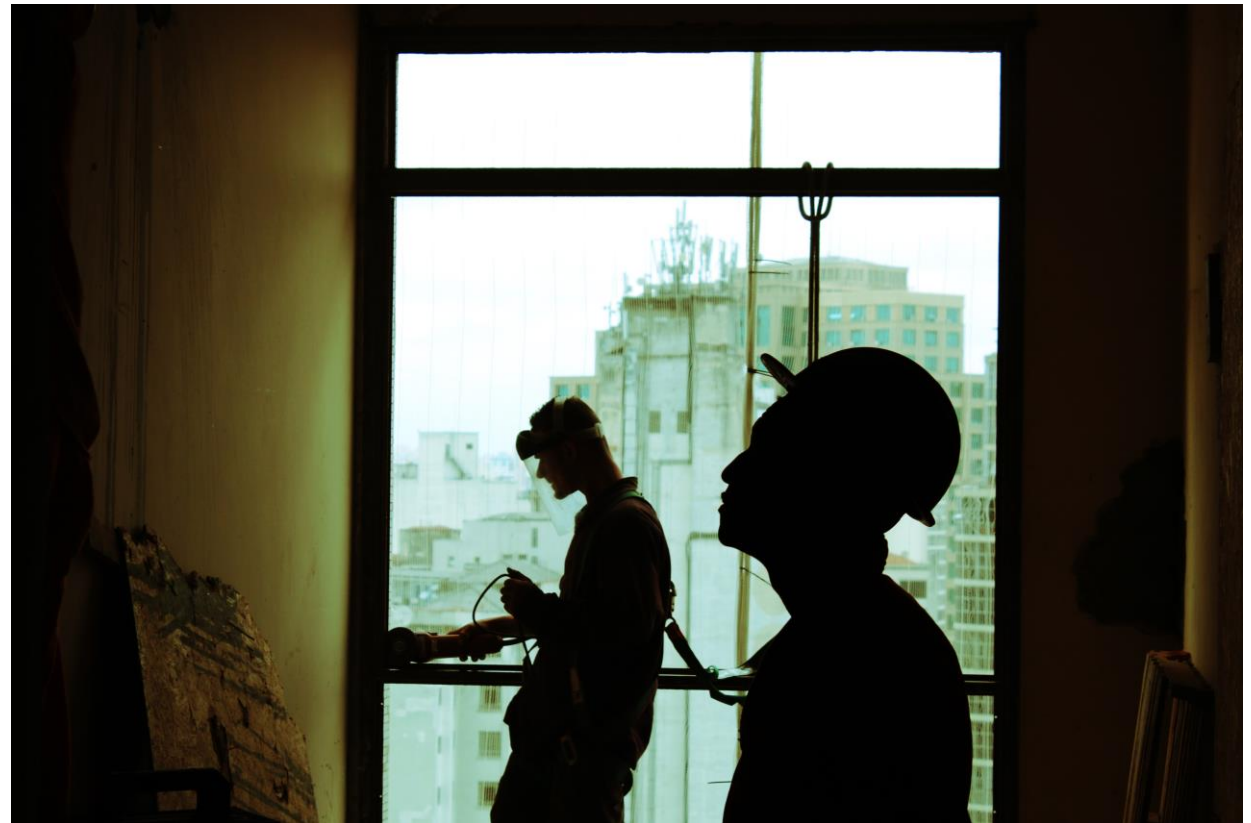


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Introduction



Context



Buildings and infrastructure represent the world's largest resource footprint.

