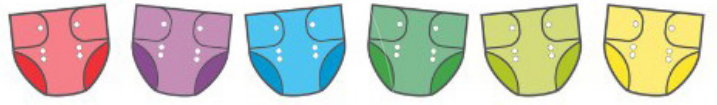


NEWPORT NAPPY LIBRARY



Wastesavers

Shaping a Sustainable Tomorrow, Today.

Annual Review 2022/23



Chairs Overview

It has been another year of growth and change for the charity with the opening of The Penallta Reuse Shop, The Shed in Aberdare, the launch of our Nappy Library, and Newport and Torfaen Repair Cafés.

The commercial recycling department has continued to grow. Our kerbside department delivered its KPIs. This was achieved under great pressure. The planning for a change from green kerbside box to blue bag took up considerable time, but this will improve the quality of the cardboard collected and provide additional capacity for residents as the councils moves to a three weekly refuse collection next year. As in other years, we have not stood still.

Despite all these pressures and developments we maintained our ISO 9001, 14001 and 45001 standards and continued to deliver our promised aims and objectives.

We also saw some changes in key personnel. In October we welcomed Rafia Qureshi who started with us as our Operational Finance Manager adding much needed resource to our growing finance department. In March we said goodbye to our outgoing Marketing Officer Phil Hurst who left us to continue his exciting world travel adventures.

We look forward to hearing all his new stories when we see him next as I am sure he won't be a stranger. Phil was replaced by Leroi Hanniford who joins us from a background in the fashion industry. We look forward to the perspectives and positive changes he will bring to our brand.

Along with all the project developments this year we are particularly proud to announce that we are now a living wage employer. All staff are now paid at least £10.90 an hour. We increased our staffing levels in the charity by 15 up to 52 staff. Our marvellous 121 volunteers contributed 14,694 hours, helping us to reuse and recycle furniture, IT, electrical equipment and household bric-a-brac. This diverted a massive 1064 tonnes of reusable items from landfill (621T 2021-22). This is a labour value of £153,111 at minimum wage! We would like to extend an enormous **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers who give up their time and their skills to help us do the work we do. We would not be able not to carry out our vital work without you.



Kerbside recycling

It has been another busy year for our kerbside recycling service, which diverted 18,828 tonnes of recyclable material from disposal. However, this was 7.7% lower than 2021-22 as we returned to pre-pandemic diversion levels as life returns to normal post Covid.

Material prices were strong this year due to the buoyant market for plastic and aluminium, which resulted in a 25% increase in income from material sales compared to 2021-22. This was as a result in the rising energy prices seen across Europe.

The effects of Covid on the workplace have largely disappeared, however the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) advise staff to isolate if symptoms are present and to practice social distancing within the workplace. Wastesavers still have hand sanitiser available for all staff, which are situated around the building and recommend staff stay at home, if they are sick, but all other measures have been scaled back this year.

Our focus this year was on improving the quality of the cardboard we collect at the kerbside by asking residents to change the way it was presented.

Once this was approved in the third quarter of the year, we planned and prepared for this change (to be implemented in 2023-24) which included the purchase of 90,000 x 90L blue bags to be delivered to residents along with a leaflet outlining the changes. The new blue bags will be specifically for paper and cardboard and replaces the blue box. This will increase the amount of paper and cardboard residents can recycle, it will be 60% larger and will keep card and paper separate from glass.

This additional capacity also helped us prepare for the incoming change to three weekly collections that the council is planning in 2023-24. Due to the lead-time on vehicles, we placed an order for four vehicles; two narrow access and two electric recycling Terberg trucks in preparation for this change. The new schedule will see household rubbish bins and garden waste bins be collected once every three weeks.



Reuse

It has been another busy year for our charity with the launch of two new reuse projects, 2 new repair cafes and a Nappy Library!

In September, we opened the Penallta Reuse Shop next to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Penallta. It represents a great space with large parking area and offers the opportunity for us to work with other agencies to deliver volunteering placements, upcycle and provide meeting space and a warm hub for the wider community.

The Shed in Aberdare also opened in September. This was a different space to Penallta, based in the town centre with a community space above. This has been well received by the community. During their first 8 months trading both new projects combined generated an income of £87K and diverted 107 tonnes from disposal.

In the summer 2022, we opened repair cafes in Newport and Torfaen. During their first year of trading, they have reused 116 items. We also opened a new Nappy Library based at the reuse centre. This aims to advise and support people on their journey using reusable nappies. Since it started, we have supported 23 families to make the switch to reusable cloth nappies, avoiding 4,000 disposable nappies from going to landfill per month.

