

Date: Tuesday 8th November 2016
Time: 9:30-13:00
Venue: Room 1.06, 50 George Square, University of Edinburgh, EH8 9LH



[Resources](#)

Waste Management Topic Support Network

Attendees:

Miriam Adcock	Zero Waste Scotland	Speaker
Barbara Aitken	University of St Andrews	
Clara Boeker	EAUC	Coordinator
Katie Bruce	Leafield Environmental	
Richard Burnett	James Cropper Ltd	Speaker
Trudy Cunningham	University of Dundee	Convenor
Tracey-Ann Don	University of Stirling	
Kate Fitzpatrick	University of Edinburgh	Convenor
Matt Lewis	CRNS	Speaker
Caro Overy	University of Edinburgh	
Rebecca Petford	EAUC	Coordinator
Hanna Plant	Changeworks	Speaker
Spela Raposa	University of Strathclyde	
Betsy Reed	Have You Got the Bottle?	Speaker
Sophie Rippinger	University of Edinburgh	
David Wood	CRNS	Speaker
Sandie Whigham	University of Edinburgh	

Apologies:

Jackie Beresford	Dundee and Angus College
Aдриенн Hortobagyi	
Alan Peddie	University of Edinburgh
John Thorne	Glasgow School of Art

1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p><i>Kate Fitzpatrick, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor/University of Edinburgh</i> <i>Trudy Cunningham, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor/ University of Dundee</i></p> <p>Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and invited to introduce themselves to the room. The programme was outlined.</p>
2.	<p>CRNS: Who We Are, and How We Can Work Together on Reuse – Find presentation here</p> <p><i>David Wood, Chief Executive Officer, CRNS</i> <i>Matt Lewis, Projects & Membership Officer, CRNS</i></p> <p>Introduction to CRNS – Community Resource Network System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRNS started in 2004 and is a membership network with over a thousand employees and 6,000 volunteers. Together they have a huge impact and create £ 63 million income each year.

- Education and community work is an important part of CRNS's work.
- The collective activity of the recycling and reuse sector in Scotland is enormous, even though some areas are very remote and small and it may seem as though they would not have a large impact.
- Councils are doing more now in terms of recycling and there is also a new focus on reuse rather than just recycling.
- The output of the community sector equals the output of a large local authority, i.e. over 51 thousand tonnes diverted from landfill. These are the kind of messages which need to be repeated by CRNS.

What CRNS is doing right now

- CRNS is working closely with local authorities and acts as the link between them and membership social networks to have the sector speak in one voice to increase the impact.
- CRNS is trying to influence others with their work.
- CRNS is funded through Zero Waste Scotland, and is trying to close the gap between the local communities and Zero Waste Scotland through its work.
- CRNS is trying to coordinate activities of all stakeholders in the sector through the CRNS Consortium. The CRNS Consortium is an important tool as the sector needs to act collectively due to the nature of operations in Scotland which consists of many small volunteer groups meaning their voices are not as loud individually.
- Reuse is part of the new Domestic Furniture and Furnishings Excel Framework.
- CRNS is trying to activate Scottish welfare funds through the Excel framework.
- The furniture that is currently purchased by local authorities is not good enough to be actually reused and mainly has to be disposed of, which does not feed into the circular economy.

Reuse

- Live webpage since the 11 April which allows local authorities to purchase used furniture in the same way as buying new. From an environmental perspective this means reuse rather than landfill but from a community perspective it means investment in local communities.
- CRNS is currently trying to develop a process for facilitating 'reuse' for councils and social enterprises.
- One of the advantages of reuse is that it feeds into the circular economy, which provides more jobs than landfill and incineration, i.e. reusing creates approximately 296 jobs through the whole process of upcycling, reselling etc.(see presentation).
- CRNS has released a reuse position paper and received positive comments.
- CRNS sent out surveys to members to find out what the communities want from their local authorities (see presentation).
- Extended producer responsibility, i.e. could be in the form of a levy that is put onto furniture and mattresses, to create a more circular approach to economy.
- CRNS is trying to influence local reuse targets and charters other than just recycling, by making reuse commonplace as this can generate income for local communities and authorities.
- The question was raised what the difference between [Warp-it](#) and CRNS approach is. CRNS responded that it provides less statistics but delivers more social value than Warp-it. CRNS has more capability for private households and individuals.
- Question was raised on how to move on from current performance on reuse to the next level as storage is a big inhibitor for universities and colleges to fully employ a reuse approach to furniture management.

Also Mentioned

- There is a certain level of risk in purchasing reused products along with problems in logistics.
- Logistics and storage should be part of the CRNS Framework.
- It is beneficial to be a member of CRNS as their work helps to connect people who are trying to dispose of items and people who are in need of them.
- CRNS has two different product streams, household furniture items and office furniture, and CRNS will look at opportunities in the future to work with Warp-it to grow the sector.
- CRNS hosts forums around the country in order to connect people and create one voice for the sector. CRNS is trying to get everyone together but wants members to get involved themselves and interact with each other.

