

Student Residencies White Goods Re-Use Pilot

Glasgow Caledonian University

EUAC Scotland – Waste Topic Support Network

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Background

- Circular Economy Plan pilot re-use of white goods and other appliances in the University's student residencies.

Pilot Context

- **Aim:** Pilot refurbished white goods and other appliances in the University's student residencies.
- **The Project:** Re-fresh of 12 student flats (inc. kitchens) in Jun-Aug 2023.
- **The Supplier:** Second Opportunities (registered charity operating as a Social Economy Business). Part of the Scotland Excel Re-Use Consortium as the primary supplier of re-furbished white goods for Local Authority clients with furnished lets.
- **Other Suppliers:** Construction contractor.
- **Internal Stakeholders:** Accommodation Team, Estates Team (Projects & Maintenance)
- **Existing Process:** White goods collected by re-use organisations.

Requirements

- 12 fridges
- 12 freezers
- 24 ovens
- 24 hobs
- 12 microwaves
- 12 kettles



Timeline

- Discussion with Circular Communities Scotland (Jun -Jul 2022)
- Identify Framework (Aug 2022)
- Meet supplier and understand capabilities (Aug 2022 – Jan 2023)
- Identify risks and opportunities (Aug 2022 – Jan 2023)
- On-board supplier (Feb – Apr 2023)
- Pilot order (May 2023)
- Confirm main order (Jul 2023)
- Receive order (Aug – Sep 2023)
- Pilot use (Sept 2023 – ongoing)



Our Expectations

- Comparable to installing new.
- Some internal stakeholders assumed refurbished had to look new.
- Our spec. of refurbished white goods readily available.
- Supplier would be able to supply all that we needed refurbished.
- Same(ish) white goods/appliances in each flat.

Learnings

- Re-use has many forms: can be refurbished or scratch and dent (each graded for quality).
- Quality and energy efficiency grade confusing.
- Supply not guaranteed (because of nature of donations).
- Information for other stakeholders may not be readily available (e.g. construction contractor needed worktop cutting plans for cooker hobs; positioning of oven plugs).
- Not all re-furbished items suitable for our needs.
- Our expectations were potentially un-realistic.

First Delivery



Second Delivery



Outcomes

Mix of re-use items:

- Fridges - refurbished, “scratch & dent” and new
- Freezers - refurbished, “scratch & dent” and new
- Ovens - “scratch & dent”
- 24 hobs - new
- 12 microwaves - new
- 12 kettles - new



Happy to answer questions

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