



Community Reuse Network Ireland

Reuse, Recycling and their role in the Circular Economy

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Environmental Protection Agency

Reuse, Recycling and the Circular Economy



CRNI Network members

A variety of businesses and organisations make up the membership of CRNI, involved in areas such as:

- Furniture & textile upcycling (Back2New, Duhallow Revamp, The Rediscovery Centre, Revamp 3R, Kingdom Furniture)
- Materials reuse (ReCreate)
- Mattress recycling (Boomerang, Eco Mattress)
- Online Exchange & Industrial symbiosis (FreeTrade Ireland, SMILE Exchange)
- Paper, glass and can recycling (Bryson Recycling)
- Textile reuse (Irish Charity Shops Association)
- EEE and WEEE recycling (Camara, RecycleIT, RehabRecycle)

Most, but not all, operate with as social enterprises

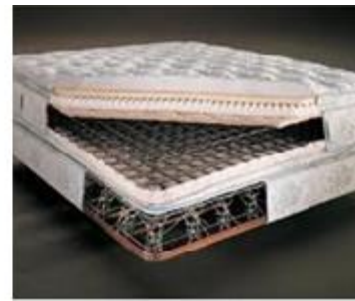
CRNI - Reuse & Recycling - 2015



→ Over 39,000 tonnes reused & recycled
→ Over 690 jobs & 7,650 training opportunities



Materials Handled



CRNI's Policy Paper - Growing the sector



Improving design, eliminating waste:

- Working with industry to improve design for repair & recycling

Changing behaviour:

- Quality mark to tackle public perceptions - pilot project
- Build capacity for & work with companies on procurement



Supporting the Reuse & Recycling Sector:

- Set reuse on a level playing field
- Targets for reuse
- Improve KPIs & reporting on reuse

Supporting Community:

- Jobs /training scheme tailored for the reuse and recycling sector
- Better coordination & recognition of social enterprise



So how do Reuse & Recycling relate to the Circular Economy?

- ▶ Reuse and recycling have a vital role to play in ensuring better and longer use of raw materials
- ▶ Under the Circular Economy Package at EU level, there is already recognition of reuse and recycling with targets for both
- ▶ Companies are under increasing pressure to safeguard their supply chains and designing their products for easier reuse and recycling is a way of doing this
- ▶ CRNI sees the development of the Circular Economy as an opportunity for the barriers to reuse and recycling to be overcome

Reuse & Recycling - can we market “secondhand” better?

CRNI would like to see more demand for reused and recycled goods. Is the lack of a Quality Mark or standard a barrier for consumers?

- ▶ An Green Enterprise-funded project kicks off in April to examine this area
- ▶ It's going to examine if a quality mark across a range of reused goods would improve consumers' perceptions of same
- ▶ Could such a mark, if developed, be used as a branding and marketing tool, showcasing the importance of such products in the development of the Circular Economy?

What can we do in terms of moving towards the Circular Economy today?

- ▶ Get more wear out of your clothes! And then donate them to your local registered charity shop
- ▶ Ensure your old mattress gets recycled
- ▶ Check out the activities and events running during Reuse Month
- ▶ Keep using your IT equipment, such as your PC, mobile phone and laptop, until they actually need replacing
- ▶ Donate your old electronic equipment to a licensed recycler
- ▶ Does your business generate “waste” that another business could use?
- ▶ Does your business need to buy brand new or are reused/recycled goods an option?
- ▶ Invest in a reusable coffee cup and water bottle!

CRNI Website

Check out www.crni.ie for:

- ▶ More details about our activities
- ▶ Information about all our members
- ▶ CRNI's White policy paper

And you can follow us on Twitter

- ▶ @CRNIreland

Email us

- ▶ info@crni.ie

THANK YOU