

Q₂Reuse

Qualifying & Quantifying the Reuse Sector





Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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It was carried out in partnership between



University Research Agency



Sectoral Representative Body



Sectoral practitioner &
research centre

Backdrop

Waste Framework Directive

Defined reuse as any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived

As a means of promoting reuse in the EU, the revised WFD intended that Member States (MS) take 'appropriate measures to prevent waste generation and monitor and assess progress in the implementation of such measures'.

The WFD set the scene for this research work that pre-empted the Implementing Act and the Circular Economy Action Plan, both of which require monitoring, measurement and promotion of reuse nationally

Reuse and Prevention

- Reuse keeps all the resources involved in making a product in use and prevents waste – therefore an important climate action



- Reuse reduces demand for new products and counters the dominant culture of quick consumption and obsolescence

- Reuse contributes to local jobs and the national economy.
-

Why measure reuse in Ireland?

- By gathering information on the scale and size of the reuse sector, we can benchmark and compare our reuse sector against others
- This provides a consistent basis for reuse targets.
- Also provides valuable insights into how the sector works
- In turn this will allow us to figure out ways to improve the reuse sector for all - practitioners, users, volunteers, etc.

- It also provides a picture of the scale of reuse which can be compared to overall material flows, consumption rates, waste arisings and rates of recovery and recycling.



STEP 1: What was the 'State of the Art'

- Scotland
- Spain
- UK
- New South Wales
- Netherlands
- Flanders
- Finland
- Greece
- New Zealand
- New York City





Measurement

Step 2: Qualification

1

How do you know it has scale?

2

At what point do you distinguish between use for same purpose vs upcycling (change to purpose)?

3

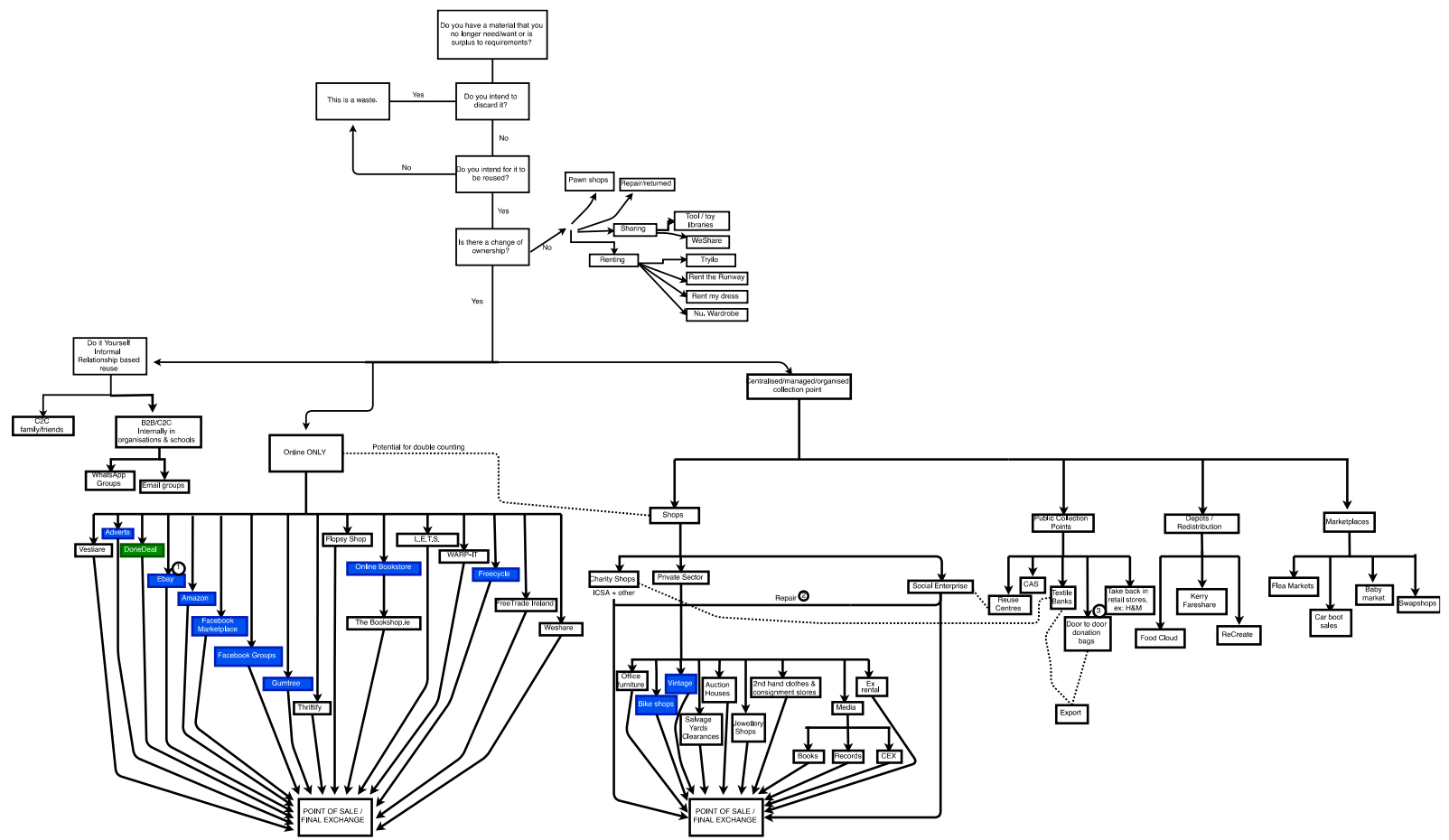
Measuring spare parts / replacements of components?

