

Reuse 360 HUB Burnley- Briefing paper

The Reuse Hub is a project that takes donated reusable furniture and household items and gives them to families and individuals in the area who need them. The project takes items from recycling centres including items such as bedding, towels and children's clothes, stainless steel pots and pans, crockery, furniture and rugs. LCC work with Lancashire social care teams to rehome the items with the people in need across the county.

As well as the reuse shops at Burnley, Preston and Garstang centres, there are several other reuse projects.

The bike reuse projects that mean instead of being scrapped, bikes are used again for their intended purpose.

Burnley recycling centre works with Burnley Together to reuse school uniform at their "Relove the Preloved School Uniform Shop" at Down Town, Charter Walk Shopping Centre, which is open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm.

They also work with community groups and local charities to supply quality items they need from the recycling centres. They look for projects that provide social value as well as helping them to divert waste from landfill.

Reuse 360 support the work of local charities and not-for profit organisations by supplying them with second hand (sometimes brand new) items they get at their recycling centres. The items should be used to support the aims of the organisation and show a real benefit for local people.

The sort of items they can provide include, but is not limited to:

- garden tools and planters
- children's toys
- winter coats
- sleeping bags, duvets, blankets and cushions
- furniture
- bric-a-brac
- toiletries
- crockery, pots and pans
- dog crates and beds
- school uniform
- pushchairs
- highchairs
- moses baskets
- mobility equipment

When was the Reuse 360 Shop set up?

The reuse shops at LCC recycling centres have been set up since 2016. Initially at Garstang Community recycling and reuse centre (operated by a third sector organisation), and then Preston HWRC in 2018, and after a period of closure during the pandemic the shops were rebranded and reopened under reuse360, all being operated by LCC, with the new shop at

Burnley opening in 2021. They also have the reuse360 hub that provides free household furniture and homeware on a referral basis to people in need, and a community reuse scheme working with small organisations sourcing items to support their activities. The Reuse 360 Shop in Burnley adheres to various standards and regulations to ensure the safety and quality of the items they sell, particularly when it comes to electrical items, fire safety, and other relevant areas:

Electrical Safety:

PAT Testing: All electrical items sold by Reuse 360 undergo Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) to ensure they are safe for use. This involves checking for any faults, ensuring proper insulation, and confirming that the equipment functions correctly.

Certification: Items that pass the PAT test are labeled with a certification sticker, indicating the date of testing and the next due test date, ensuring compliance with safety standards.

Fire Safety:

Furniture and Upholstery: Any upholstered furniture or items containing foam are checked to ensure they meet the UK's Furniture and Furnishings (Fire) (Safety) Regulations. This involves testing for fire retardancy and ensuring items carry the appropriate labels.

Smoke and Fire Safety Checks: Fire safety checks are conducted to ensure that items do not pose a fire risk, and fire safety equipment, like smoke detectors and extinguishers, is maintained within the shop premises.

Quality Control:

Inspection of Goods: All items, whether electrical, furniture, or other household goods, are thoroughly inspected for any damage or defects before being placed on sale. Items are cleaned, repaired, or refurbished as necessary to ensure they are in good condition.

Compliance with Trading Standards: The shop adheres to local trading standards, ensuring that all goods sold are safe, accurately described, and fairly priced.

Hazardous Materials:

Safe Disposal: Any items that cannot be reused or sold due to safety concerns are disposed of responsibly, in line with environmental and safety regulations, to prevent harm to customers and the environment.

Staff Training:

Ongoing Education: Staff and volunteers are regularly trained on safety standards, including how to identify and handle items that may not meet regulatory requirements. This ensures ongoing compliance with health and safety laws.

By adhering to these standards, Reuse 360 Shop ensures that customers can shop with confidence, knowing that the items they purchase are safe and meet all relevant regulations.

How was it set up?

The service development team at LCC considered best practice from other authorities, and identified the recycling centres where there was space to accommodate a shop and the storage

infrastructure, including parking and safety for all site users so that there is no conflict with the traffic flow on the rest of the site.

How much revenue does the shop generate?

The income generated from the shops covers the operating costs. The income varies seasonally and depends on the size of the site and how busy the site is – Garstang is a smaller site, with less footfall and therefore generates less income. Reuse 360 HUB price stock in the shops to sell, as their main aim is to reuse and to educate, and not maximise income.

What services does the revenue fund?

The operational costs of the waste service dealing with Lancashire's municipal waste. They also monitor tonnes used and carbon savings,