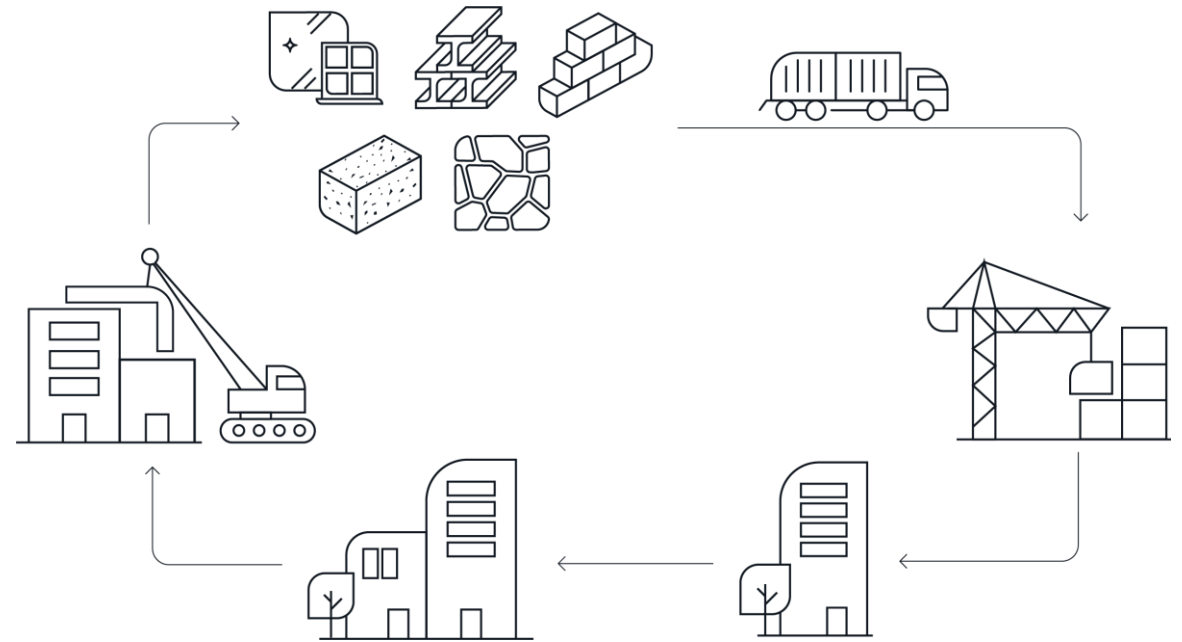
More than 50% of waste in London is created by the built environment sector as well as accounting for around 10% of London's consumption-based carbon emissions.

At ReLondon we work with cities, business, universities and local authorities to build an evidence base that will inspire radical change in the way we build.

Closing the loop: using reclaimed materials in new construction

As part of the CIRCuIT project, ReLondon has worked with Grosvenor and a range of partners to explore how to incorporate more reclaimed materials and components within new developments.

This guide documents our findings into the ways to source reclaimed materials and how to integrate this into the project development process.

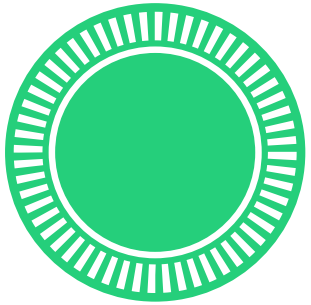




Sourcing guide

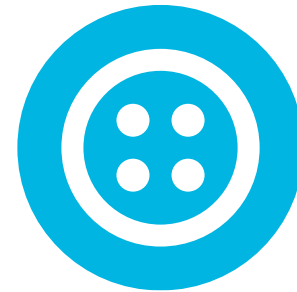


Sources of reclaimed materials



Retailers

Have a physical store or location. Have a regular supply of stock. May specialise in a single material or material group. May be happy to store materials until they are required.



Online exchange platforms & networks

Facilitate exchange through posting available materials. Some have regular stock however many are ad-hoc listings. Wider variety of materials available.