4

Unregulated in Ireland unless claiming charity and not?

2

Combination of new & used products - distinguishing will be a problem. What about tags-on new selling second hand?



Do you have a material that you no longer need/want or is surplus to requirements?

Do you intend to discard it?

This is a waste.

Do you intend for it to be reused?

Is there a change of ownership?

Do it Yourself Informal Relationship based reuse

C2C family/friends

B2B/C2C Internally in organisations & schools

WhatsApp Groups

Email groups

Online ONLY

Potential for double counting

Centralised/managed/organised collection point

Shops

Public Collection Points

Markets/Redistribution

Marketplaces

Vestare

Next

DuneDeal

eBay

Amazon

Facebook Marketplace

Facebook Groups

Gumtree

Thriftify

Epoque Shop

L.E.T.S.

WASH-I

Online Bookstore

The Bookshop.ie

Forcycle

No Irish Ireland

Weshare

Charity Shops

Private Sector

Social Enterprise

Private Centres

Textile Banks

Door to door donation bags

Export

Office furniture

Vintage

Blue shops

Salvage yards

Clearances

Jewellery Shops

2nd hand clothes & consignment stores

Media

Ex-terial

Repair

Books

Records

DEX

GAS

Take back in retail stores, ex: H&M

Food Cloud

Kerry Fareshare

ReCreate

Flea Markets

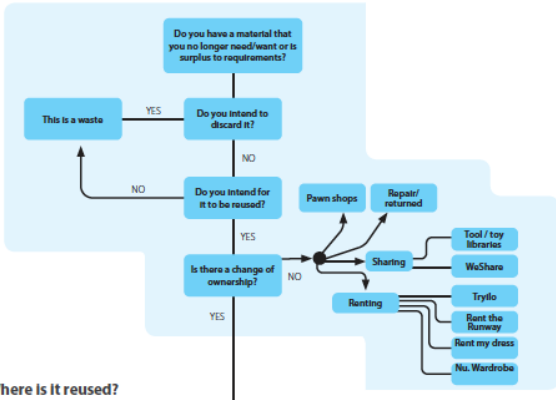
Car boot sales

eBay market

Swapshop

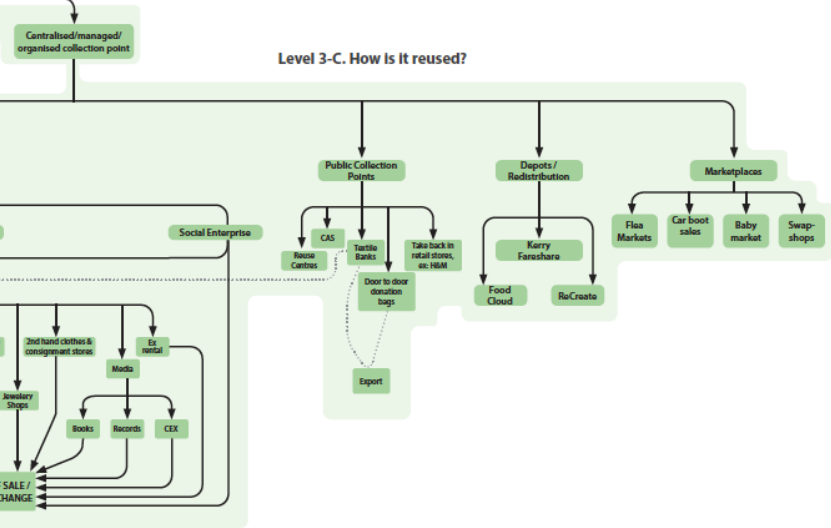
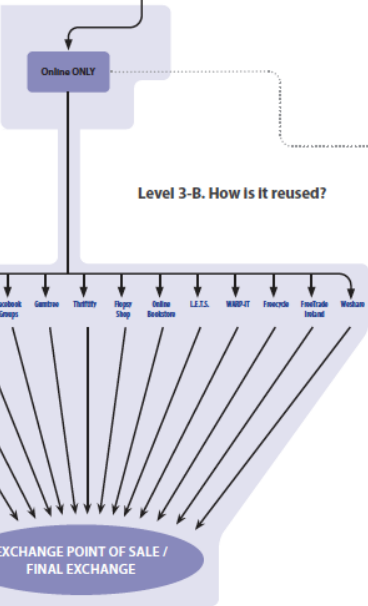
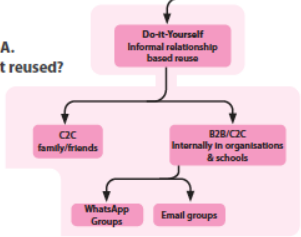
REUSE FLOWCHART

