



St Vincent de Paul Society, Bradford & Leeds

Target population	558,000 households
Funding amount	£51,417
Pilot duration	March 2020 – November 2022
Pilot type	Reuse
Pilot aim	To expand electrical testing capacity, increase collections of reusable electricals, and raise awareness about electrical reuse.
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,747 electrical items were collected and tested • 3,042 items were reused



Collection approach

Drop-off points were set up in shops, schools, offices, and community spaces.

Additional driver hours were introduced to increase household and community collections.

A full-time technician was recruited and volunteers were trained to test and safety-check donated items.

Safe items were sold through the organisation's shops at affordable prices, offering essential appliances to households on low incomes.

Items that failed the checks were recorded and sent to a recycling partner, ensuring they were processed responsibly.

Communications approach

To encourage people to donate their small electricals, the following promotional materials were used:

- Posters
- Leaflets
- Specially labelled and printed collection bags were handed out at local schools, churches, and offices, for people to take home and fill before returning to those locations

Future plans

All elements of the pilot carried on after the funded period. The St Vincent de Paul Society sought further funding to sustain and grow the work after the MF pilot ended.

“Without your funding the only people we had testing the [electricals] were volunteers, who were very rare; it is only since we received your funding that we have been able to successfully build on what we had.”

Julie Webb, Pilot lead