

COLLABORATION IN ACTION LUPC & SUPC CONFERENCE 2022

Re-Purposing Workspaces – A Responsible Approach

Fiona Edwards, Head of Sustainability

8th June 2022



Breakout Session 2a

Re-Purposing Workspaces: A Responsible Approach

13:30-14:15

Description: Reduce, re-use, re-cycle - it's a well-worn phrase, but how are organisations putting pay to this as they re-purpose their estates and the furniture within these estates post-Covid?

Join Fiona for sector-focused case studies on how we can make the most of the furniture that we already have, to meet the evolving demands from students and staff.



perfect timing...

We have
#OnlyOneEarth.
What will you do to
protect it?



ONLY ONE EARTH



UN environment programme 50 1972-2022



UNITED NATIONS
WORLD OCEANS DAY 2022



#CEweek2022

Combating the climate emergency
with the circular economy

Save the date

13 - 17 JUNE 2022

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ReLondon

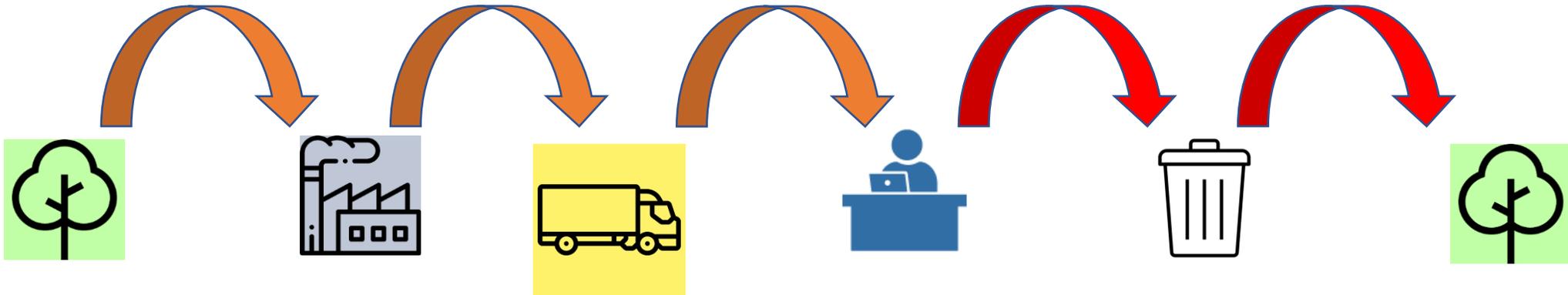


www.ceweek.london

workspaces
by JPA

Re-purposing furniture reduces waste, which:

- reduces furniture related carbon
- reduces new manufacturing and transport emissions
- reduces depletion of the earth's natural resources



Reasons for re-purposing furniture and reducing waste:

- 1 Save money
- 2 Reduce furniture waste
- 3 Reduce % embodied carbon in projects
- 4 Eliminate furniture landfill
- 5 Pressure from students and staff
- 6 Net Zero legal requirement by 2050
- 7 Attract funding and investment

