



Renfrewshire Council

Target population 90,000 households

Funding amount £10,832

Project duration November 2024 – November 2025

Project type Community drop-off points

Project aim To expand access to recycling of small electricals in local communities, while driving increased footfall to local libraries.

Outcome

- 2.2 tonnes of small electricals were collected via library banks
- 0.24 tonnes of batteries were collected
- 17% increase (75 tonnes) in total electrical waste recycling compared to the previous year
- Reduction in WEEE contamination found in kerbside general waste collections



Collection approach

Renfrewshire Council established collection points in 12 libraries, installing 110-litre bins for small electricals.

Separate smaller bins for household batteries were provided to ensure safety.

Items were collected monthly by WEEE Scotland for recycling.

Library staff were trained to help residents with their queries and monitor the bins.

Communications approach

- Targeted social media and vehicle livery using HypnoCat branding to encourage residents to recycle anything with a plug, battery, or cable.

Future plans

The council plans to extend bring banks to nine more locations, aiming to cover all of Renfrewshire's public buildings long term. It is also expanding a pilot scheme for electricals reuse, which collected 1.83 tonnes in 2024. Community workshops and the introduction of 'fire bags' for lithium batteries, will help ensure the scheme's sustainability.

“Handy to have, they are especially good if you don't drive and can't easily access the recycling centre.”

Resident

“Resident response was very positive [...] The library staff were integral in ensuring this happened.”

Project team