warp it
reuse network

CASE STUDY

• Savings of over £400K in 2.5 years
• £6K investment
• Over 1,000 staff using the system
• Part of the building decant rationalisation process
• Used for the day-to-day churn of assets
• Used the savings to build a business case to employ a Warp It officer
• Avoided 150 tonnes of supply chain carbon emissions
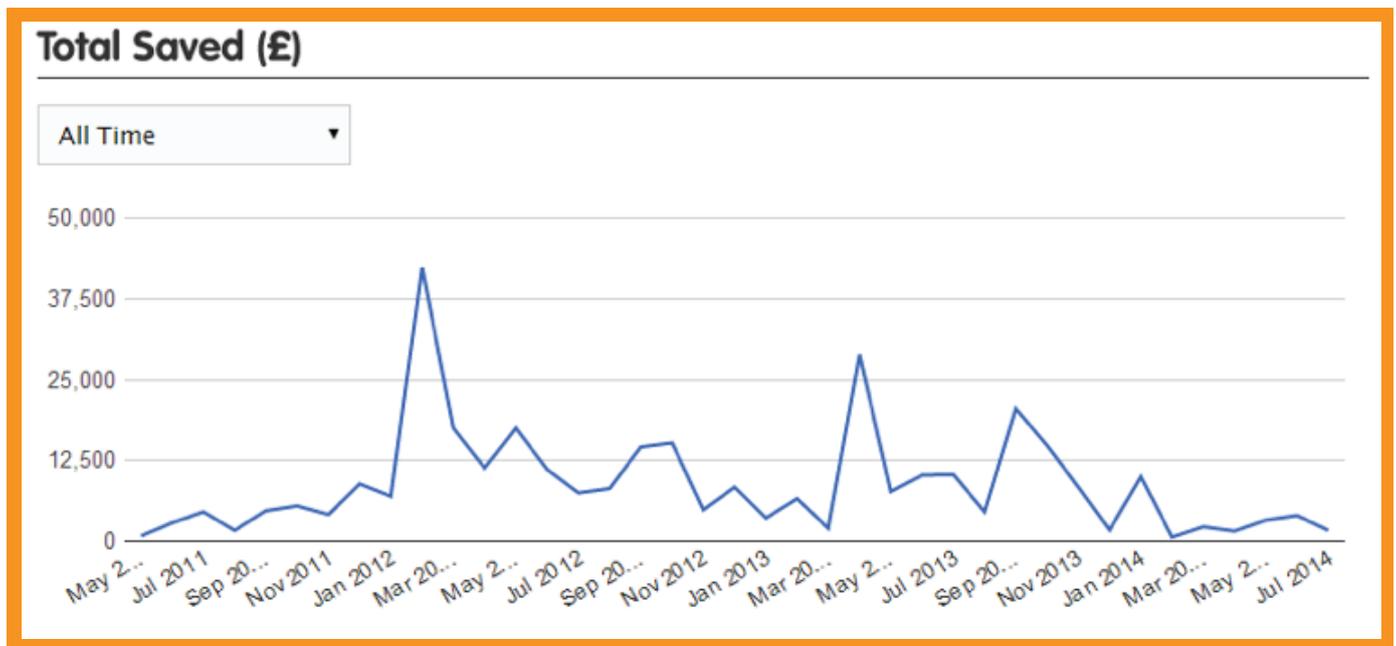• 50 tonnes of waste minimisation

In 2010, Sunderland City Council underwent a restructure that led to the closure of buildings across the city. As offices were vacated, large quantities of office-related resources like furniture, equipment and supplies became redundant. Rather than send these to landfill, the council signed up to the Warp It re-use scheme. In just nine months, the new scheme resulted in over £45,000 of cost savings. It's also a focus of our Ecocampus and Green Impact programmes.

Warp It is an easy-to-use online portal which provides a platform for organisations to redistribute (give, loan) resources legally and conveniently within an organisation, but also beyond - within other organisations.

• Makes it easy for staff within an organisation to find colleagues with items to spare inside the same
   organisation or beyond - reducing procurement spend
• Makes it easy for individuals within an organisation, who wish to part with items, to find new owners
   -saving on waste disposal

Warp It: Benefits to the organisation
• Reduction of unnecessary procurement
• Reduction of waste
• Savings of staff purchasing time
• Better use of space
• Better internal collaboration
• Support local organisations
• Recording and tracking of assets across the organisation
• Convenient marketplace for staff
• Storage stock flow facility
• Loans of underused resources with idling capacity
• Opening-up of internal network to partners prioritising internal staff
• Downloadable management reports for procurement and environmental savings
• System management for whole building clearances
• Deals with waste legislation and liability
• Access control for staff
• Integration with existing portering or task management software

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Avoided procurement savings over time at Sunderland City Council

Dianne Pattison, Sunderland City Council Policy Officer, Economy and Place, described how it came about: "In 2010, the restructure went council-wide and as a result, a number of sections were moved around or disbanded. We had a lot of buildings that were no longer needed and when I went out on a site visit I found stacks of furniture – tables, chairs and all kinds of other items. It was all due to go for disposal into a skip, even though a lot of the items were brand new."