With 121 volunteers contributing to 14,694 hours, we diverted 1064 tonnes of reusable items from landfill, which was an increase on last year's figures of (621T 2021-22). This equated to a labour value of £153,111 at minimum wage helping us to reuse and recycle furniture, household bric-a-brac, IT equipment and electrical equipment. We would like to say a special THANK YOU to all our volunteers who lend their skills and time – who help us to carry out this vital work, we would not be able to do this without you.





Education

The long overdue redevelopment of the education room moved forward this year with the designs finally taking shape in the workshop and installation of the recycling pods scheduled for summer 2023.

Delays due to Covid and the rising scale of the works has pushed our launch timeframe from 2022 to 2023. Additional works to the corridor and reception area will also be incorporated into this project. This will offer a great resource for schools in South Wales to learn about recycling, reuse and the circular economy in action. We look forward to finally launching this project next financial year.



4.0 PEAK

This represents the first full year for **PEAK** post Covid without any support funding, and it has been a successful one.

We initially planned to reduce the number of working days from five to three due to costs and lack of demand but this spurred a number of concerns from schools and Pupil Referral Unit's (PRU's) who bulk booked a number of days throughout the year. This enabled us to remain open 5 days a week and helped annual planning. As a result, we have engaged with 39 students, 26 from Newport and 13 from Torfaen.



Wastesavers

Education Rooms



5.0

The Future

We are now in the final stages of the redevelopment of the education room as we prepare for its installation. We started this project in 2019 so to have the end insight is exciting. We are now scheduled to start welcoming children and schools in late 2023.

We are very proud to announce that as of April 2023 Wastesavers is now a living wage employer. This means that all staff employed by Wastesavers are paid at least £10.90/hr. We have spent this year improving benefits for our staff that also include birthdays off and group life assurance, providing added benefits for those who are employed by the company and ensuring we are competitive in the employment market.

With the fast growth of the charity, we plan on taking on additional staff needed to aid our expansion programme as we also plan to expand the Nappy Library from September onwards into other local authority areas.





6.0

Rebranding

We are at an exciting time of growth, change and development and feel it is the right time to reengage the brand strategy, refresh the brand identity and redesign the website that we recognise is dated and does not give us the functionality we need.

In 2023-24 we will look to tender this work to an agency which can develop our brand in line with our growth plans. Before we do this, we will explore our company values; what drives us and motivates us to be part of Wastesavers - who the organisation is and why we do what we do. We have reengaged the facilitator Dafydd Thomas who is planning workshops for us in early 2023-24 to explore these themes in more detail. Watch this space!

Wastesavers Ltd

Primary aims

- To establish, operate and develop a variety of community recycling services for the collection and sale of post-consumer waste
- We achieve this through:
 - Providing a kerbside recycling service for more than 74,000 households and 400 blocks of flats in Newport
 - Providing commercial recycling services to business, schools and charities across South East Wales.



Wastesavers Charity

Primary aims

- The relief of poverty by the provision of renovated furniture and other household accessories for residents in necessitous circumstances in the South East Wales area.
- The advancement of education in respect of the environmental aspects of, and need for, recycling.
- The advancement of education in respect of vocational skills, numeracy, literacy skills and practical skills of benefit to the community (to the extent that such objects are exclusively charitable).

We achieve this through:

- Our retail outlets making used furniture and household items available to people on low incomes.
- The provision of work experience and volunteering opportunities at our retail outlets.
- The education programme hosting school visits and the schools outreach activities.
- The PEAK project working with young people excluded from school, equipping them for the world of work.
- Undertaking educational workshops within the community.

Trustees & Key Management

Trustees

David Mayer (Chair)
 Roger Ayres (Vice Chair)
 Bill Langford (Treasurer)
 Len Casley (Chair of Wastesavers Ltd)
 Mark Esposito
 Caroline Wynn

Newport Council Delegates

Cllr Saeed Adan
 Cllr Alex Pimm
 Cllr Malcolm Linton
 Cllr Bev Davies

Senior Management

Penny Goodwin: CEO
 Ian Syms: Head of Operations
 Janet Jones: Finance Manager & Company Secretary
 Alun Harries: Charity Manager
 Nicola Rossiter: Reuse Operations Manager
 Kris Dowding: Recycling Operations Manager
 Stacey Takle: Commercial Recycling Officer
 Ian Pearce: Peak Project Coordinator
 Phil Hurst: Marketing & Development Officer
 Rafia Qureshi: Operational Finance Manager



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