

## RECYCLING

Sunderland City Council

# WARPit – Online Recycling Tool

WARPit was an equipment, furniture and resource re-use online tool that helps individuals and organisations to loan or give surplus items to each other for free. Council employees were encouraged to use WARPit to source equipment and consumables wherever possible as part of our Sustainable Sunderland Policy.

In 2010, Sunderland City Council underwent a major restructure that led to the closure of buildings across the city. As offices were vacated, large quantities of office-related resources like furniture, equipment and supplies became redundant. Consequently, Sunderland City Council subscribed to WARPit in 2011 to assist in the management of its Building Rationalisation Scheme and the redistribution of resources across the authority. The Council was the first to pilot the software, providing a platform from which resources could be loaned, reused and recycled.

The software was piloted for an initial one-month period within the council, and its success led to its launch across Sunderland, within schools, across the partnership and local charities.

A WARPit Coordinator was appointed, to oversee the day to day management of the programme and they have become the dedicated point of contact for users, regarding queries, furniture removal, training and system administration.

WARPit won numerous awards, including Compact Award 2014, Green Apple Award 2014 and was an international finalist in the Circular Economy Awards in 2014. It was also recognised nationally as best practice.

Sunderland City Council is leading the way as the first council to take the software forward in this manner, and we hope the model will be used nationally as best practice in the future.

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### For further information contact:

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