Big Hanna Composter is installed at the prisons Skogome, Rödjan, Högso, Skänninge and Hinseberg in Sweden.

There are 120 prisons in the UK with over 80,000 inmates. Like any big organization the prison service has a huge volume of waste being generated every day. Each UK prison has a waste management unit where prisoners are employed to sort and recycle everything they can from the waste.

The prison service has a good record for recycling and also enjoys a reputation for being innovative in trying new technology that will enhance its environmental credentials – for example, through the sustainability department, funding has been found to set up wind turbines for electricity generation and Bio Mass and ground source heating systems.

One major waste fraction generated by prisons is food and the costs and security implications of transporting this waste of site has now been avoided by the purchase of the Big Hanna food waste composter. Since the first installation of a Big Hanna at HMP Morton Hall in 2001 a further 50 machines have been delivered and are now specified as a matter of course. In general the food waste that UK prisons generate has a tendency to be very wet so most prisons are using Big Hanna Composter in combination with a mechanical dewatering system that will get the moisture content to levels that allow a more effective composting process. The compost that is being produced is being used to grow plants and vegetables within the prisons with very good results. The success of the food waste composting using Big Hanna is leading to further installations not only in the prison estate but also in other governmental institutions throughout the UK. Derek Hannan, Sustainability Manager of the Ministry of Justice in UK derek.hannan@noms.gov.uk

Our installations include: HMP Wetherby, HMP & YOI Prescoed, HMYOI Onley, Dover Removal Immigration Centre, HMP Styal, HMP Kirkham, HMP Huntercombe, HMP Maidstone, HMP Haverigg, HMP Wymott, HMP Lormarin, HMP Thorne Cross, HMYOI Stoke Heath, HMP Blundeston, HMP Cardiff, HMP Edmunds Hill, HMYOI Aylesbury, HMP Leeds, HMP High Point, HMP Ranby, HMP Kirklington Grange, HMP Swansea, HMP Kennet, HMP Liverpool, HMYOI Eastwood Park, HMP Wealstun, HMP Dartmoor, HMP Wayland, HMP Garth, HMP Everthorpe, HMP Risley, HMP Low Newton, HMP The Mount, HMP Little Hay, HMP Bure.