

WASTE & RESOURCES – AN INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Industrial Drivers

- Cost
- Legislation

Resource Recovery

- Only if cost-effective or mandatory

Need for Improved Recycling Approaches

- Traditional electronics recycling has focused on precious metal recovery and landfill
- Need more sophisticated approaches to materials recovery
- New technologies can help but must be cost effective
- Probably needs financial incentives
- Legislation such as the WEEE Directive will help

Factors Impacting Waste and Recycling

- Paradigm shifts in technology
- New ways of thinking about use and end of life, collection mechanisms and transport costs
- Value of recovered materials
- Cost of technology used

Changes in Technology

- Changes in technology will influence the need for, and type of, integrated recycling
- The move from CRT to LCD
- The emergence of 'polymer electronics'
- Continued integration of functionality
- Opportunities for polymers, biopolymers
- Polymer recycling – sandwich moulding, improved properties



New thinking about End-of-Life

- Opportunities for reuse – product service models?
- Repair, service and reuse in secondary markets?
- Repurposing of modules – memory, processing capability, displays
- Legislative approaches to encouraging more reuse of recycled products
- Changes in thinking about recycling needed in the UK



Electronics Waste and Recycling

- The current situation with end-of-life electronics is not sustainable and a waste of valuable resources
- More work needs to be done to encourage and develop new approaches to end of life electronics
- Europe is forcing the issue through 'Producer Responsibility' legislation such as WEEE and EuP
- New technologies are needed and is new thinking across society as a whole