

SCIRT Head Office

Target Sustainability Programme

About the Company

The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT)'s principle activity is to provide horizontal infrastructure construction for the city of Christchurch. The organisation was formed to enable the infrastructure rebuild for the city following the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes. Its head office is located at Magdala Place, Sydenham, Christchurch.

Introduction to the Project

The SCIRT Head Office joined the Christchurch City Council Target Sustainability Programme in 2012. The Target Sustainability Programme supports businesses to reduce waste and to be energy and water efficient.

SCIRT's objective for its Head Office at the time of joining the programme was to reduce waste sent to landfill and to become a resource efficient office. The SCIRT Head Office implemented a range of projects to reduce waste sent to landfill.

Key Achievements

The SCIRT Head Office achieved the following:

- **Reduced waste sent to landfill by 45.1% (4.3 tonnes) per year.**
- **Reduced paper purchased by an estimated 744 ream equivalents per year, an estimated annual procurement saving of \$5,580.**



SCIRT office, Magdala Place © Copyright

Waste Reduction Initiatives

The SCIRT Head Office achieved the following waste reduction results:

- Reduced waste sent to landfill by 45.1% (4.3 tonnes) per year¹.
- Reduced paper purchased by an estimated 744 reams per year², an estimated annual procurement saving of \$5,580. This is equivalent to a 66% reduction on a per staff member basis.

The SCIRT Head Office implemented the following initiatives to reduce, reuse and recycle waste:

- Implemented a recording programme to measure how much paper was purchased and consumed in-house and how much was printed unnecessarily.
- Moved significant portions of documentation from paper based to electronic to reduce paper waste.
- Placed paper recycling collection units under staff desks.
- Implemented a cardboard reuse facility. Cardboard boxes are collected for reuse at the office for deliveries or filing, or for staff to take for their own use.
- Improved its food waste recycling system performance by installing clear signage and making staff aware of the organic collection system.



Paper and toner cartridge recycling © Copyright

¹ The calculations are based on figures supplied by the waste collection service provider and compare the mid-2012 period, which is the period when the organisation joined the programme, and the mid-2013 period, which is the period when the majority of the recycling initiatives had been implemented. The annual estimates are based on 3 months of real data and 9 months of extrapolated data.

² These figures are based on comparisons of three monthly datasets in 2012 and 2013, and a cost of \$7.50 per A4 ream equivalent.

Summary

Since joining the Target Sustainability Programme, the SCIRT Head Office has implemented a range of projects that have resulted in a reduction in waste sent to landfill and a reduction in paper waste.

“Being a part of the Target Sustainability Programme has provided SCIRT with some challenges. Most importantly, we realised early on that changing mindsets and enabling individuals has the greatest impact on being a resource efficient office.” Greg Slaughter, SCIRT HSE Manager.

The SCIRT Head Office plans to continue to look for ways to reduce and recycle waste and to implement an energy efficiency project in their IT department, involving monitoring the number of PCs left on out of hours and the potential for switching these off remotely.

Want more information?

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