

# LEAVING A LEGACY

Creating value from surplus materials



## The Rebuild Site Carlisle



Emma Porter and Maisie Hunt are Directors of The Rebuild Site in Carlisle. Advocates for sustainability and the circular economy, they're continually looking for new opportunities and partnerships to enable the re-use of surplus and waste materials from the construction industry, with a focus on benefiting local organisations and communities.

*"After working in the construction industry, I was staggered by the amount of nearly new and surplus materials being thrown away. We set up The Rebuild Site with a goal to change perceptions about surplus materials, providing a means through which we can reclaim those materials and facilitate their re-distribution to local customers and communities."*

*Emma Porter*

*"Businesses are often told they need to be innovative to be sustainable, but in our experience, it's about making changes incrementally. Whenever we see something that is unsustainable, we step back and ask 'is there a more sustainable way of doing this?' We apply this thinking right across our business."*

*Maisie Hunt*

*"Creating value is not just about what we do as a business, but it's also about working in partnership with other businesses and community groups. In this way we can make a greater positive contribution to the world."*

*Emma Porter*

### Key insights from Emma and Maisie

1. When you look around, you'll start to see re-usable waste and surplus materials. There are opportunities for other businesses to create new markets, to reduce waste and to deliver value for society and the environment.
2. The key to creating a circular economy business is to make sustainability easier and more attractive for the businesses you work with.
3. Having a team who are 100% behind what you do is a bonus; it makes it so much easier when everyone is working towards the same goal.
4. It can be challenging to quantify the positive impact your business has achieved. Working with university researchers has been invaluable in helping us tell our story and moving us forward.

To begin creating your own legacy, contact: 01768 210 276 or [greenhub@cafs.org.uk](mailto:greenhub@cafs.org.uk)



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