

FRP – our strategy

What we do and why

55 million litres of paint are thrown away in the UK every year. FRP's mission is to keep that paint from going to landfill, where it contributes to harmful methane build-up and can contaminate soil and water. We take surplus paint from re-use and recycling centres, re-mix it, make sure it's in top quality condition and sell it on to individuals and community organisations. Given that new paint contributes 2.4kg of CO₂ to the atmosphere per litre, re-using paint in this way has a big environmental impact.

Waste not, want not

Environmental and social impact

Reclaimed paint is not just an eco-friendly alternative to new paint: it's a great way for individuals and organisations on a tight budget to get an attractive product at a fair price. By intercepting paint before it is wasted, and re-selling it below retail price, we fill a gap in the DIY market. Our paint is affordable and accessible to all, from local artists making murals, to families improving their homes, to churches and community groups seeking to brighten up a shared space.



Street art surrounds FRP's entrance

Community Business

At home in East London

Based in Waltham Forest, NE London, FRP is a social enterprise and registered charity, and has supported the local community for almost 30 years. Last year, FRP redistributed over 40,000 litres of paint to individuals, community groups, art groups, schools, and housing associations. We increase our social impact by selling the majority of our paint to low-income customers, charities and community groups as a more affordable alternative to new paint.

We're proud of our inclusive business. At the heart of FRP's operations are our volunteers, many of whom have worked with us for over a decade. Our volunteers come from all walks of life, and through their work with us grow their skills, confidence and support networks.

Partnership and our future

Looking for Partners

2017 is an important year for FRP, as we have begun a strategic shift that will—in the medium and long run—grow our impact. We want to lessen our dependency on external (and often unpredictable) funded projects and connect more directly with our customers. To achieve this we want to create grant funders, housing associations and with commercial organisations.

We are looking to deepen our connection with others who share our values and goals.

How are we funded

Financial Viability

At its core FRP is a community business, and most of our income comes from selling low cost paint to the local community. We also generate income through:

- Collection fees: Councils pay us a per-litre fee to collect surplus paint, as our
- Partnerships and project funding: We have several partnerships for ancillary projects. Our biggest is a two-year partnership with the Big Lottery Fund which tackles social exclusion through volunteering and training opportunities
- ‘Green Office’: Our complementary business provides local offices with an end-to-end paper supply and recycling service.

Contact

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