

Give Reuse a Fair Go

The Waste Hierarchy



The 'waste hierarchy' prioritises actions by those with the greatest environmental benefit. UTS: Institute for Sustainable Futures

The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre

Reduce waste going to landfill

Providing goods at affordable prices

Promoting reuse and repair

Creating employment and training



Community Leadership Award &
Premier's Award for Environmental Excellence

Collection and Rehoming Service

- Partnership with 17 councils
- Collection of goods incl. repairable goods
- Network of +/-1000 specialized recycling companies
- Educate residents about reuse and repairable goods
- KPMG report : ROI of \$2.65 per \$1



Sales

2 stores

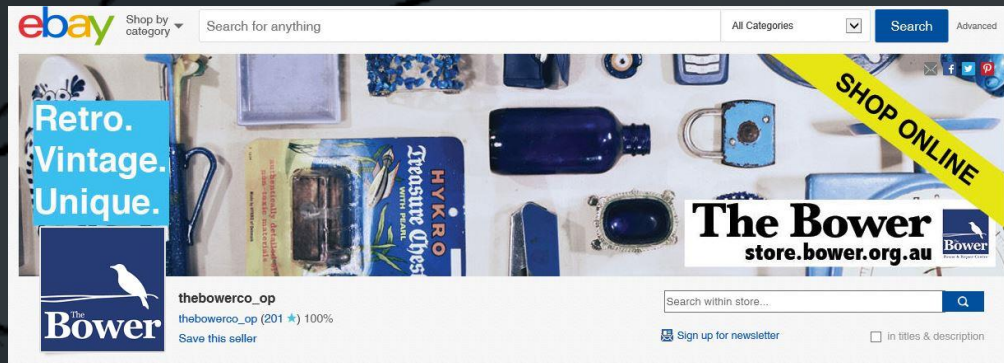


Parramatta



Marrickville

on line store



Upcycled



Bespoke



Repair

In-house:

- Furniture
- Electronic appliances
- Bikes

Paid Repair service

Repair cafés – War on Waste



Educational Workshops

Tricks of the Trade

- Upholstery,
- Furniture restoration
- Basic Carpentry

Kids

- Recycled art
- Mosaic
- Music instruments

Sydney Community College

Rent a Bench

Men and Women Shed



Tiny Houses

We build Tiny houses and run Tiny House courses

- Promote reuse of building material
- Learn carpentry skills

The Bower is now a reference for Tiny Houses



House to Home

Partner with service providers for asylum seekers and survivors of domestic violence to provide free furniture and household goods when moving into a new permanent home.

\$1,000
to furnish a home
for a family
of 2 adults and 2 kids



The Problem

Years	Goods diverted from landfill	Sales	Goods referred to other organisations
2016-2017	104%	46%	256%
2017-2018	91%	10%	210%

Legislative Solutions

- Tax Breaks for Repair of Goods

- In 2016 Sweden introduced

- Reduced GST for repaired goods and
- Deduction of repair cost from income tax

Benefits are

- stimulate repair industry
- create local employment
- reduce environmental footprint
- production of better and long lasting products



Legislative Solutions Right to Repair

In 2015 France followed by Germany and Norway introduced legislation for manufacturers:

- to label how long spare parts will be available
- to offer free repairs for the first 2 years



New York State introduced Right to Repair act making manuals and parts to repair a device available

Legislative Solutions

- Tax on cheap & replica import

Design and Manufacturing of furniture from reclaimed material is labor intense and expensive

Benefits are

- stimulates local industry
- creates local employment
- reduce environmental footprint
- production of better and long lasting products



Legislative Solutions

Remove red tape

ACCC guide to infant second hand products

“Product bans and mandatory standards don’t apply when you buy products from private people who are not in business.”

