

Challenges:

The UK produces more than 4.5 million tonnes of waste wood every year. Community Wood Recycling works with the construction industry to save this material from the waste stream and reuse it where possible in local communities. The company's lightweight trucks reduce CO2 emissions and airborne particulate matter. Sustainability is at the heart of what the company does, and as a network of small social enterprises, it needs resources that allow it to keep abreast of best practices in the sector and consider the environmental impact of all aspects of its operations.

Community Wood Recycling is a supplier for the country's top construction companies. It is important for the company to maintain the levels of regulatory and compliance standards that its clients require, and to ensure that its ethical and employment policies also meet the highest standards.

Community Wood Recycling provides training opportunities for the people who work and volunteer with the company, and it needs access to up-to-date, well-designed, and engaging learning materials.



Impact:

The Supply Chain Sustainability School has allowed Community Wood Recycling to offer its workforce training in wider sustainability best practice. It brings the company closer to its major construction company clients and provides a complete picture of how what it does fits into their operations, broadening its understanding of the sector. The organization has been helped to develop the knowledge needed to obtain SafeContractor and Constructionline membership. Staff who are office-based benefit from video content that gives them insight into operations on-site.

By completing learning pathways, Community Wood Recycling can show its clients that it is meeting their training requirements in a very convenient way. As a social enterprise network, the company particularly benefits from the availability of this free resource.



Fact box



Company

Community Wood Recycling

No of employees

245 across network

HQ

Brighton

Website

communitywoodrecycling.org.uk

Main contact

Elizabeth Green

elizabeth@communitywoodrecycling.org.uk

Services

Social Enterprise network offering waste wood collection service.

About

Community Wood Recycling aims to offer the optimal environmental solution for wood waste. The cost-effective timber collection service prioritizes reusing materials through reclaimed wood stores operated by our nationwide network of social enterprises. The company actively supports the circular economy, generating social value by providing jobs, training, and life-changing opportunities for disadvantaged individuals.

Value gained:

Fulfilling its clients' training requirements has helped Community Wood Recycling to win work. The organization has been able to inspire and motivate staff, including young people on its paid internship programme. The Supply Chain Sustainability School has also helped the company to keep up with the evolving terminology and priorities within the construction industry and to be aware of the latest developments in addressing issues such as biodiversity net gain and responsible sourcing protocols. Community Wood Recycling is very excited to have access to resources that will allow it to keep its training, policies, and procedures up to date and relevant.

Future proofing:

Community Wood Recycling will continue to engage with the learning opportunities and hopes to work with its clients to produce materials for the school related to its activities.