There's a carbon impact for **everything we buy & everything we do**



...financial incentive alone

Steel components up 40%

Steel raw materials up 135%

Seating foam up 40%

Plywood up 120%

Corrugated packaging up 15%

Freight up 20%

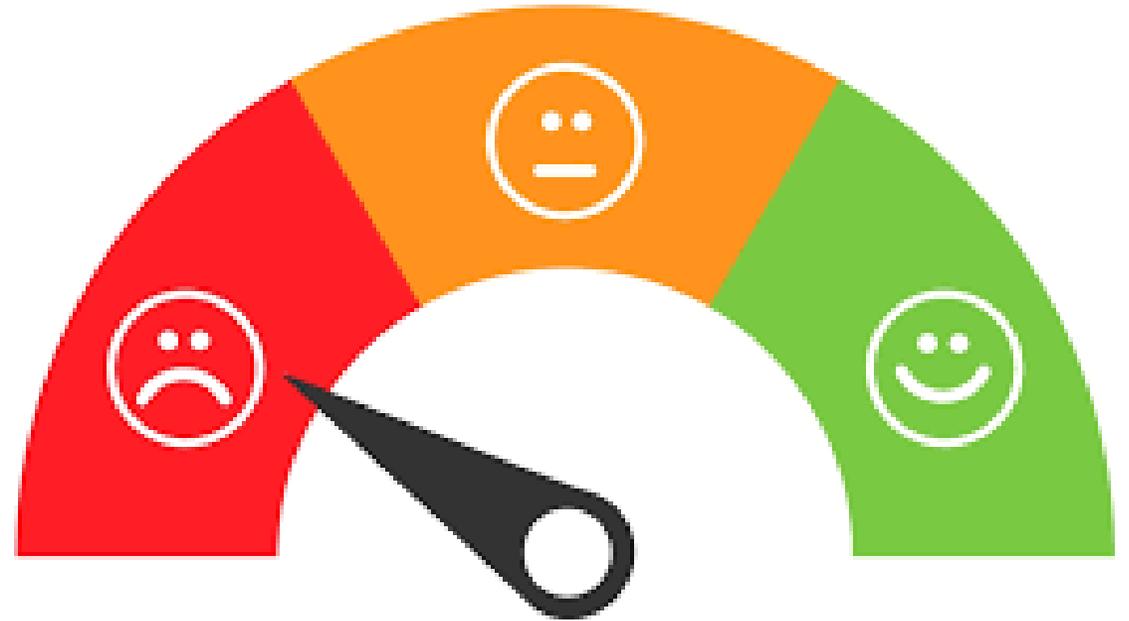
Gas, electricity and fuel up 50%+

...and rising



...with an increasingly complex backdrop:

- Brexit
- War
- Materials shortages
- Longer lead times
- Unprecedented rising costs
- Legislation and reporting requirements
- Customer and stakeholder pressure
- Agile working, hybrid working, active working, well working

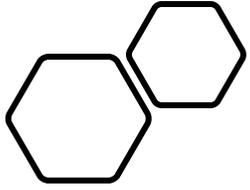


Our strategy is simple

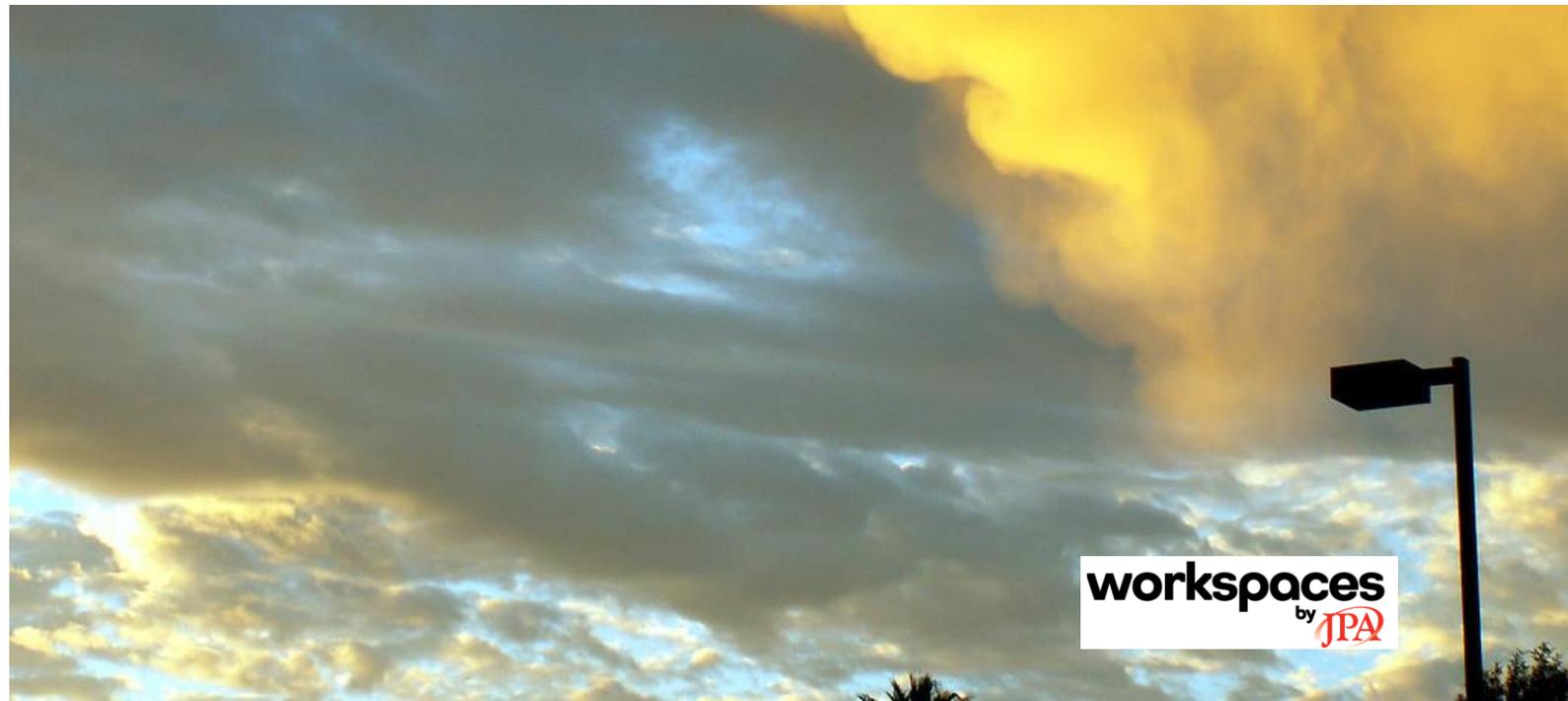
1. Reduce waste to reduce carbon
2. Help clients buy better to reduce waste

