



# Peter Buckley, Centre for Open Learning (COL)

## Stationery Recycling across Holyrood Campus

### Why I became a Sustainability Champion

I heard about the network through previous involvement with SRS (completing the 'Be Sustainable – Advanced' course) and other campus initiatives. I decided to join because it would give me opportunities to meet like-minded people across campus, and become inspired to get involved in other initiatives. The experience has been extremely positive so far – at the networking events, I find myself thinking “That sounds interesting – How can I get involved?!” after every single conversation I have with other students and members of staff! Many of the ideas I wanted to get off the ground are on hold for now, but there are plenty of other things to get my teeth into until University buildings reopen.

### My sustainable project or actions

The stationery recycling project diverted many resources from landfill. In addition, it raised awareness of issues surrounding sustainability and recycling on campus. Over the course of a month, an entire office was filled with the collected materials, including paper, overhead transparencies, wire trays, pens, pencils, scissors, and suspension files. Approximately 1000 pens (ball-point, whiteboard, flipchart, and permanent pens) were tested and sorted; working pens were redistributed and used pens were recycled. The scheme continued on a smaller scale in Paterson's Land, and the plan is to embed stationery recycling more 'formally' on Holyrood campus, and organise an annual month-long 'spring clean' collection involving students and staff.

