

Ethical Computer Recycling

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive came into force in January 2007 and aims to both reduce the amount of WEEE being produced and encourage everyone to reuse, recycle and recover it. The WEEE Directive also aims to improve the environmental performance of businesses that manufacture, supply, use, recycle and recover electrical and electronic equipment.

If you are an **importer**, **rebrander** or **manufacturer** of new electrical or electronic equipment then it's likely that you will need to comply with the UK's WEEE Regulations, which in part implement the WEEE Directive. If you do need to comply, then you must **register** on a **producer compliance scheme**.

You may also have obligations under the WEEE Regulations if you are a business with electrical/electronic equipment to dispose of, or if you sell electrical or electronic equipment.

Our role is to provide information and advice on complying with the WEEE Regulations to producers of Electrical or Electronic Equipment (EEE) and the waste management industry. However, if you don't fall into one of these two categories you can find more information on WEEE below.

Source <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/regulation/31975.aspx>: December, 2008.

The disposal of redundant ICT and other electrical equipment has become a growing concern for many organisations across the UK as it is no longer possible to place such equipment into landfill.

Computers, televisions, printers, photocopiers etc must be stored, collected, treated, and recycled separately from other office waste. As well as recycling your IT equipment correctly, it is also essential that you obtain and retain proof that the waste has been given to an official waste management company and disposed of in an environmentally sound way through the receipt of a consignment note.

Livetech provides organisation around the Yorkshire area, an ethical option to this IT recycling. As Livetech is a student run service, supported by the Sheffield City Council, all equipment collected is cleaned, tested, all data destroyed and re-built by 8 apprentice technicians. Therefore, rather than your equipment simply going into the shredder, irrespective of its condition, Livetech aims to prolong its life span.