Councils offer free child restraint safety checks

European CE marking



Market Solutions

Make buying second hand the new normal

In 2015 Belgians purchased 5kg/resident

For Australia that would mean
120000 ton of household goods

Saving \$24 million annually



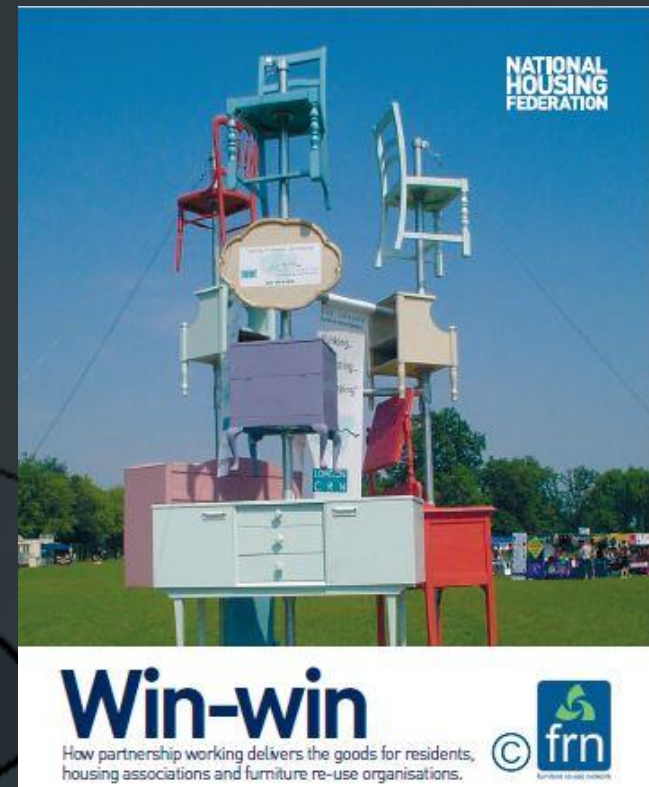
A NEW FUTURE FOR PRE-LOVED GOODS

Market Solutions

Surplus household goods

- UK government supports partnership between
- reuse sector and social housing associations

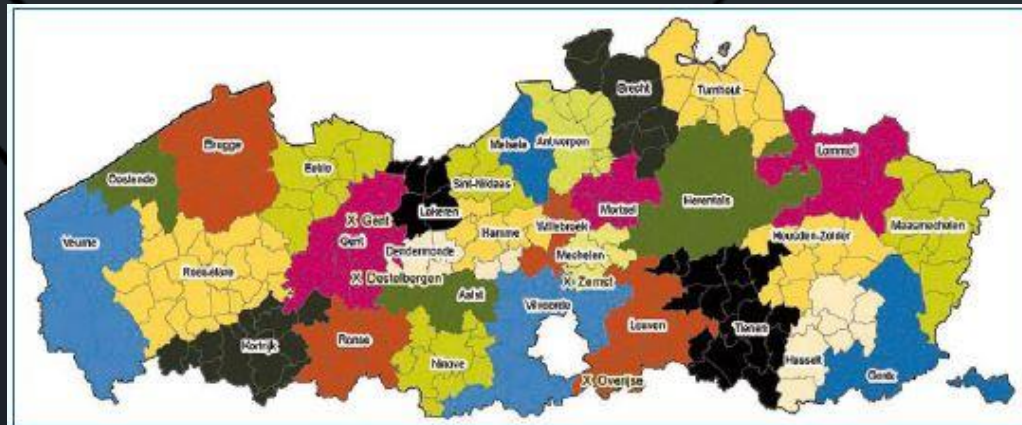
- win for the environment
- win for the people



Market Solutions

Reuse quality standards

UK Reuse network : 250 organisations



Belgium Reuse Network covers entire country

122 stores in Scotland



DRIVING UP STANDARDS IN RE-USE

Next steps

Short term:- Collection and Rehoming Service continues with EPA support



- Invest in marketing & IT upgrading

Long term:

- Quality standards/behavioral change
- Federal-State-Local
- Reuse Sector get organized