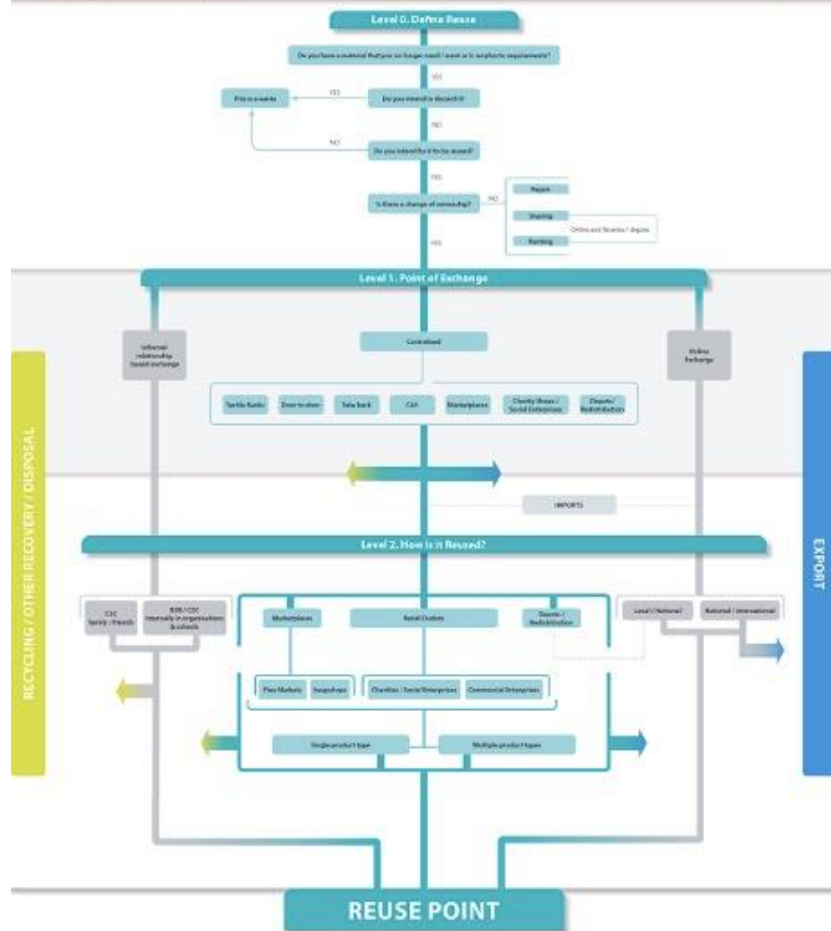
Level 1. What is reuse?



Level 2. Where is it reused?

