

the
rebuild
site

IMPACT REPORT

2023





rethink
reclaim
reuse

The Rebuild Site is a Community Interest Company, founded in 2021. We take surplus materials from construction sites and put them to good use.

Our purpose is to encourage everyone to **rethink** how to better use materials, **reclaim** materials that are currently being thrown away or down cycled, and **reuse** as much excess and 'nearly-new' materials as possible, creating value in what is often treated as waste.

Our work is supporting the construction sector and our regional community to move to a more circular economy by enabling the reuse, repurposing and sharing of materials and products, keeping resources at their highest value possible for as long as possible.

The surplus materials we collect go to community groups and charities to help with their building, gardening, crafting and repair projects. We also sell nearly new and surplus materials to trades and members of the public at reduced prices.

We are
Sustainable

Sustainability is at the heart of what we do, and we live by our principles. We reuse rather than buy new, we work with ethical and sustainable organisations with genuine desire for change, and we choose not to greenwash.

Proactive

We say 'yes' to good ideas and act on them with speed. We work together to find solutions and support each other to learn from mistakes.

Inclusive

Our team, customers, partners and supporters are all part of our Rebuild community. We work without judgement and embrace opportunities to improve and develop our own practice. Everyone is valued as an individual.

Facilitative

We help and support our partners to improve. We share knowledge and offer compassion, working together to do better.

7500+

people

benefitting from donated materials, through our donations to community groups and charities

65

community projects supported

across North Cumbria and Dumfries and Galloway

6000

hours

donated by our dedicated volunteer team

160

loans

from our newly established tool library in the first 4 months of operation

600+ tonnes

of surplus materials collected from construction sites, diverting them from downcycling and prolonging the life of items at their highest possible value.

683+ tonnes

of CO₂e embedded in the materials we have diverted from down cycling.

That is equal to the carbon needed to build 8 new 2-bedroom cottages

or

manufacture 19 brand new Ford Mondeos

or

live for 68.3 years of 10-tonne 'average individual carbon footprint' living

3500 Litres

of paint diverted from incineration, saving

9450 kg

of embedded carbon equivalent (CO₂e)

**6000
volunteering
hours**

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Our team of regular volunteers join us every week to help out in the shop, maintain tools and work on DIY projects.

This year we have welcomed volunteers through social prescribing routes, provided placements to ex-young offenders, supported three young volunteers with their Duke of Edinburgh awards, and provided two substantial workplace volunteering opportunities with our key partners.

Working with each volunteer to find their specialism within the organisation has helped to grow a team we very much value.

The 6000 hours provided by our team represent the move into a new shop, the building of a tool library and community space, countless conversations with customers, tools maintained and reconditioned for our library, deliveries and collections, forklift driving, pallet moving, merchandising, cups of tea and chats about life, the universe and pretty much everything...

Thank you, you know who you are.

We love our team!

We're so proud of our Rebuild team, who have worked tirelessly to get all our projects and ideas off the ground.

We know they are all amazing, and our awards show it:

CSEP Innovation Enterprise of the Year 2022

CSEP Runner up for New Social Enterprise of the year 2022

BBC Make a Difference Awards, Winner in Green Category 2023

Eco-I NW Awards, Most Promising New Business 2023

in-Cumbria Awards 2023, Best New Business of the Year 2023



600+ tonnes

of surplus materials
diverted from down cycling

=

683+ tonnes

of CO2e embedded in the
materials we have repurposed

This year we have dramatically increased our collections of surplus materials from building sites.

These materials would otherwise have been down cycled, using energy to convert them into lower value materials, or incinerated to provide energy which then removes those materials from use forever. Repurposing and reusing materials and products reduces carbon emissions by decreasing the need for new products, conserving both resources and energy.

We were privileged to take part in the Eco-I NW research programme, working with researcher Michelle Griffiths and the University of Cumbria to calculate the embedded carbon in our stock materials. The research allowed us to identify which materials held the most embedded carbon, which helped us prioritise collections and sales this year. It is also helping us work towards more detailed reporting on the carbon emissions saved/avoided as a result of our activities, which is of particular interest to our contractor customers.

Our materials CO2e calculation is a conservative number that has calculated by extrapolating the figures from research done in a window of a few months. We are now working on our data collection to enable us report more accurately

3500 litres

of paint diverted from
incineration

=

9450kg

of embedded carbon
equivalent saved

Every year an estimated 50m litres of paint goes unused, and is destined for incineration.

At the start of this year, we started our own paint store, and started to supply remanufactured paint and donated part-tins to divert useable paint away from unnecessary disposal.

This year we joined the national Community RePaint Scheme, accepting donations of part tins, and stocking remanufactured paint.

Our planters and outdoor furniture are painted with remanufactured garden paint, the walls of the refill shop are painted in a lovely green from a broken tin, and the community workshop ceiling is a calming coffee colour to complement the kitchen plinth-clad wall. Our paint has also been used at Theatre by the Lake, The Maggie Fleming Animal Hospice, and Dalston Scouts.

We use standard Community RePaint calculations to work out our paint CO2e savings.

65

community projects supported

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Supporting our communities is a vital part of our work. By supplying materials for free, and paint at cost, we have reached over 7500 beneficiaries of community projects. We have worked with a brilliant range of organisations and groups that are doing good for our citizens every day. Our materials allow limited funds to be spent elsewhere within community organisations, and support learning around carbon reduction through using our services. In-kind support has also allowed community organisations to leverage other funding. Below are a few of our stand out projects:

RePlay Project

This year we have provided loose parts play kits to 15 schools and nurseries across North Cumbria. Loose parts play encourages children to use their imagination and develops creativity and problem solving skills. Wetheral

Playschool received materials from us this year:

"Thank you Rebuild Site! We are having so much fun with all the materials you granted us for our project. We are also learning about recycling and reusing!"



