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Repurposing: one polo at a time

Uniform Bank project at Porirua City Council

Julia Barton – Commercial Waste Minimisation Advisor



12 June 2025



Garage sales Gala days Clothes swaps I'm all about reuse...

How did the project come about?

- No obvious process when staff left
- On boarding involved new staff buying new kit



Investigation stage

- Observe and learn don't get people off-side!
- Different processes in different teams -parks, swimming pool and corporate were all different.



Just do it

- Found a space
- Bought a coat rack
- Started promoting



Make it fun

Got the Communications team on board for great ideas



Keeping it front of mind

- HR checklists
- EA networks
- Intranet articles

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Used uniforms to be given a new life

Thursday 12 December 2024



We are lucky to have some fabulous, branded clothing items at Porirua City. Most people leave them behind when they wrap up a job with us, and we want to give them a longer life!

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Unexpected issues

Disposing of old branding/end of life uniforms

- To landfill?
- Or do the 'right thing'





Measure results

Operating since February 2025

- Uniform items in 107 items
- Uniform items out 15 items
- Value of items collected \$23,670

Uniform items include:

Safety boots, hi-viz jackets and vests, polos, sweatshirts, corporate jackets, hardhats, beanies, sunhats and more...

Next steps

- Keep looking at textile reuse/recycling options
- Look for more ways to promote so more uniform items find a new home
- Keep measuring results





Any questions?

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