Furniture Re-use

As we rationalise our estate to meet the needs of modern policing with its mobile data (tablets and phones), agile working and budget pressures, good quality furniture and fittings can get left behind and become surplus to requirements.

A database was set up cataloguing the items that are available across GMP and sites were asked what their offices need. Any orders that were raised for new furniture were intercepted by the Procurement team, and the buyer referred to see if re-used items can be used instead.

The items available were matched up with user requirements, and internal transport services used to deliver the items as and when they came available. Items range from one off items like a replacement chair, set of drawers or conference table to entire office refurbishments with matching suites of furniture. Other items such as interactive whiteboards, fans, heaters, printer cartridges and stationary were also recovered and stored for future use.

As a result of this intervention, when our old Headquarters building was decommissioned in 2013 - the purchase price of the 922 items recycled, if bought new was avoided - a saving of £127, 436.

In 2018 the project is still current, working to match furniture and other items up with new users via a central storage facility, janitorial services and supported by an Apprentice who assists with project coordination.