...multiple long-term benefits





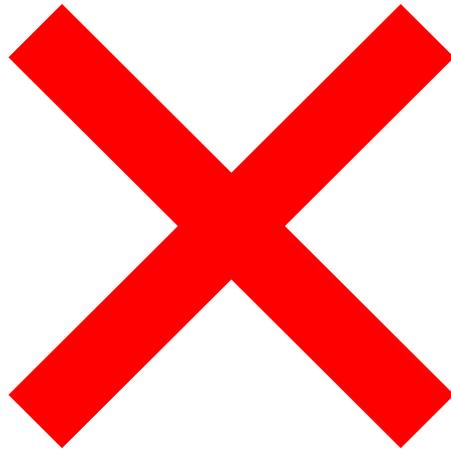
If carbon had a colour and we could see it – would be doing things differently?



The Great Smog of 1952 prompted the 1956, the Clean Air Act, banning the burning of polluting fuels in “smoke control areas” across the UK



Why it's hard to change our behaviour and reduce waste:



 Invisible / no obvious route

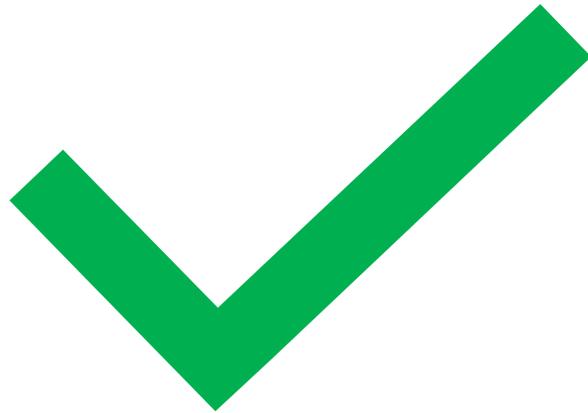
 Unattractive

 Not Easy

 Unsatisfactory

James Clear – Atomic Habits

Conversely, if we create more opportunity....



 Visible / obvious routes

 Attractive

 Easy

 Satisfactory

James Clear – Atomic Habits

Where can we make the most difference?

- A. Refurbishment Works**
- B. Furniture Surgeries & Repair Days**
- C. Elimination of furniture landfill**

...cost effective for all parties



LAVINGTON STREET

Relocation

PROJECT BRIEF

- Re-locate 150 users to new building
- Incorporate as much of the existing furniture as possible in the new layouts/location
- Reduce redundant furniture waste
- Eliminate redundant furniture landfill
- Plan layouts to incorporate 70 new staff
- Create dynamic flexible workspaces
- Delivery Ska compliant project – Green Building credentials

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ £60,000 saved in new furniture spend
- ✓ Choice of how and where to work
- ✓ High user satisfaction ratings
- ✓ 6610kg tonnes furniture landfill saved
- ✓ Low scope 3 emissions for installation
- ✓ Any unusable furniture items recycled for materials recovery – zero to landfill
- ✓ All furniture items supplied recyclable by JPA at end of life. All packaging recycled or recyclable



workspaces
by **JPA**



'Newly refurbished Lavington Street is deemed by all as a huge success in terms of functionality, décor and furniture. I had the privilege of working closely with JPA on this project, led by Matt Janes. I cannot emphasise enough how vital a part they played in the smooth and punctual delivery of this project. A highly effective collaboration between existing and new furniture, has resulted in a streamlined, modern ambience. A really terrific job!'



