

4a FURNITURE REUSE STRATEGY (AN390-2005)

For the past three years, the Waste Management Department have been working with a company called Ogilvie Ross to develop a strategy for furniture reuse within the Community Sector, and more specifically within the Council itself. To date, this work has taken the form of informal discussions, exchange of information, and joint membership of the Tayside Area Waste Group, Reuse and Refurbishment Working Group.

Funding totalling £62,500 was recently made available by the Scottish Executive to every Local Authority in Scotland to enable them to carry out internal waste audits. As Dundee City Council had already completed their own internal review, agreement was reached with the Scottish Executive that we could spend our grant allocation on the implementation phase of the review.

The review identified furniture as one of the main waste streams which required to be addressed. A key part of the implementation phase was therefore developing a sustainable strategy for dealing with surplus furniture generated through the Councils internal activities.

Developing a strategy of this nature takes considerable knowledge of the furniture industry and the community sector, and is a very specialised field. Colleagues in Perth and Kinross and Edinburgh have recently been working on similar projects, and used Ogilvie Ross as they could not find another company with the necessary credentials who could deliver the project.

Indicative costs for this work package are in the region of £15,000, which will be funded in full from the Scottish Executive grant. Given the fact that the Council have been dealing with Ogilvie Ross for approximately 3 years, their experience in the field, their knowledge of the capacity existing within the community sector in Dundee, and the fact that other Local Authorities have been unable to identify suitable alternatives, it is recommended that the contract be awarded to Ogilvie Ross.