

Katharos Secures Seed Financing to Advance UK Recycling and Material Recovery Infrastructure Development

Katharos, a new British recycling business, has announced the successful closing of its seed financing. With this pivotal funding Katharos will accelerate the development of new waste and recycling management infrastructure, aiding the UK's transition to a circular economy.

The investment round was led by angel investor James Vernon, TASC a leading global carbon project developer, and a number of high-net-worth individuals and corporate investors from diverse sectors, including private equity, infra and renewables, underscoring robust confidence in Katharos' business plan.

The team at Katharos brings extensive expertise from the renewables, waste, recycling, and infrastructure sectors, positioning the organisation to develop comprehensive solutions for its core waste streams: commercial & industrial, local authority/ municipal, dry mixed recycling residue, and pre-sorting residual feedstock for energy from waste plants, increasing material recovery and decreasing carbon emissions.

The UK Government has a statutory recycling target for 65% of municipal waste by 2035¹. With rates currently around 44%² in the UK, there is a significant need for new recycling infrastructure and capacity. The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the UK's recycling and waste treatment industry body, has estimated that the sector will need to invest £10 billion in recycling infrastructure by 2030 to reach the UK targets³. With a focus on developing new Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), Katharos is well positioned to support this capital deployment and address the demand for efficient and modern recycling solutions.

"Our mission at Katharos is to increase the UK recycling's capacity and support the UK's long-term circular economy objectives," said Francis Mann, Katharos CEO and Co-Founder. *"Closing this seed round, with our new investors standing alongside our team and board, we will now accelerate the development of our project pipeline and market engagement."*

Karen Boutonnat, Chair of the Board, said also, *"Closing this seed round is more than a financing milestone — it is a clear signal of investor confidence in Katharos' ability to deliver recycling infrastructure that the UK genuinely needs. We are well placed to contribute meaningfully to the country's circular economy objectives."*

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About Katharos:

Katharos is a developer of waste and recycling infrastructure in the UK, specialising in development of new recycling capacity that enhances the latest recycling and sorting technologies, including AI and near-infrared spectroscopy to increase operational efficiency, reduce environmental impact and emissions, and deliver long-term commercial value to its financial partners. With a commitment to supporting the UK circular economy, Katharos is driving the delivery of innovative recycling solutions to meet the growing infrastructure needs of the UK.

¹ Circular Economy Package policy statement (30 July 2020) - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-economy-package-policy-statement>

² UK statistics on waste (23 July 2025) - <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-waste-data/uk-statistics-on-waste>

³ "Recycling and waste management sector to invest £10bn in achieving Net Zero by 2040" (greenbusinessjournal) - <https://greenbusinessjournal.co.uk/recycling-and-waste-management-sector-to-invest-10bn-in-achieving-net-zero-by-2040/>