

Community Insight: Giving World Online

Based in Leicester, Giving World Online enables businesses to redirect their surplus goods to community projects and charities, providing resources to help them make a difference to those they support.

Businesses and organisations are encouraged to work with projects in their locality, allowing them to learn more about what is happening in their area. The only charges for recipients are transport and postal costs of the goods.

Giving World's parent company Konnect9 was formed in 2001 by two sisters from Leicester, after they decided to redistribute pallets of paper from a former print works

that were about to be landfilled to local community groups.

Over the next seven years the company redistributed £1.5million of goods in the UK and overseas, saving 200 tonnes of goods being sent to landfill.

Giving World Online was launched in 2008 so that the company could move away from limited warehouse space to an online platform that could cope with increasing demand and treble its reach.

Since its launch, Giving World has:

- Diverted more than 100 tonnes of donations from landfill
- Helped an estimated 173,000 vulnerable people in the UK



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- Distributed goods to over 12,000 charities
- Received donations from over 100 businesses
- Redirected surplus goods valued at more than £600,000.

Examples of the beneficial work of Giving World Online include donations of 74 items of new bedding via the site from John Lewis Sheffield to Hope for the Homeless.

In the East Midlands, The Hollybank Trust's Vision Project, which provides constant care to people with disabilities, including Peter pictured overleaf, received donations of office cabinets, desks, chairs and drawers to help furnish its offices get it off the ground from Charnwood Borough Council.

Also in Leicestershire, children who use the Yew Tree Trail and outdoor classroom project, made use of reams of paper and card donated through Giving World Online.

Further afield, P&O ferries jumped on the Giving World Online bandwagon when their donation of 160 single mattresses

“This was a perfect opportunity to give back to local communities and benefit those in need.”

Philip Price, P&O Cruises

“It'll certainly make a difference to those receiving them.” Sarah Dolby, Hope for the Homeless

was received by the Single Homeless Accommodation Project (SHAP) in Kirklees, West Yorkshire.

Finally Overseas, Centre Algarve, set up by the 24x7 Special Needs Holiday Trust, accessed goods including toys, kitchen equipment and medical cabinets through the site, during its restoration by volunteers from the UK, Europe, Australia and America.

For further information on Giving World Online visit www.givingworldonline.com.