Follow us @jpaworkspaces

CO-WORKING SPACE ROTHAMSTED

PROJECT BRIEF

- ✓ Specify and supply furniture to brief
- ✓ Offer choice of best-value models
- ✓ Ensure relevant standards and quality
- ✓ Create flexible multi-use spaces
- ✓ Deliver choice of how and where to work
- ✓ Ensure spaces which promote wellbeing
- ✓ Ensure widespread connectivity
- ✓ Bring project in on budget and agreed timelines
- ✓ Deliver intrinsic high levels of sustainability
- ✓ Ensure responsibly sourced timber
- ✓ Ensure zero waste.

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ High client satisfaction ratings
- ✓ High user satisfaction ratings
- ✓ Project includes re-purposed items
- ✓ Project brought in on budget and on time
- ✓ Carbon Neutral Installation
- ✓ All furniture items supplied recyclable by JPA at end of life
- ✓ All packaging recycled or recyclable.



workspaces
by **JPA**



**ZERO
WASTE**



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through refurbishment works – make it part of the process

75 Chairs Reupholstered:

...make the process visible, easy, attractive and satisfying



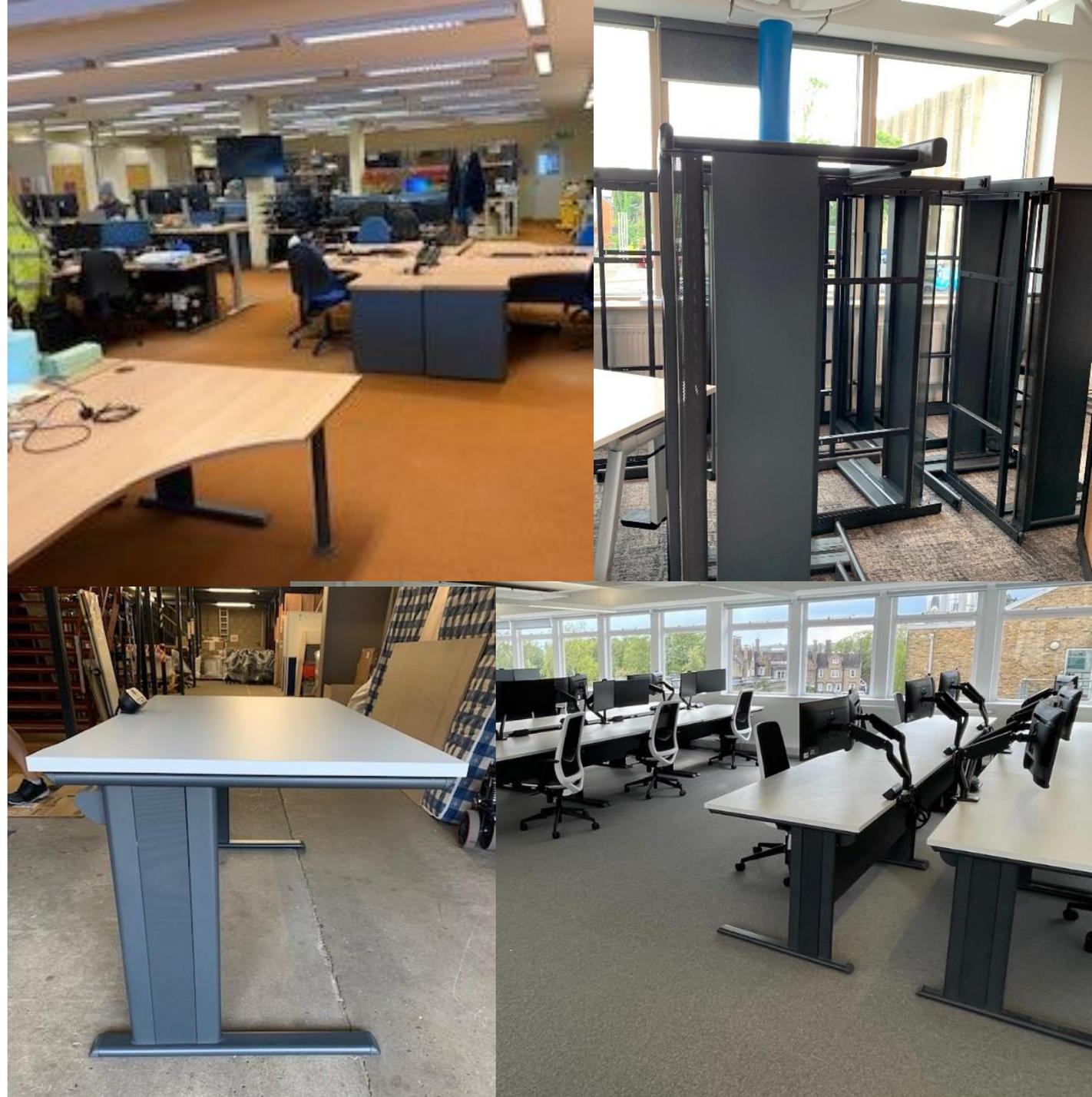
Report & publish achievements:

- 60 desk frames re-worked and re-topped

Re-used items as is:

- 20 task chairs
- 3 collaboration tables
- 10 stools
- 24 desks
- 3 café tables, 10 cafe chairs
- 40 lockers

...savings from re-use alone over £15,000
not to mention associated embodied carbon



Re-use potential in other departments?

...making a big difference with 4 tables



Re-working potential...

...what if we start thinking differently?



Make visible and easy

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/jpa>

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/events/2022/jun/get-your-office-furniture-fixed>



UCL Home Prospective students Current students Staff Give

SUSTAINABLE UCL

UCL

UCL Home > Sustainable UCL > Get your office furniture fixed!

Get your office furniture fixed!

29 June 2022, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

100% of furniture packaging is collected for re-use or recycling

7470 redundant furniture items recycled to date

1030 UCL furniture items have been repaired or refreshed by our furniture suppliers

Fix your wobbly chairs and broken office furniture with JPA.

Event Information

Open to
UCL staff
Availability
Yes
Organiser
JPA
hello@jpa-workspaces.com

Do you have any broken furniture in your UCL office space? You may find swivel chairs not moving due to loss of gas or wobbly desks due to missing bolts. If so, book a repair session with JPA, one of UCL's furniture suppliers.

Please note, this service is only available on the UCL Bloomsbury Campus.

Book a session for JPA to visit your department to fix your broken items by contacting hello@jpa-workspaces.com

If you have unwanted office furniture, you can ask the JPA Team to broadcast this to other departments and/or list the items on [Warpi](#), UCL's reuse platform - JPA can assist with moving these items across campus to ensure optimal uptake. Both options are quick and easy, enabling colleagues across UCL to claim furniture, saving time and money, and importantly reducing the carbon cost of furniture fit-outs. If you have a lot of unwanted items, simply contact JPA who can collect for materials recycling (ensuring zero to landfill), or contact UCL's Waste manager [Paul Monk](#).

Share LinkedIn Email

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Museums and Collections
UCL Bloomsbury Theatre
UCL Shop

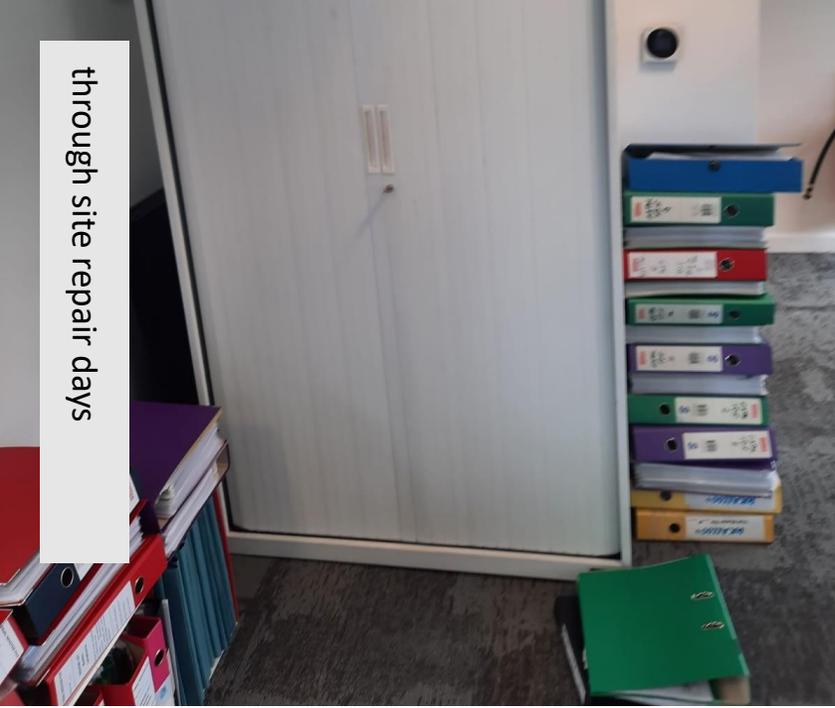
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through site repair days