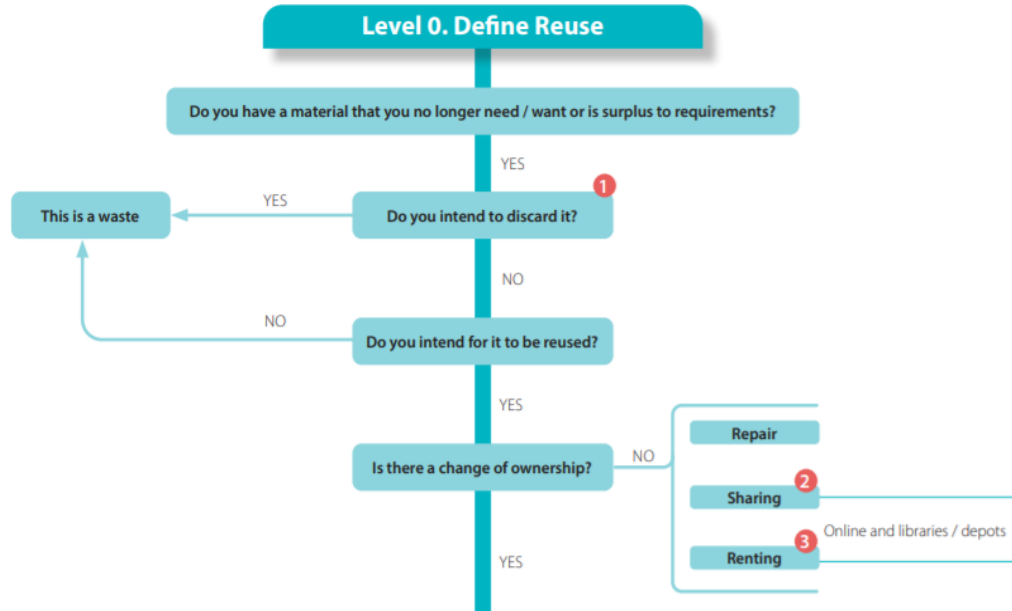
Level 3-A. How is it reused?

