



Home Basics, Scottish Borders

Target population	67,000 households
Funding amount	£48,820
Pilot duration	July 2020 – August 2021
Pilot type	Reuse
Pilot aim	To expand the organisation's capacity to process waste electricals, and to raise awareness of electrical reuse and recycling in the area.
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More than 40 tonnes of electricals collected• 2,240 items reused



Collection approach

Residents were able to donate unwanted electricals through several routes, including drop-off points, local collection hubs, and home collections for larger appliances.

The pilot employed additional staff to carry out PAT testing. This increased capacity to make more items safe and ready for reuse.

Every item was logged and tested. Those suitable for reuse were sold at affordable prices to the public, prioritising people on low incomes.

Items that could not be reused were passed on for responsible recycling through an approved compliance scheme.

Communications approach

To raise awareness and encourage participation, the organisation promoted the service through:

- Social media
- Leaflet drops
- Word of mouth

Future plans

The organisation kept the systems for logging and testing donations in place, as these provided valuable insights into volumes and processing capacity. The two PAT testers employed through the pilot were also retained, at least until late 2022. The sale of reusable electricals helped sustain the initiative.

“In partnership with Scottish Borders Council, we are keen to support the Recycle Your Electricals campaign and make it easier for local residents to declutter their electricals.”

Dennis Fisher, Home Basics Business Manager