

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200398**
Date FOI Received: **8/07/2020**
Department: **Information Digital Services**
Title: **Computer recycling**
Description: **Computer recycling and reduction on Scope 3 Carbon Emissions**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

May we please ask under FOI for details on the policy about old technology and what is currently happening with the old technology from the council and from the educational institutions you are funding.

- 1) In particular where the old items are going ?
- 2) what percentage is going to help those in the local community that cannot afford computers.
- 3) when the contract / arrangements are up for review.
- 4) Please provide information how your institution is addressing Scope 3 Carbon Emissions in relation with old technology as per our other 3 questions below. Further information on this can be found in this recent Bloomberg report below:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-06-29/here-s-how-to-tell-green-good-deeds-from-greenwashing-quicktake>

-- Local donations clearly provide reduction on Scope 3 emissions, they also prolong the life span of technology and help meet social obligations.

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

- 1) We are currently replacing old desktop PCs, (approximately 6 years plus) running Windows 7 operating system, with laptop devices. The procurement process included a disposal option and the contractor will be arranging disposal. We are not currently disposing of any laptops.
- 2) Currently None
- 3) 2025
- 4) In September 2019 a motion was presented to Hertsmere's full Council entitled "Climate Emergency". Since then the following actions have taken place:
 - Climate Change Working Group (Chaired by Portfolio Holder) has been established and met 4/5 times
 - A Climate Change officer was appointed in March 2020
 - A Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan was approved by Executive (July 2020), which included the following key principles:
 - Reduce consumption

- Minimise waste
 - Switch to renewable sources of energy
 - Switch to sustainable transport
 - Sustainable new development
 - Protect and enhance greenbelts, open spaces and biodiversity
 - Implement principles of circular economy
 - Buy and consume local produce
 - Build climate change resilience
- The Strategy can be found on our website via the following link:

<http://www5.hertsmere.gov.uk/democracy/documents/s51362/8.1%20EX2040a%20Appendix%20A%20Climate%20Change%20and%20Sustainability%20Strategy%20Final.pdf>

Note: In the past, we have considered donating old IT equipment to charities but have not been able to do so because of licensing implications. Hertsmere Borough Council would be open to look at this again, however Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and GDPR data secure legislation would need to be assured and documented.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards
Information Services

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