3.	<p>Changeworks: For a Waste-Free Edinburgh – Find presentation here <i>Hanna Plant, Waste Team Manager, Changeworks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive exercise on how messages are spread on reduce, reuse, recycling, • Changeworks uses ISM framework to inspire and enable people to reduce CO₂, waste and fuel poverty, which is Changeworks main activity. • ISM framework stands for the individual, social and material, all key challenges in influencing people’s behaviours. • The key challenges for Changeworks to getting the right messages across are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fixed opinions - too many people to reach - being heard - diverse audience • There are only five staff in the Waste Team at Changeworks who work on three overarching projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste Free Edinburgh (community) - Waste Wise volunteers - Waste Free Edinburgh (Education) • Changeworks has difficulties in communicating to secondary education users. • Changeworks educates through community workshops, school/nursery visits, Seafield Waste Cabin with a big focus on food waste, ‘reduce, reuse, recycle’ workshops, public events, door step education and online engagement. • Kitchen canny workshops focus on food money savings, better food planning, better cooking, and preserving methods. • Volunteer and Community Advocate Programme (VCAP), which was launched July 2015 has 15 projects across Scotland. • Changeworks works with geographical communities as well as shared interest community (i.e. students and staff) • Work with volunteer teams aims to use already existing knowledge in communities through volunteers for further education. • Changeworks’ progress so far: very passionate volunteers with great involvement. • Changeworks is trying to be as creative as possible, think differently about resources and spice up thinking about waste in everything they do. • They do this through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using the individual/social/material framework (ISM) as structure to guide how to engage with the community and individuals - Volunteer interaction and creativity, e.g. pop-up stalls and handing out of free recycling bins, which is especially helpful in poorer communities as well as direct engagement of children, such as children creating banners on recycling in local neighbourhood. • One of Changeworks greatest challenges is turning an issue no one wants to see (i.e. waste) into something people will continuously work on to change it. • Secrets of success: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have people interact - Children involvement - Inspiring individuals who will inspire others through word of mouth
4.	<p>James Cropper Ltd: Coffee Cup Recycling – the future? – Find presentation here <i>Richard Burnett, Market Development Manager, James Cropper Ltd</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper cup recycling is a current hot topic in the UK media and public. • James Cropper is a commercial organisation based in Kendal in Cumbria, which operates in the specialised paper and nonwoven material group and is in the sixth generation of their family business. Their business focus is on specialising in low-volume high quality niche products. James Cropper has a long business heritage – from 1845 until today in their local area. • Production of technically diverse products range from paper based products to carbon-based products, with focus on packaging and specialises in niche areas. • James Cropper invested heavily in different production plants and currently has 500 employees. The

	<p>Queen opened James Cropper’s fibre material centre, which is a centre to purely recycle paper cups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper industry in the UK is not very successful, with only 25 operating mills remaining and only five in the same area as James Cropper. • James Cropper is focusing on small amounts of quality coloured paper, used for luxury packaging, as they cannot compete with big paper mills in Sweden and Finland for regular paper production. • Recycling is a key task from raw-material sourcing to product delivery. There is a demand for recycled products in all levels of the market, as everyone wants to use recycled products, even in the luxury department. • James Cropper needs to be sure of what is in recycled products, as they are producing high end products. This led to the use of pre-consumer paper cups as the best possible material for using as a recycled paper source. However, the problem with paper cups is the lining of polyethylene coating, which makes it difficult for any normal recycling process. First, pre-consumer waste from the paper cup manufacturing process was used as material but then also post-consumer paper cups. • In March, James Cropper had a trial with McDonald’s in terms of collecting their paper cup waste. McDonald’s is making efforts in separating their waste streams from their stores into fluids, paper, plastic and general waste. McDonald’s varies from other retailers as they only use paper cups, which makes it easier for them to recycle more material. It was suggested that often at McDonald’s waste does not actually get recycled just put in several bins. It was added that this is still important to change of people’s behaviour until the right procedures for paper cup recycling are in place. • The Paper Cup Recovery and Recycling Group (PCRRG) which exists to develop collection and recycling opportunities for paper cups with major players on board, such as Starbucks, Costa, etc. However, there is still an unclear message about whether paper cups are recyclable or not as they are not recyclable in standard paper mills but only in special paper cup recycling mills. • James Cropper’s main challenge is sourcing cups from all around the UK to transport to the recycling plant. • It was noted that consumers are not educated enough to know about the different cups and rules of recycling. • In order to change paper cup recycling, education is required and James Cropper does not have the capacity to exert that influence on its own. Hopefully as a industry as a whole they can change. Culture in the UK means that people are always on the move with high amount of take-outs and thus a lot of waste. It will take a lot to change this culture. • Many issues for reusing of paper cup material as material cannot be contaminated with food or other fibres. There is also the problem of moving cups around, however waste management companies might be able to help with that. James Cropper currently only has interest in bleached paper cups – but it was noted that bleaching has its own impacts. • More drive by the retailers and big brands is required, as they have a reputation to uphold due to the reputation of paper cups. • The majority of paper cups are not recycled, and due to the intensive process required, it is not in the commercial interest for paper mills to invest into paper cup recycling, as this would cost millions of pounds. It was noted that there is no quick fix to this problem currently and that Government mandating is really required for change. • James Cropper is very happy to work together with the sector to find a solution for paper cup recycling.
5.	<p>Have you got the Bottle Campaign – Find presentation here <i>Betsy Reed, Campaign Director, Have you got the Bottle?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scotland is getting dirtier with litter being a very visible problem. As Scotland has Europe’s second longest coastline, a high volume of plastic ends up in the ocean. • Bottle return scheme would help to reduce the negative environmental impact. This would work similar to the Irn Bru system where glass bottles could be returned. • There would be a small deposit on drinks containers, which would be handed back to the consumer when the bottles get returned. • Worldwide 250 million people use a deposit return system.

