



## REUSE OF MATERIALS

CATEGORY: WASTE

CASE STUDY YEAR: 2007

### Business Details:

**Ninebanks YHA  
Mohope,  
Northumberland**

<http://www.yha.ninebanks.co.uk>



### Description:

Ninebanks youth hostel was one of the first businesses in the Northeast to gain a gold award due to their excellent environmental commitment. The business scored well in every section of the criteria but particularly well in energy and waste management. The business is strongly committed to managing its waste stream and will always try to reuse before recycling. Second hand goods are often purchased and the new extension to the hostel was built using mainly reclaimed stone. The new extension has been fitted out with many pieces of furniture bought from City Furniture Clearance a company that specialises in selling used and new furniture for the hospitality trade. The hostel recently purchased tables and chairs that were used in the national gallery café in London. The curtains in the picture were also sourced from City Furniture Clearance.



#### Economic

The managers identified that they could not afford to purchase new furniture of the quality that they required and preferred to purchase second hand anyway. The furniture is contemporary and the new extension to the hostel is very comfortable which may result in higher occupancy in the future.

**Cost of Project:** £1400  
**Savings Made:** Approx £1000  
**Payback Time:** N/A



#### Environmental

The environmental benefits of purchasing second hand furniture are various. No new raw materials are used and there is no energy consumption related to manufacturing the items. There is also the possibility that the items may end up being recycled or scrapped, so further energy use related to these processes is also avoided. Reuse is always preferable to recycling.



#### Social

The same concept could be adopted by social projects such as homeless hostels, social housing associations. Passing on second hand furniture to these types of organisations would allow the community to benefit.

#### WEB

City Furniture Clearance: <http://www.cityfurnitureclearance.co.uk>