



Peter Buckley, Centre for Open Learning (COL)

Stationery Recycling across Holyrood Campus

Why I became a Sustainability Champion

I heard about the network through previous involvement with SRS (completing the 'Be Sustainable – Advanced' course) and other campus initiatives. I decided to join because it would give me opportunities to meet like-minded people across campus, and become inspired to get involved in other initiatives. The experience has been extremely positive so far – at the networking events, I find myself thinking “That sounds interesting – How can I get involved?!” after every single conversation I have with other students and members of staff! Many of the ideas I wanted to get off the ground are on hold for now, but there are plenty of other things to get my teeth into until University buildings reopen.

My sustainable project or actions

The stationery recycling project diverted many resources from landfill. In addition, it raised awareness of issues surrounding sustainability and recycling on campus. Over the course of a month, an entire office was filled with the collected materials, including paper, overhead transparencies, wire trays, pens, pencils, scissors, and suspension files. Approximately 1000 pens (ball-point, whiteboard, flipchart, and permanent pens) were tested and sorted; working pens were redistributed and used pens were recycled. The scheme continued on a smaller scale in Paterson's Land, and the plan is to embed stationery recycling more 'formally' on Holyrood campus, and organise an annual month-long 'spring clean' collection involving students and staff.

