

Acorn awarded Fiscal Stimulus funding**15.4.21**

Acorn Reuse has been awarded just over £800,000 from the Government of Jersey's Fiscal Stimulus fund to build a new purpose-built collections, deliveries and processing centre.

Acorn general manager Steve Pearce said: 'We are delighted to be awarded this funding and would like to thank everyone at the Government of Jersey for making this happen. It will make a significant difference to us. Not only does it provide a better service to our customers, but it also streamlines our operation and creates more jobs and training for people who have a disability or long-term health condition.

'It will release shopfloor space which in turn will boost our revenue and help us employ more people. And, of course, it will provide work for local construction companies and help the Island's economy recover after the Covid pandemic.'

Acorn's plans would probably never have happened but for Covid and the fact that they had to store donated goods for 72 hours, creating a separate temporary donations and collections area away from the main shop. This proved to be better for staff and customers alike.

The new shed will house a purpose-built self-contained area for electrical testing and function testing of goods.

'This will give us the space to expand into white goods such as washing machines, providing these goods at low cost for low-income families,' Steve said. 'These goods will be tested to UK consumer standards prior to selling to the public. Currently there are over 200 washing machines alone that enter the waste stream per month.'

Acorn will be able to expand the range and quantity of goods that can be saved from the waste stream and further reduce their carbon footprint by the installation of solar panels.

It is hoped that work will start in June, with completion by the end of November.

Ends

For interviews or further information, please contact Steve Pearce on 07797 710441.