Watch a clip of Hilary Phillips, Change Management Leader at Sunderland City Council, talking about the building decant and rationalisation process at Sunderland City Council
http://youtu.be/7MvejXgkP6U
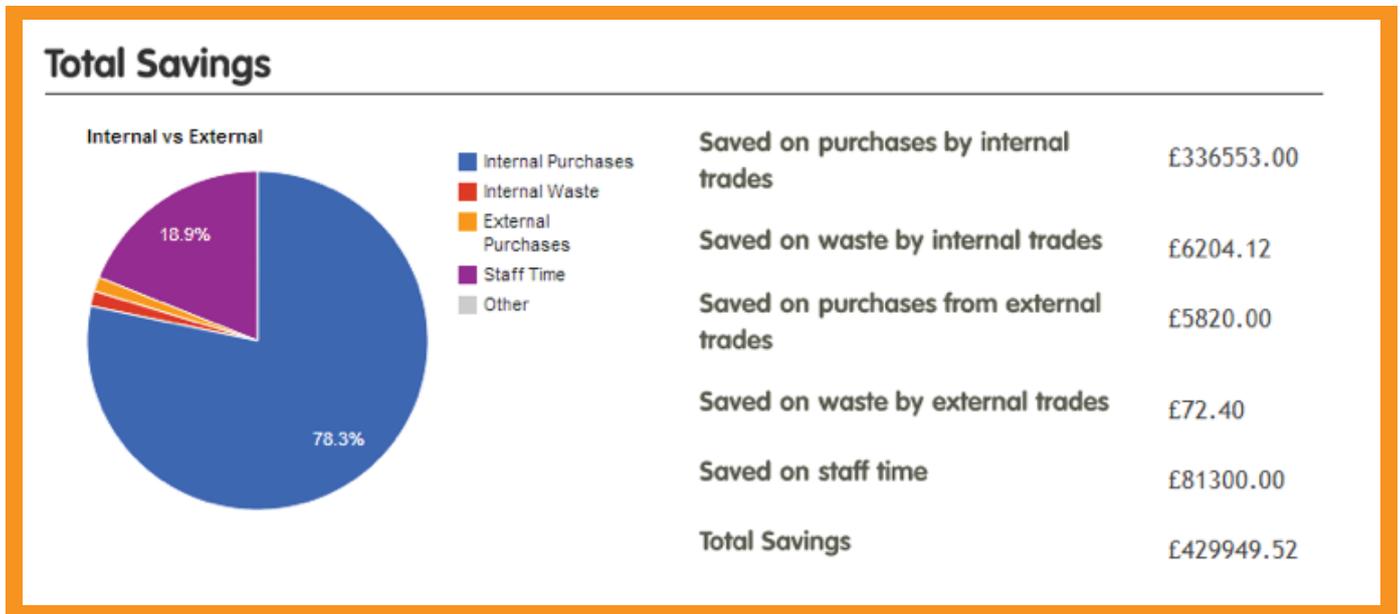
Block on procuring new items

Through Warp It , whenever a member of staff needs to buy an item of furniture or office materials such as ink cartridges or files, they search Warp It to find out whether the item is already available from a different department. Dianne said "We block procurement. If the item is not on Warp It – staff can buy new."

Legal obligations

Cost was a major factor. Pattison considered using a bulletin board where people could post items they wanted to trade, but the cost of developing a system in-house was prohibitive. Similarly, addressing legal obligations like transfer of ownership and tracking for audit purposes proved a daunting prospect. She said: "We don't have the manpower to track the items ourselves, so using Warp It has saved us a huge amount of time."

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"Warp It has been developed to track items for auditing purposes and it also includes comprehensive terms and conditions. We really needed to be certain that we were covered legally. Also, it produces the reports for you, which is fantastic. Previously, I had to manually track everything and then work out how much it was worth and how much carbon it had cost to deliver and produce it."

Total Savings

Internal vs External

- ■ Internal Purchases
- ■ Internal Waste
- ■ External Purchases
- ■ Staff Time
- ▢ Other

18.9%

78.3%

Saved on purchases by internal trades	£336553.00
Saved on waste by internal trades	£6204.12
Saved on purchases from external trades	£5820.00
Saved on waste by external trades	£72.40
Saved on staff time	£81300.00
Total Savings	£429949.52

Pie chart showing proportion of staff time, waste and procurement savings by reuse

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