**About Material Focus and the Recycle Your Electricals campaign**

Material Focus (formerly the WEEE Fund), is a not-for-profit organisation whose goal is to stop the nation throwing away or hoarding all their old small electricals. It has launched the newUK-wide Recycle Your Electricals campaign. The campaign will reveal the value hidden in electricals and will make it easier for us all to recycle and reuse the small electricals we no longer need by providing more recycling points as well as providing practical information on how households can recycle. A new recycling locator has launched on [www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk](http://www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk) with details of over 2,000 recycling, repair and reuse points, with new collection and drop-off points being continually added.

The *Recycle Your Electricals* campaign is funded by producers of electrical appliances. The UK government sets annual targets for the recycling of all waste electricals, including small electricals, under the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations. If producers of electrical appliances don’t meet this target, then they contribute towards a WEEE compliance fee fund. Material Focus manages this fund to support action that will increase the levels of reuse and recycling of old electricals across the UK.

**Key stats**

* UK households are hoarding 527 million small old electricals, an average of nearly 20 per household
* The total number of cables hoarded in UK homes could circle the earth more than 5 times
* Discarded or hoarded household electricals cost the UK economy £370 million per year of lost valuable raw materials such as gold, copper, aluminium and steel
* 1.65 million tonnes of electricals are bought each year
* UK households and businesses are producing 1.45 million tonnes of electrical waste every year
* 915,000 tonnes of unwanted electricals are sent for reuse and recycling every year
* Recycling our old electricals would cut as much CO2 as taking 1.3 million cars off the road
* Every year at least 500,000 tonnes of waste electricals are being lost through being thrown away, hoarded, stolen, or illegally exported
* The average UK household could make £620 from selling all their unwanted electricals
* Recycling all 31 million laptops hidden in UK homes could provide enough aluminium to make:
  + 159,000 bicycles
  + 12,000 playground swings
  + 5 million life-saving defibrillators