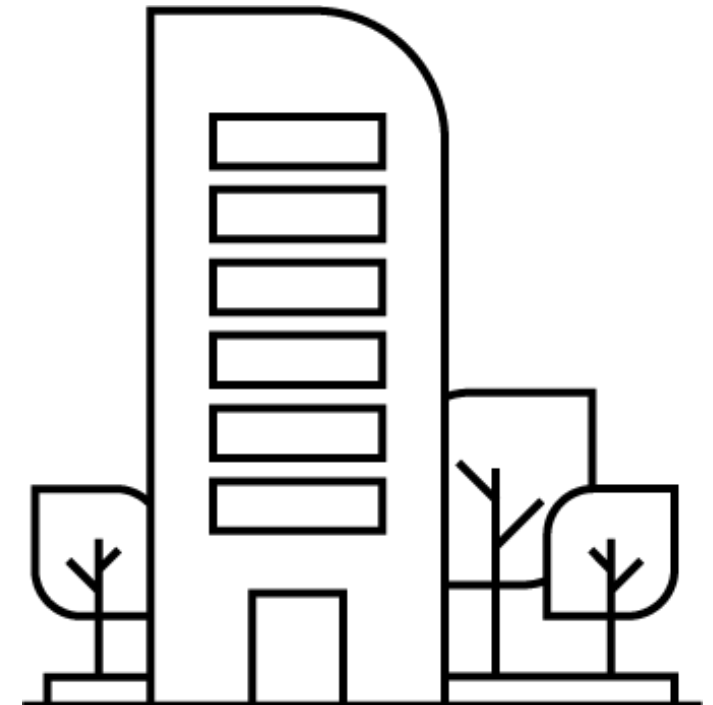
What can be sourced?

Structure

	Retailers	Exchange platforms
Steel sections	occasionally	never
Concrete frame	never	never
Timber beams	regularly	occasionally
Engineered timber	never	never

Skin

	Retailers	Exchange platforms
Insulation	rarely	occasionally
Windows / skylights	regularly	occasionally
Doors	regularly	regularly



What can be sourced?



There is currently little availability of reclaimed materials or products for **services** such as lighting, heating or cooling systems.

Space

	Retailers	Exchange platforms
Plasterboard	never	occasionally
Timber joists / studs	regularly	regularly
Plywood / OSB	regularly	regularly

Stuff

	Retailers	Exchange platforms
Kitchens	rarely	regularly
Sanitary ware	regularly	regularly
Ironmongery	regularly	regularly

Using an online exchange platform: process

Establish list of required materials



```
graph TD; A[Establish list of required materials] --> B[Set up wish lists & regularly check sites]; B --> C[Contact seller/donor to arrange collections and payment]; C --> D[Collect & check materials]; D --> E[Store until required];
```

Set up wish lists & regularly check sites

Contact seller/donor to arrange collections and payment

Collect & check materials

Store until required

Using an online exchange platform: notes

To maximise the incorporation of reclaimed materials:

- Checking of the sites needs to be done on a very regular basis
- Items need to be sourced and stored in advance of being required

The contractor will need to be asked to install these materials as part of their contract.

It is also possible to ask the contractor to obtain specific materials from reclaimed sources using exchange platforms and retailers as part of their brief, but this is likely to be less cost-effective due to the additional workload required and risk on them to deliver.



Supplier profiles



Profile: Globechain

Best for finding new internal or external owners for unrequired materials



Globechain is a data-centric reuse marketplace connecting enterprises with non profits, small businesses and people to redistribute unneeded items, generating ESG data on the impact. It is free to join, to browse and request materials.

Typical materials available: Anything can be listed from furniture, equipment to construction and bulk materials.

<https://globechain.com/>

Profile: Enviromate

Best for finding free and cheap building materials



A marketplace where people & businesses connect to buy, sell or donate leftover building materials. Free to join, list and sell with a subscription model for additional access to wholesale listings.

Typical materials available: Wide range from timber, rubble, doors, stairs, insulation, tile and tools.

<https://www.enviromate.co.uk/>

Profile: Salvo

Best for finding suppliers of reclaimed material



<https://www.salvoweb.com>

<https://www.salvoweb.com/salvo-directory/fcrbe>

Salvo is the original marketplace for architectural salvage and reclaimed building materials. It is also a resource that supports reuse by providing free tools such as the futuREuse UK & Ireland 500 Directory which allows you to search stockists by different types of products and by your location.

Typical materials available: Wide range including bricks, stone, beams & timber, roof tiles & slates, flooring, windows, doors, sanitary ware

Profile: Cleveland Steel & Tubes

Best for sourcing reclaimed steel and sale of reclaimed or surplus steel



CLEVELAND STEEL & TUBES LTD

Cleveland Steel buys, process and sell tubular sections for repurposing and reuse. Prices are based on a job-by-job basis.

