

How the University of Strathclyde is Working with a New Zero Waste Scotland Funded Initiative to Prevent Equipment Waste

The University of Strathclyde is a multi-award winning, research intensive university with numerous facilities and workshops within its diverse campus. But a common problem is the accumulation of unwanted and outdated research equipment.

The environmental team at Strathclyde wanted to avoid having to dispose of working, valuable equipment as waste, and so began working with UniGreenScheme.

UniGreenScheme collect, store and sell surplus equipment for universities and return a share of the profits from sales back to the department.



The UniGreenScheme team collected this surplus laser system from the department of physics. It had been sat unused for several years but will now be re-homed in another laser facility.



This set of Nitrogen Dewars were collected from the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences. After some refurbishment they were sold on by UniGreenScheme. The department received over £300 for their resale.

UniGreenScheme was initially based in South Wales but following their considerable success nationwide Zero Waste Scotland are supporting the resale service to grow in Scotland with a full development package under the Circular Economy Investment Fund.

All manner of surplus equipment has been collected from Strathclyde so far including lasers, nitrogen dewars, power supplies, oscilloscopes, voltmeters, water baths, vacuum pumps, vacuum chambers and much more.

UniGreenScheme has completed two collections with the university so far, but the numbers are already promising and there is a lot of potential for the future.

Impact So Far:



UniGreenScheme sell surplus equipment for over 25 universities across the UK, distributing this equipment for re-use worldwide. Many of the new owners are universities, schools and research companies within the UK.

One of the reasons the service has been very successful is the hassle and time-saving for staff as the UniGreenScheme team carry out the removal equipment, and can free up a lot of space.



Before and after picture of a UniGreenScheme clearout at the Strathclyde Colville building. Whilst UniGreenScheme are not a disposal service, they can often significantly reduce the amount of equipment for disposal during clearouts, often by 90% or more.

“The University of Strathclyde has played a critical role in getting our Scotland re-use operation running. I am really pleased by the level of support and interest the team there have given to us and I look forward to the success of our collaboration in the future. I hope with the help of Strathclyde, Zero Waste Scotland and other universities in the region, we will have some very significant impacts in the Scottish sector as the project grows”

- Nenad Denkov, Scotland Business Manager, UniGreenScheme

UniGreenScheme is now looking to work with more departments across the campus, so please get in touch to find out how you can recover value from your surplus equipment.

UniGreenScheme

The Asset Resale Service For Universities

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