



Case Study

Thurrock Council

The Kinetic / FGD Partnership

Kinetic IT has a long established and trusted partnership with FGD Solutions, using their combined expertise to offer industry leading solutions with unparalleled experience. The advantage of the partnership is underpinned by the wealth of accreditations and certifications held by FGD Solutions, and the ability of Kinetic IT to transform that into cost-saving for businesses.

The Client

The Kinetic / FGD partnership first began working with Thurrock Council in 2019, who were looking for an all-in-one solution for a range of projects including data centre installation, media destruction and desktop refresh and recycling. The Council have one core location in Essex with several thousand staff, so naturally there is also a significant IT infrastructure which needs continued management.

As a public sector organisation, accountability, accreditations and sustainability were naturally of key importance to working with any service provider. The Council were aware that much of their redundant equipment held sensitive data and that this would need to be securely shredded or data wiped by an accredited partner with correct security and compliance measures in place. The Council had also worked hard to extend the lifespan of their asset inventory and so it was understood

that whilst the first priority would be to reuse or repurpose equipment, a volume of devices would need to be recycled. It was therefore important that this process should also closely follow environmental legislation and guidelines of best practice for sustainable recycling.

The Requirement

The Council had accumulated a significant volume of data-bearing devices including hard drives, tape and optical media which would require onsite physical destruction to meet security stipulations. Following this, the rollout of redundant equipment would then begin, with Kinetic / FGD to audit and recycle a large variation of asset types, including PCs, laptops, monitors, printers, servers and general mixed WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment).

It was of primary importance that a full asset audit report would be generated for all equipment collected and that data destruction certification would also be provided for the council's records. All PCs, laptops and other data-bearing devices would need to be data-wiped and the hope was that much of the equipment could be reused or repurposed but otherwise recycled sustainably into component parts or material streams.

The Solution

Before any equipment could be collected for recycling, the Council needed to securely

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dispose of over a thousand redundant Hard Drives and a large collection of Tape Media too. Given the volume of media for destruction and the desire for all items to be physically destroyed, it was agreed that onsite shredding would be the best solution, with the added benefit that this could also be witnessed by the client's onsite representative.

Once all data had been successfully destroyed and all reporting and certification generated, plans moved forward to begin the collection and recycling of all redundant asset types. Kinetic / FGD staff and vehicles were used to collect equipment and an onsite application of unique-ID barcodes were applied to all devices prior to removal for tracking purposes. All devices were subsequently data-wiped using Blancco's industry leading erasure software and a dedicated account manager was assigned to make sure that the Council were supplied with complete documentation for record keeping purposes. Whilst much of the equipment was sadly beyond the point of reuse, the Kinetic / FGD Zero Landfill Policy meant that any items which could not be reused were recycled into their respective components and materials.

The Result

Since works began, thousands of data bearing devices have been successfully destroyed and hundreds of assets have been collected across a number of pickups, destined for either recycling

or resale. The Council have received complete audit documentation for their records and the cost of service has been kept as low as possible, assisted by the Council's revenue share return percentage which has been applied to offset a portion of the overall costs of service.

With future plans for the Council to modernise its asset infrastructure estate to allow for greater flexibility and remote / mobile working, our partnership will continue to develop in tandem to make sure that we are on hand to meet all requirements, be they supplying or installing new hardware or securely disposing of redundant equipment.

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