Furniture surgeries & repair day activities

- Minor snagging and adjustments
- Repairs
- Spare parts
- Refresh
- Reconfiguring
- Minor moves
- Swap – WARP-IT
- Reupholstery



Make satisfying:

Report & publish

Number of visits

Number of jobs

£ savings through repairs over new

Carbon savings through repairs

Volume of landfill saved etc etc

..it takes time and persistence to change behaviour



CHANGE POSSIBLE

Sustainable UCL Furniture Repair Days

Framework supplier JPA Workspaces are working with Sustainable UCL to maximise furniture resources, reduce furniture waste and carbon and eliminate furniture landfill through a planned series of onsite furniture repair days.



The infographic features a central purple circle labeled 'Furniture Repair Days' connected to six surrounding purple circles, each containing a specific result:

- Scope 2 Zero Emissions for service work
- 3 site visits
- 9 departments
- 19 items repaired on the day
- Savings from on the day repairs £6,525
- Carbon saved over new items 1474kg Co2

hello@jpa-workspaces.com | 01727 840800
www.jpa-workspaces.com



We've all seen this

According to the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP)

Over 1.2 million office desks and 1.8 million chairs end up in landfill each year





Measure and report

637 unwanted furniture items were recycled.

21,566kg landfill furniture eliminated

22,680kg/co2e saved

Note:

Waste is a legal issue. Check suppliers' WTLs and WTNs



BRE Group

have shown ongoing commitment to the Environment and Sustainability by recycling the following office furniture items:



21,566 kg of furniture was diverted from landfill in

July 2021

This has resulted in a saving of 22,680 kg/CO2e.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

1 NO POVERTY 	2 ZERO HUNGER 	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	5 GENDER EQUALITY 	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	15 LIFE ON LAND 	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	



UCL

100%

items specified manufactured for end of life

workspaces by JPA

UCL

1030

UCL furniture items repaired or refreshed by

workspaces by JPA

UCL

0%

Zero to landfill
Zero single use packaging

workspaces by JPA

UCL

0%

Zero waste of any type to landfill

workspaces by JPA

UCL

100%

Carbon Neutral Installation

workspaces by JPA

UCL

7470

redundant furniture items recycled for materials recovery by

workspaces by JPA



Setting targets

To reduce furniture bill by X%

To eliminate 100% furniture landfill

To develop New for Old relationships with suppliers

To reduce supplier emissions by X% through delivery consolidation

To purchase X% of furniture items from local sources

To introduce X repairs days every term to give staff the opportunity to change their behaviours

To insist on FSC certification for timber-based goods

To reduce the volume of new furniture purchased for projects by X%

To re-use X% more existing furniture

Other ways to reduce furniture waste, carbon and cost

Fabric choices

Swapping

2nd life furniture purchase

Rotating

Furniture rental

Community Rehoming

Re-working

Worth bearing in mind...



RE-USE CONSIDERATIONS



SAFETY



COMPLIANCE



LONGEVITY



AESTHETICS



VISIBILITY



CARBON SAVINGS

New furniture

- Flexible for multi use
- Longer, supported warranties
- Continuity of parts guarantee
- Ability to replace parts on site
- Ongoing site support service
- Where's it made
- How suppliers help you reduce furniture related carbon
- Ask about materials used
- Ask about recycled content and recyclability





Key Take Aways



Reducing furniture waste - reduces furniture carbon



Try things out, progress is not always linear!



Systemise, promote, involve, make easy, measure, publish – REPEAT



Ask more questions when buying new and demand more from suppliers



Build a team and get support – you can make a difference



Waste is a legal process – ensure licencing and transfer notes in place



Vision + strategy + structure + opportunity + hearts and minds = SUCCESS

There's a carbon impact for:

everything we buy

&

everything we do

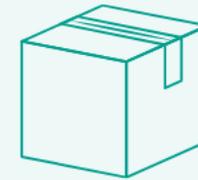
f.edwards@jpa-workspaces.com



Our promise to the planet.



responsible waste management



recycled packaging



local operation



responsible timber procurement



furniture designed for end-of-life



carbon neutral installations

#COP26 DAY 6

We have **ELIMINATED** Clients' furniture landfill

#COP26 DAY 7

ALL installations are **Carbon Neutral**

#COP26 DAY 13

Cutting the carbon cost of your furniture projects