telephone number. We will arrange to meet you to explain what is involved.
   - Yes, I want to help further
   - Contact telephone number: ____________________

7. If you are not interested in home composting, can you tell us the reasons why? (please tick the relevant boxes)
   - Don't know how to make compost
   - Don't have the time
   - Don't have a big enough garden
   - Don't generate enough material
   - Prefer to buy compost
   - It is messy/smelly
   - It might attract vermin
   - Prefer to have a bonfire
   - Dispose of rubbish at a tip/dump
   - Poor or ill health
   - Other (please specify) ____________________

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE & COMPOST BIN APPLICATION WITH YOUR CHEQUE TO THE FREEPOST ADDRESS.

ORDER FORM

To place an order, simply complete the section below, and return to STRAIGHT RECYCLING SYSTEMS LTD. (address below)

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 4 WEEKS

PLEASE NOTE - to qualify for this offer you must complete the questionnaire overleaf

BONUS OFFERS

NAME: _________________________
ADDRESS: _________________________
POSTCODE: _________________________
TELEPHONE: _________________________

Please send me: 
1 x Milko Premium 290 litre Home Composter @ £495

Additional bin rate (no limit for number of bins at this rate)

x Milko Premium 290 litre Home Composter @ £495

Bonus offers

x Kitchen Bucket* 10 litre capacity @ £29.99 per unit
x BiotaL Accelerator* 500ml bottle @ £4.99 per unit
x Backyard Composting book* @ £3.00 per unit

*only available with a composter

I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to STRAIGHT RECYCLING SYSTEMS LTD. for

or Please debit my
Access / Visa / Delta / Switch account by £

CARD NUMBER: _________________________
EXPIRY DATE: ____________ **Insure Number (SWITCH only)

SIGNATURE: _________________________

ORDER FORM TO BE SUBMITTED IN THE BROMFIELD SORRELBAUGH COUNCIL COMPOSTING TRIAL AREA

Post to: STRAIGHT RECYCLING SYSTEMS LTD. (RMBC)
FREEPOST NEA2439, LEEDS LS2 3YY
APPENDIX A.2
HOME COMPOSTING INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED TO HOMEOWNERS: AN EXAMPLE OF A DATA RECORD SHEET
POSITIONING THE COMPOST BIN
Place the compost bin in a convenient place in the garden, but make sure the base is in direct contact with bare soil or grass.

ADD THE FOLLOWING

**Kitchen waste** (Cut into small pieces and collect in the bucket provided):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Put in</th>
<th>Do not put in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Uncooked vegetable and fruit peelings</td>
<td>✗ Cooked food</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Tea bags</td>
<td>✗ Dairy or meat products</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Egg shells</td>
<td>✗ Pet waste</td>
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**Non-recyclable paper and cardboard** (Collect in a plastic bag; tear and crumple before placing in compost bin)

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<tr>
<th>Put in</th>
<th>Do not put in</th>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Cardboard packaging</td>
<td>✗ Newspapers, magazines &amp; catalogues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Cartons</td>
<td>✗ Telephone directories</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Toilet roll centres</td>
<td>✗ Packaging with plastic film</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Crumpled paper and envelopes</td>
<td>✗ Plastic drink and milk cartons</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Soiled tissues and kitchen towels</td>
<td>✗ Plastics, metals, glass or wood</td>
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**Garden waste** (Collect all in a black bin-liner)

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<tr>
<th>Put in</th>
<th>Do not put in</th>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Grass clippings</td>
<td>✗ Weeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Green leaves</td>
<td>✗ Hedge prunings</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔ Green plant clippings</td>
<td>✗ Woody materials</td>
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PROCEDURE
Every time you add kitchen and paper waste to the compost bin, weigh them in their containers separately using the hanging balance provided and record the weights and date on the log-sheet provided. Collect kitchen waste in the bucket provided until it is at least ½ full and collect paper in a plastic carrier bag until it is full before weighing. Ideally you should add twice as much kitchen and garden waste than paper or card over a period of time.

Before adding garden waste to the bin, use a tap measure (cm) to measure the depth in the bin beginning from the top of the bin to the top of the compost surface. Repeat the same measurement after adding garden wastes. Record both depths and date of measurements on the log-sheet provided.