Impacts:

- Cutting of litter, boost to recycling rates, money savings for local council and helps to tackle climate change
- Places which have deposit schemes have bottle return rates of over 80%.
- With deposit return scheme other people pick up bottles which are littered.
- The advantage of a deposit return scheme is that people do not have to care about the environment to stop littering but only about saving money. Places without deposit schemes are 10 times more likely to litter.
- Companies often really do not want to implement deposit schemes, but when it is implemented they are likely to come on board. This is an issue in Scotland where big retailers oppose a deposit scheme.
- There was a pilot of a Scottish deposit return scheme, however this does not give a real picture as in reality the scheme should involve every bottle and have lots of return spots.

'Have you got the bottle?'(HYGTB)

- HYGTB is a campaign for introducing a bottle deposit return scheme in Scotland led by The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland with 25 supporter organisations from business, non-Government and community sectors.
- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 primary legislation is already in place.
- Through HYGTB work, the deposit return scheme was in three of the five major parties' 2016 manifestos.
- HYGTB acts as a Scottish government advisory group on a bottle return scheme.
- Australia is using evidence gathered in Scotland by the campaign to implement deposit schemes there
- HYGTB hosted global campaign summit with 15 countries present.
- HYGTB led stakeholder trips to Norway, which has a deposit scheme and similar geography to Scotland.
- HYGTB has a 10 point fact sheet to counter the arguments against a deposit return scheme and for producing evidence to support positive messages.
- A deposit return scheme would be good for business in Scotland, and cafes and restaurants are already signing up as they would not have to pay for the collection of bottles anymore. There is positive feedback from social enterprises, small grocers, cafés and restaurants.
- A deposit return scheme would also be good for local authorities in Scotland as it could save £7m in litter picking-up costs and £5m on kerbside collection plus £1m on household recycling centres.
- Deposit return scheme would also work within circular economy.
- In order to incur change it is most important to share these messages and make it happen!

6. **Zero Waste Scotland and the Garage Sale Trail Project – [Find presentation here](#)**

Miriam Adcock, Regional Partnership Manager, [Zero Waste Scotland](#)

- Garage Sale Trail is a new project by Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS).
- It is the idea of having a garage sale in a neighbourhood and getting as many people together as possible in order to bring people together, have them meet their neighbours, and to getting people to think about reusing and recycling.
- The Garage Sale Trail will help to change behaviours.
- The idea is originally from Australia and huge there. It had a big PR campaign in Australia with an elaborate website and advertising possibilities.
- Andrew Dig of ZWS took this idea to England and ran trials in three different areas: Brighton, Hackney and Todmorden.
- After the trial, local shops reported increase in sales; lots of people gave money to charities as they donated parts of their profits and worked closely with reuse organisations. This saved money for local councils as waste was diverted from landfill.
- Dual advantages of Garage Sales as positive environmental impact as well as good for the community for making money and socialising.
- Next trial in Scotland as it reached big participation numbers in England. ZWS is planning to start Garage Sale Trial in September 2017. It was mentioned that it would be difficult for universities to

	<p>participate due to overlapping of timings with Fresher Weeks and difficult infrastructure.</p> <p>Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Waste Reduction Week: 19th - 27th November 2016 • Pass It On Week: 11th – 19th November 2016
7.	<p>Sector Updates</p> <p>None raised</p>
8.	<p>Thanks and Close</p> <p><i>Kate Fitzpatrick, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor/University of Edinburgh</i> <i>Trudy Cunningham, Waste Management TSN Co-Convenor/ University of Dundee</i></p> <p>Minutes and event survey to be circulated to all attendees shortly. Thanks to all for attending.</p>

Minutes prepared by: Clara Boeker
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