Creativity for Everyone

Our building materials always seem to bring out creativity in everyone. Jyma, Matt and Tom from leading disability arts charity

Prism Arts created their own instruments from scratch using materials donated by Rebuild, which allowed them to explore unique sounds and what they might look like...

No Life Too Small

We were very happy to be able to provide our remanufactured paint and some materials to Alexis at the Maggie Fleming Animal Hospice. The paint

has gone to revitalise sheds and make the sanctuary a bright place for Alexis and her team to work, and the animals in their care to relax.





Super Scotby Village Hall Renovations

Scotby Village Hall is a hub for the local community, and was in need of renovation, especially in their kitchen which was cold in the winter and needed an upgrade to make catering for large groups easier.

“The whole of the Scotby village hall team would like to thank all the individuals, trades and shops that have been involved in renovating our village hall kitchen. Your contribution to the project has been much appreciated. We are pleased to leave a lasting asset for the whole of the community.”
 What a nice kitchen! We’re happy that we could contribute some materials and hope that it will continue to be a focal point for the community for years to come!

Happy Hedgehogs and Creative Cubs!

We were super happy to welcome the Dalston Cubs to explore Rebuild and learn about reuse! They had chosen to make hedgehog houses ahead of the winter and we provided materials. We’re sure they have created some very happy hedgehog homes!

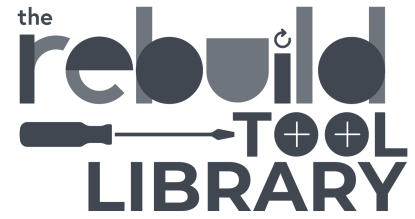


Egg-cellent DIY Skills!

We’re always happy to welcome the Susan’s Farm team to Rebuild, to hear about their latest projects! The organic farm provides essential experiences and skills training for their beneficiaries in an agricultural setting. Most recently we were able to provide some materials for pupils from Richard Rose Academy to build a shelter for their geese and chickens.



In June this year we opened the Rebuild Tool Library and community workspace, developing a resource for the public to borrow tools affordably whilst reducing their carbon footprint. The project helps us deliver our community aims of enabling the reduction of carbon footprints beyond our own operating activities, increasing learning on sustainability and providing a base for future practical skills development.



Our Space

The Library and community workspace is housed in two repurposed shipping containers, which were converted from empty shells to a fully stocked library and workshop in just one week. We were supported by Sunbelt Rentals throughout the fit out, coordinating a brilliant team of volunteers from Sunbelt, Morgan Sindall and Keir. And importantly, keeping us all going with tea and treats!

They made light work of what would have otherwise been some very late nights for the team.

Our Impact

In the first four months of operation, **160 loans** have been completed, equating to saving **£3500** worth of tools from being bought by our members.

45% of our members are using concession memberships, which are open our community members supported by benefits, and asylum seekers and refugees.

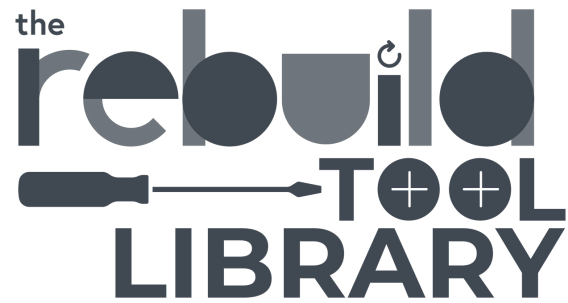


Our Tools

The majority of our tools have been donated, and are a mix of high quality new or ex-display models which will stand up to heavy usage, and individual donations from our very kind and supportive customers and friends.

The library and workshop was funded by the VINCI Foundation, The National Lottery via the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership Community Carbon Grant Scheme, and in kind by Sunbelt Rentals, Thomas Graham Ltd and Speedy Hire





**The Rebuild Site is strengthened by our partnerships and supporters.
Our Current Construction Partners are:**

DSD
Genesis Homes
Gleasons
Hanson Contracting
Story Contracting
Story Homes
Thomas Armstrong

And a huge thank you to our supporters:

Adrian D-J and the VINCI Foundation
Andy and the Carlisle Vineyard team
Andy and the Walker Brothers team
CCF
Carlisle Newsletter
Cumberland Council
Daryl and our local Speedy Rentals team
Eden Films and 1Wrd Productions
Eden Landscapes
Ems and Dan, Sparrow Digital
Gemma, Adam and Cumbria Wildlife Trust
Helen, Burnetts Solicitors
Helen, Dawson Kaveney HR
Helen, Karen, Nigel and the CAFs/ZCCP
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John Cook Signs
Keith at Cumbria Forklifts
Kingmoor Park Team
Laura Cadman
Mark Johnson
Martin and the CSEP team
Michelle Griffiths
Mike Siddall and Laura Giles
The Morgan Sindall team
Roger, Lewis, Kieran
and the Thomas Graham team
Ronnie and Lyndsey
Sarah, Jimmy, Nick, Genna, Phil and the
team at Sunbelt Rentals
Vicky, Craig, Jenny and Carlisle College

And of course our volunteers, customers, friends, family and colleagues.