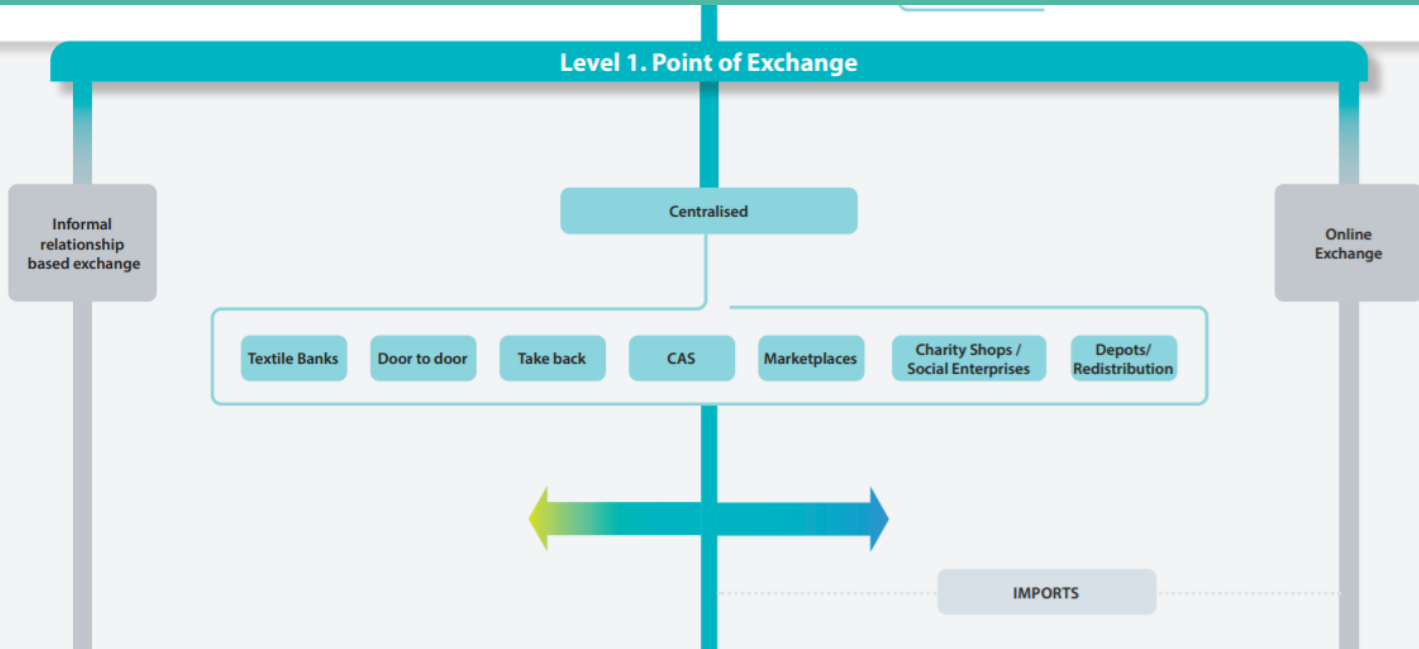




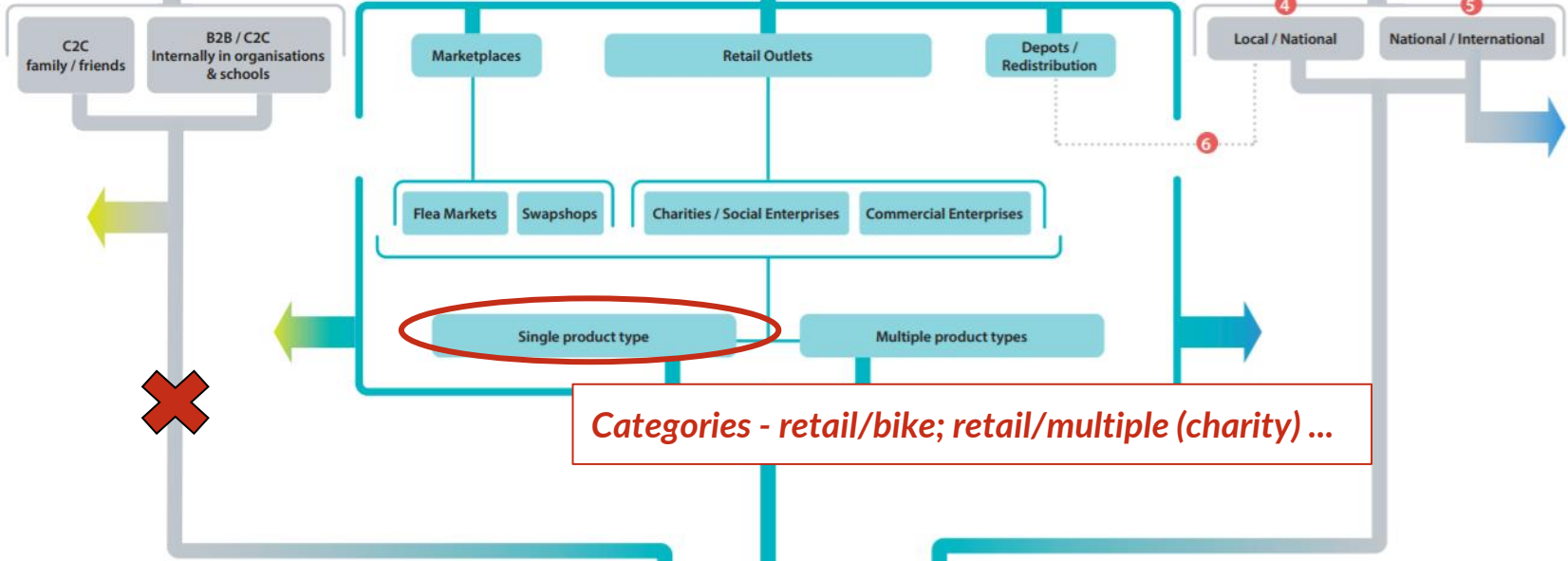
RECYCLING / OTHER RECOVERY / DISPOSAL

EXPORT





Level 2. How is it Reused?



1,260 reuse centres

EEE / food / C&D not incl.

Step 3: Quantification

- a) Scoping of the sector
- b) Defining what will be measured
- c) Data compilation – gathering, collating, assessing
- d) Data extrapolation, scaling and accuracy



Quantitative Methodology

Survey A

Sample determined by a combination of probability and non-probability sampling

57 questionnaires completed by reuse practitioners

Over 50% of reuse practitioners in Ireland are non-profit organisations

Survey B

Sample selected by non-probability convenience sampling

Planned on-site visits were replaced by remote interviews using Miro software on account of Covid-19 restrictions

16 Miro boards completed depicting material flows and associated data capture



Step 3: Quantification

- How many units exchanged per category of business
- Convert to kg
- Scale by number businesses in each category
- Future: direct reporting / NACE data

32,000
TONNES
REUSED IN
2020

6.5KG PER PERSON IN IRELAND





Legislation

Circular Economy Act (IRE)

*a national reuse target, plus
sectoral targets including on ...
“the use of reused and repaired
products and materials”*

Development of methodology

Qualitative

Regular update
of database &
scope
Inclusion of EEE

Metrics

Correlate
against input
weights, sales
price, social
metrics

Scaling

Develop national
weight values
Validate – macro
data on turnover
(CSO)

Reporting

Incentivise –
CAPEX & OPEX,
training, link to
quality mark, link
to carbon

Checks

Data checks –
local & national -
to improve
accuracy

Thank you

Project Outputs at:

<https://ctc-cork.ie/projects/qualifying-and-quantifying-the-reuse-sector-in-ireland-q2reuse/>