TEMPERATURE
Insert the temperature probe into the compost. Using the thermometer provided, record the temperature of the compost and date on the log-sheet whenever you add waste to the bin (at least twice a week).

IMPERIAL COLLEGE
A researcher will visit you regularly and will monitor progress and answer queries. We intend to provide a progress report on the research to all householders participating in the composting trial on a regular basis.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>FOOD WEIGHT</th>
<th>PAPER WEIGHT</th>
<th>BIN DEPTH (before)</th>
<th>BIN DEPTH (after)</th>
<th>TEMP</th>
<th>TREATMENT</th>
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APPENDIX A.3
Feedback questionnaire distributed to Study Trial participants in May 2001 and March 2002
HOME COMPOSTING SURVEY

Please try to answer all the questions below in order for us to assess the relative success of the Home Composting Study Trial. Tick the boxes to answer positively.

How long have you been making compost at home?

- 1yr (RBC Campaign with Imperial College (London))
- Other (please specify)

What persuaded you to start making compost at home?

- Saw council promotional campaign with Imperial College (London)
- Received discounted compost bin from the council
- Encouraged by friends or family
- Wanted to do something for the environment/save peat
- Moved to a property with a bigger garden
- Got an allotment
- Became more interested in gardening
- Other (please specify)

Apart from using kitchen and/or garden waste to make compost, does your household use any other methods to dispose of kitchen/garden waste?

- Take it to the dump/tip (CA site) and put it in a skip especially for green/garden waste
- Take it to the dump/tip (CA site) and put it in with the general rubbish
- Put it in the wheeled bin, dustbin
- Burn it (e.g. bonfire, solid fuel burner)
- The Gardener takes the waste away
- Sink disposal unit
- Give to the neighbours to make compost
- I use most of the waste from the garden and/or kitchen to make compost
- Other (please specify)

How often, if at all, do you take garden waste to the local dump/tip?

- Once a week
- Once every six months
- Once a month
- Once a year
- Once every other month
- Never
- Other (please specify)
If you do take garden waste to the dump/tip, please specify which materials you take?

- Dead plant materials/dead flowers
- Diseased garden materials
- Prunings
- Large pieces of woody garden waste
- Lawn mowings
- Weeds
- Other (please specify)
- Leaves

Approximately how many black sacs full of garden waste do you take to the local dump/tip each time you go?

- 1 sac
- 6-9 sacs
- 2-5 sacs
- Other (please specify)

Do you add kitchen and/or garden waste to your compost bin all year round or does it tend to be mainly at certain times of the year?

- All year round
- Just the leaves in Autumn
- Only during the gardening season
- Only grass cuttings
- Not in Winter/bad weather
- Other (please specify)

What kitchen waste do you compost?

- Fruit cores/peelings
- Vegetable peelings
- Teabags
- Coffee grounds
- Salad trimmings
- Egg shells
- Other (please specify)

What garden materials do you compost?

- Dead plant materials/dead flowers
- Weeds
- Lawn mowings
- Leaves
- Prunings
- Shredded woody waste
- Pet cage cleanings
- Other (please specify)
Do you have any serious problems with your composter?

- Composter size OK
- No problems with use
- Enough of material
- No vermin attraction
- No flies
- No odour
- Dry/friable compost
- Fast
- None of the above
- Other (please specify)

- Composter too small
- Easy to use
- Shortage of material
- Some vermin attraction
- Few flies
- Unpleasant odour
- Compost wet and soggy
- Too slow
- Composter too large
- Difficult to use
- Excess material
- Large vermin attraction
- Many flies
- Very unpleasant odour
- Compost extremely soggy
- Very slow

Were you satisfied with the quality of your compost product?

- Yes
- No (please state why)

What do you use your compost for?

- Digging into the soil
- Planting seeds
- Other (please specify)

Do you still wish to continue in the council Home Composting Scheme?

- Yes
- No (please state your reasons).

Would the following encourage you to home compost?

- Advice/helpline on how to make compost at home using compost bins/wormeries
- General publicity on the environmental benefits of making compost at home
- Educational talks to groups/promotional visits/displays at shows/fairs
- None of these
- Other (please specify)

THANK YOU