ILM Highland

Target population	110,743 households
Funding amount	£43,728
Project duration	January 2024 – January 2025
Project type	On street bring banks
Project aim	To collect 42 tonnes of electricals during the project and separate out reusable items for resale - to make it easier to reuse and recycle locally.
Outcome	The project successfully diverted 42 tonnes of electricals from landfill, including 7.91 tonnes separated for reuse and redistributed through ILM Highland's retail shop. Through the resale of these refurbished items: • 219 households were able to buy affordable second-hand electricals • The project supported digital inclusion and affordable access to essential devices in rural communities

Collection approach

To improve access to electrical recycling across the Highlands - particularly in remote communities, ILM Highland expanded their existing network by installing seven new metal bring banks, increasing the total to 18.

Collected electricals were taken to ILM's processing centre, where items were sorted. Reusable items were cleaned, repaired, and PAT tested, then made available for resale through the ILM Highland shop.

The project sparked widespread community interest, with several groups enquiring about bringing similar services to their own areas.

Communications approach

- Organic social media, blog and website
- Added sites to the online recycling locator
- Print and online media PR
- Local marketing - print and website banners

Future plans

The bring banks will remain in operation, and ILM Highland plans to build on this success by:

- Opening a new ILM retail location to expand access to refurbished electricals
- Launching a repair café, further supporting reuse, community engagement, and circular economy goals

"The general comment from those who come is 'This is such a great service! They are interested to hear what happens to the items they bring and also about ILM Highland and how this social enterprise helps vulnerable people to stay in their own homes."

Kenny Horsefield, Project lead