Working together to fight social exclusion with re-used tech

Friday 25 September, 2020

London, England, September 25, 2020: These days, anyone without digital access is a second-class citizen. And for Britain's most deprived people this lack of access is another barrier to their getting back on their feet. And yet all over the UK there are thousands of computers that have been replaced by newer models, just sitting in storerooms. Although they are not the most up to date, these machines can be reused to change people's lives. That is why local and national politicians are working together to ask large organisations to release their old computers for purposeful reuse.

SocialBox.Biz, a London-based community interest company and technology venture that hosts the ‘laptops for the homeless and elderly initiative,’ this week announced they have teamed up with local British politicians to bridge the digital divide during C-19.

House of Lords and Local Elected Members across parties signed a letter to help to extend their initiative that places working reused laptops with open source software into the hands of those in accommodation services. SocialBox.Biz is highlighting the importance of digital inclusion now more than ever.

https://twitter.com/SocialBoxBiz/status/1305426426015944706

https://therooftop.news/2020/09/14/rival-politicians-unite-to-back-laptops-for-vulnerable-drive/

One of the signatories, London Borough of Brent Liberal Democrat Councillor Anton Georgiou said: Everyone deserves access to the tools to enable them to achieve their full potential. The work being done by SocialBox.Biz, is leading the way with initiatives like Laptops for the Homeless and Vulnerable.

Councillor David van der Burg, a Green Party councillor from St. Helens said: Digital inclusion is incredibly important, and by reusing equipment you are helping to reduce waste and other environmental impacts.

Cllr Dinah Barry, Enfield Community First Group Leader said:

The work Socialbox.biz does benefits everyone: those who donate know they have put something they no longer need to good use, those who do the upgrades learn and develop valuable skills and of course those who receive the laptops and tablets are once more able to see and speak to their loved ones, ending the misery of loneliness and isolation. Finally we all benefit – less damage is done to our environment because fewer resources are taken from the planet. As one of my residents wrote: “I was particularly pleased to know that reconditioned laptops are going to be available to those in need. So many of my older friends have never joined the computer and internet generation. Now is definitely the time to learn new skills. They are at an extreme disadvantage otherwise.”

SocialBox.Biz is working to hit additional 1000s of laptops handover milestones in the coming years and provide access to skills. Several other causes are reaching out to SocialBox.Biz daily to enquire about available laptops for their clients in need of digital inclusion in isolation. Laptops for the Homeless and Vulnerable Initiative needs your support, now more than ever. Please contact SocialBox.Biz today! To participate and For more information, visit: http://socialbox.biz/.

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Notes to editors

SocialBox.Biz is a community interest company (CIC) improving the local community by providing innovative tech solutions. For many years, SociaBox.Biz has been helping those who can not afford any kind of computer. This phenomenon has become known as Digital Inclusion.

The SocialBox.Biz Guide to releasing old, yet still useful laptops from offices to those that need them the most

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