Typical materials available: Steel tubes and sections

<https://cleveland-steel.com/>

Profile: Community Wood Recycling

Best for sourcing reclaimed timber and collection of surplus timber



The Community Wood Recycling (CWR) is a nationwide network of wood recycling social enterprises. These enterprises sell timber that has been rescued from construction projects.

Typical materials available: All types of timber sections and panels, depending on local availability

<https://www.communitywoodrecycling.org.uk/>

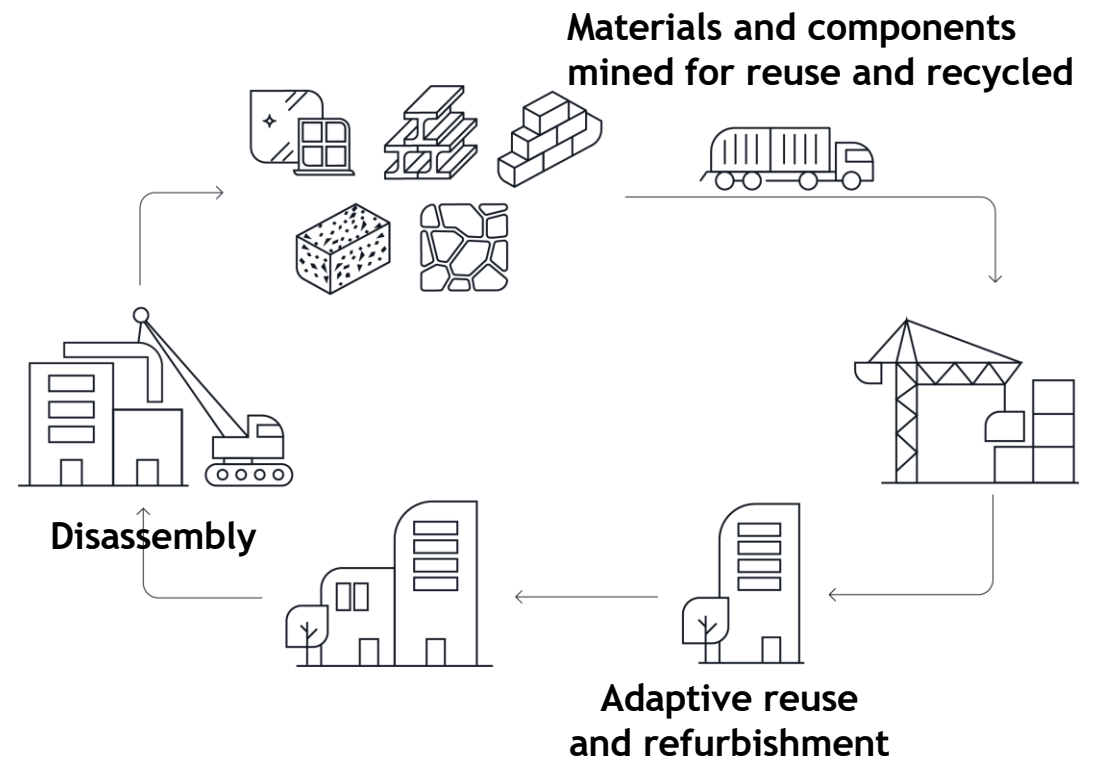


Supporting information



This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 821201, Circular Construction in Regenerative Cities ([CIRCUIT](#)).

ReLondon is part of a consortium of 31 organisations across four cities (London, Copenhagen, Hamburg and the Helsinki region) who are working together to reduce the yearly consumption of virgin raw material by 20% in new construction and show cost savings of 15%.



ReLondon's vision is of a future without waste, where the way we make, consume and dispose of stuff actively tackles the climate crisis and protects our planet.

We will make London a global leader in sustainable ways to live, work and prosper, by revolutionising our relationship with stuff and helping London waste less and reuse, repair, share and recycle more.



