

# Circular Economy in Universities and Colleges



Hanna Plant | 26 October 2018

# Coming up

- Introduction to Resource Futures
- CE in an HE/FE context
- Benefits of adopting CE practice
- Barriers
- Solutions
- Examples of current activity

# Introduction to Resource Futures



Our vision is for everybody to use resources sustainably



# Our work and Our Approach

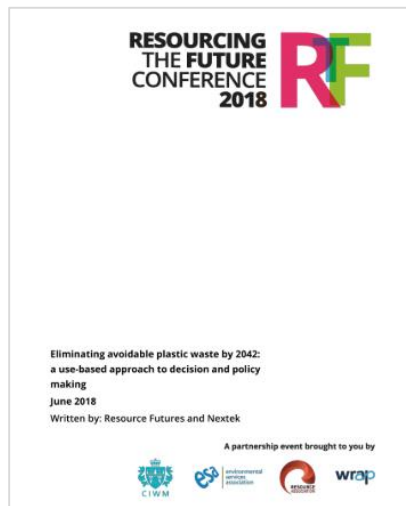




# Our recent reports



**Improving Markets for Recycled Plastics:**  
Trends, Prospects and Policy Responses.  
For: OECD



**Eliminating avoidable plastic waste by 2042:**  
a use-based approach to decision and policy making  
For: Resourcing the Future Partnership

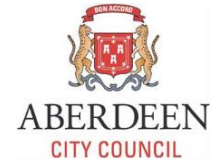


**Preparing for re-use: a roadmap for a paradigm shift in Wales**  
For: WRAP Wales

# Public bodies we work with



FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



OXFORDSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL



Councils working together

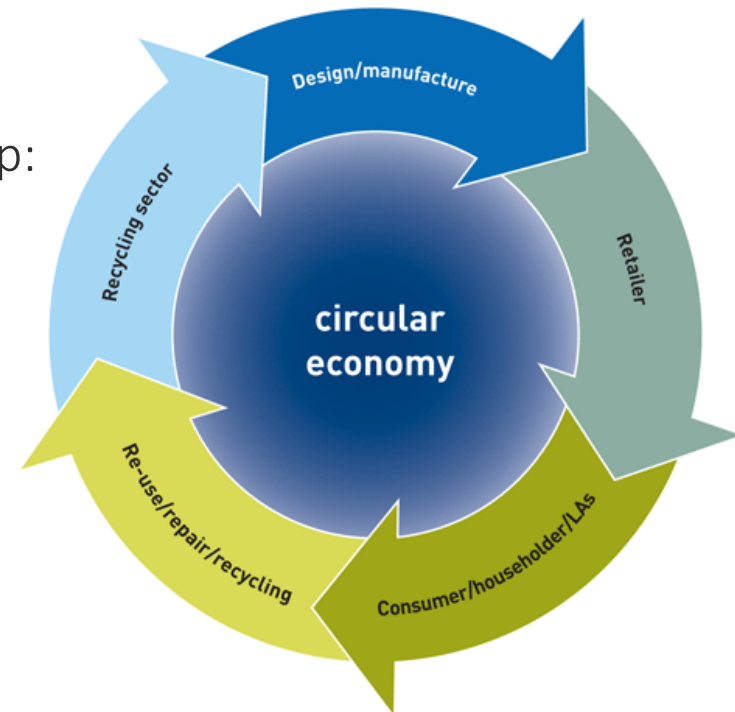


# Scottish Circular Economy business support

We have supported 29 SME businesses to date through the ZWS Circular Economy (CE) Business Support Service.

This support is to help these businesses develop:

- new CE business models;
- new CE products; and
- new collaborative working.





So why does CE matter to universities  
and colleges?



# CE in Universities and Colleges

- Pioneer Universities
- Network Universities



# Barriers, Solutions and Practice

# Barriers

- Requires a systems approach
- Can't act on what you don't know
- Lack of a business case
- Procurement barriers
- The impatient search for a perfect system.
- Existing supply chain reluctance to explore CE
- Fear of failure
- Tendency to 'go it alone'.



# Solutions

- **Audit current CE activity.** - Probably more happening than you think!
- **Scope possibilities-** NHS estimate 50% of their contracts could be circular.
- **Start somewhere-** go first for the 'low hanging fruit'.
- **Build a business case** – you'll need this to bring others on board.
- **Can go 'Semi-Circular'** - Doesn't have to be perfect straight away.
- **Don't have to do it alone-** work in collaboration.
- **Replicate good practice-** Use networks like EAUC-Scotland!
- **Test in real life-** Learn by doing.
- **Students as innovators-** what have students started that can be scaled up?

# CE in Practice

Area	Example	Description
Re-use	Warpit Reuse Portal	Resource distribution network
Repair	Bike Pool- Transition University of St Andrews	Bike repair and hire scheme
Remanufacture	Scottish Institute for Remanufacture-Strathclyde	Research for industry solutions
Academia	Msc in Material Practice at Edinburgh College of Art	Integrating projects on modules focussing on CE into degree courses.
Student initiatives	Shrub	Collections, free-shop and rental service

# Hanna Plant

## Senior consultant



Hanna.Plant@resourcefutures.co.uk



07917536529



/resourcefutures



@resourcefutures



/resource-futures



resourcefutures.co.uk | CREATE Centre, Smeaton Road, Bristol BS1 6XN