



Another person's treasure

# Repair and Re-use



Freephone Helpline  
0808 100 2040

[zerowastescotland.org.uk](http://zerowastescotland.org.uk)

## Overview

In modern Scottish society, we often throw away items which are still useable or which only require a small amount of repair to make them last longer. This wastes resources that could continue to be used or be used again. While recycling these materials is better than throwing them away, it is better still to re-use them first.

The re-use options available include:

- charity & second-hand shops
- scrap stores
- bring banks and recycling centres; and
- doorstep collections.

Repair facilities can be operated by businesses or charitable organisations and include: tailors, outlets repairing electrical goods and furniture refurbishers and upholsterers.

All sorts of materials can be reused whether they are ready to reuse just as they are or need a small amount of repair before being given a second life.

Materials collected can include: clothes, shoes, furniture, books, CDs, DVDs, games, bric-a-brac, electronic equipment and much more.

Charities, businesses, recycling bring-banks, Council recycling centres etc. accept different types of material for re-use so it is important to check what materials are accepted by your chosen recipient.

# What happens?



Materials are donated directly or collected from the doorstep.

Re-usable goods are separated out and are sold on or provided free of charge to end-users.



Repairable goods are separated out and refurbishment/ repair is carried out.



Repaired items are sold on or provided free of charge to end users.



Donated items which are not suitable for re-use or repair are recycled where possible or sent for thermal treatment or disposal.



## What comes out?

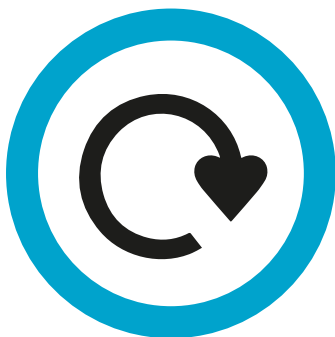


### **Items ready for re-use:**

Depending on the organisation, items may be given away to those in need, sold to raise charitable funds or sold by a business.

### **Items for recycling:**

Sometimes, items that are donated might not be of good enough quality for re-use. Some of these items might be suitable for recycling instead.



### **Materials for disposal or thermal treatment:**

Some poor quality goods might not be suitable for re-use, repair or recycling and in these cases, the item(s) will be sent for thermal treatment or disposal.

# Glossary

## **Bring banks**

Often known as recycling points, these are facilities provided in well-used locations, such as supermarket car parks, that people can deposit paper, card, glass bottles etc. for recycling.

## **End-users**

The people or businesses that receive the goods to use.

## **Re-use**

Re-use is when items are used again in their current form or with minor repairs so that they are still functional in their original form. For example, refilling a bottle or using a second-hand table. Re-use is different to recycling, where materials are reprocessed and the resultant material is used to manufacture entirely new products.

## **Treatment**

A type of process which reduces the quantity of input material either by using heat (thermal treatment) or a biological process. They also produce heat, electricity, fertilisers or other outputs.

# Further information

## Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS)

For more information on Zero Waste Scotland, its work and research, please visit: [www.zerowastescotland.org.uk](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk)

For more information on waste facilities and how they are developed, please visit: [www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/infrastructure](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/infrastructure)

## Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

For information on waste regulation, licencing, data and more detailed technical information on facility types and the standards they are required to achieve, please visit: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)

## Recycle for Scotland

For more information on how to reduce, re-use and recycle, please visit: [www.recycleforscotland.com](http://www.recycleforscotland.com)

## Videos

To watch videos explaining what different facilities do, please visit: [www.recycleforscotland.com/facts-figures/facts-figures](http://www.recycleforscotland.com/facts-figures/facts-figures)

## National Re-use Phonenumber

If you have bulky household items that are in good condition and could be re-used, call 0800 0665 820 for a free pick up.

## Revolve

Revolve is Scotland's national re-use quality standard. Shopping at your local Revolve re-use accredited store ensures the goods you buy are re-used, modestly priced, of good quality, clean and safe. [www.revolvereuse.com](http://www.revolvereuse.com)

## Other re-use options

Free re-use sites such as Freecycle/Freecycle, sales & wanted sites such as Preloved and Gumtree, online auction sites such as Ebay or CQOut, auction houses, etc.

## CRNS

Scotland's national re-use, repair and recycling charity  
<http://crns.org.uk>



For more information about Zero Waste Scotland's terms and conditions, please visit [www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/content/terms-conditions](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/content/terms-conditions)

If you have any questions please contact [data@zerowastescotland.org.uk](mailto:data@zerowastescotland.org.uk)