

28,500 TONNES OF PLASTIC SAVED\*

2022  
REPAK MEMBERS'  
PLASTIC PLEDGE REPORT

\*From 2018

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REPAK MEMBERS'  
PLASTIC PLEDGE REPORT

## ACRONYMS

### CEP

Circular Economy Package

### DECC

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

### EC

European Commission

### EPA

Environmental Protection Agency

### EPS

Expanded Polystyrene

### EU

European Union

### HDPE

High-density Polyethylene

### LDPE

Low-density Polyethylene

### MRF

Material Recovery Facility

### NGO

Non-Governmental Organisation

### OPRL

On Pack Recycling Labelling (UK Packaging Labelling System operated by WRAP)

### PET

Polyethylene Terephthalate

### PP

Polypropylene

### PS

Polystyrene

### PPWD

Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive

### PVC

Polyvinyl Chloride

### rPET

Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate

### RPS

Repak Payment Scheme

### SUP

Single Use Plastic

### WRAP

Waste & Resources Action Programme (UK)

|                            |              |
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Plastic Pledge Report serves as a measurement tool to assess the impact of the Plastic Pledge initiative on Members' behaviour and design choices. It tracks the progress made by Members in reducing plastic waste and adopting sustainable packaging options.

In 2023 Repak set about re-positioning the Plastic Pledge and our ambition, to increase the profile and influence of the Plastic Pledge with our Members, Stakeholders and the public. An analysis of the role of our signatories and their position within the refreshed Team Green was undertaken with a view to achieving greater alignment. Select in depth interviews with key Members were conducted along with analysis of the language used.



We want to go further and increase the number of signatories and the quality of the submissions. Repak has repositioned The Plastic Pledge to 'The Change Makers – The change you can't see'. The objective is to show how the Plastic Pledge report makes visible all the changes you can't see around plastic packaging.

The repositioning has resulted in a newly defined sub-brand consistent with Team Green and an improved look and feel to the objectives.

We are not only highlighting the stories of our Members' successes in this report but also our key hero stories through social media and animated videos. Key hero stories include:

- Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland continued to eliminate plastic shrink wrap from their multi-packs, through a move to KeelClip™ and Q-Flex Card Carton Packs which eliminated almost 500 tonnes of plastic.
- Aldi moved peanut butter from plastic to glass jars, saving 13 tonnes of plastic per annum and contributing to a 18% plastic reduction in Aldi own label products.
- Lidl optimised their Greek and flavoured 1kg Yogurt buckets leading to a saving of 30 tonnes.
- Nomad Foods down gauged film from 15 to 12.5 micron on all their pizza products, delivering a total annual reduction of 93 tonnes.
- Tesco removed the handles on packs of Fred & Flo Nappies, saving 36 tonnes of plastic.

Plastic Pledge actions to date when accumulated resulted in the reduction or replacement of over 28,500 tonnes from the estimated 322,000 tonnes of plastic packaging placed on the market in 2022.

Signatories who reported their recycling rates for packaging captured at their premises are making a significant impact. New legislation was introduced for incentivised charging for waste collection in the commercial sector came into effect on 1st July 2023

which will support further improvements.

Signatories who reported projects to increase recycled plastic in packaging achieved an average of just over 52% recycled content with some packaging achieving as high as 100%.

Projects to implement less complex and more recyclable packaging are evident in a range of case studies. We are also seeing Members working together to solve complex packaging challenges.

Repak Members placed 140,000 tonnes of plastic packaging on the market in 2022 of which 104,000 (74%) was recycled, an 8.3% increase on 2021. This demonstrates the commitment of our Plastic Pledge Members.

Our recycling rate for plastic packaging in 2022 was 33% against an EU target of 22.5%, however achieving 50% by 2025 is a monumental task.

Repak recycled 759,149 tonnes of packaging in 2022, 108% of Members' tonnes placed on the market.

Data monitoring and reporting for the Single Use Plastics Directive commences in 2023 for data from 2022.

The Pakman Awards acknowledge the work by our Plastic Pledge Members but also the stakeholders who will drive the Circular Economy in Ireland by creating the necessary infrastructure.

Assuring you of our best endeavours at all times, on behalf of you, our Members.



# FIVE KEY OBJECTIVES



## FIVE KEY OBJECTIVES

### Repak Members' Plastic Pledge

#### OBJECTIVE 1: **TO PREVENT**

Prioritise the prevention of plastic packaging waste by **minimising avoidable single use packaging and promoting packaging reuse** where possible.

#### OBJECTIVE 2: **TO SUPPORT**

**Support Ireland to deliver** the Circular Economy **Package plastic recycling targets of 50% of all plastic packaging by 2025 and 55% by 2030**, as set by the European Commission.

#### OBJECTIVE 3: **TO SIMPLIFY**

Reduce complexity within the plastic packaging supply chain by **simplifying polymer usage and eliminating non-recyclable components** in all plastic packaging **by 2030**.

#### OBJECTIVE 4: **TO INCREASE**

Help to build a circular economy for used plastic packaging in Ireland and Europe by **increasing the use of plastic packaging with recycled content**.

#### OBJECTIVE 5: **TO REDUCE**

Ensure our **approach** to plastic packaging reduction is aligned to Ireland's **goal of a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030** as set out in Ireland's food waste charter.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the following Plastic Pledge Partners and Stakeholders who contributed to our Plastic Challenge Working Group Meetings during 2022:

## PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS



An Roinn Comhshaoil,  
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide  
Department of the Environment,  
Climate and Communications



An initiative by  
**BORD BIA**  
IRISH FOOD BOARD



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you also to the Members who contributed to this year's report and for the work that you are doing to support Ireland in reaching our Circular Economy Targets for plastic packaging.

## 2022 MEMBER CONTRIBUTORS





# INTRODUCTION

# 1.0

## 1.1

# SINGLE USE PLASTIC – REPAK LAUNCH COMPLIANCE SCHEME

The main aim of the SUP Directive is the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, particularly marine litter. The first part of the SUP Directive covered market restrictions on certain single use plastic items and came into force on the 3rd July 2021.

Additional requirements of the directive are being implemented at different stages and will continue through to 2030. In 2022 Repak was asked by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) to operate as a Single Use Plastic compliance scheme in Ireland for this legislation.

Organisations who are obligated under the legislation are required to submit 2022 data and complete a declaration. Repak have developed and launched a system to gather the information required for the relevant items.

This will mean some additional reporting requirements for any current Repak members who place Single Use Plastic products on the market. We will also facilitate producers who do not have obligations under the packaging waste compliance scheme in order

## The following organisations are obligated under the SUP Directive

1. All Repak Members who place SUP items on the Irish market.
2. Those organisations who place SUP items on the Irish market regardless of the amount/weight of items.
3. Those organisations who place SUP items on the Irish market from outside Ireland.



## 1.2

# REVISION OF PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE DIRECTIVE

On 30 November 2022, the European Commission proposed to revise the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive. This review contributes to reaching the objective of the European Green Deal and the new circular economy action plan to ensure that “all packaging on the EU market is reusable or recyclable in an economically viable way by 2030”. The review will also contribute to the commitment of the 2018 Plastics Strategy to ensure that by 2030 all plastic packaging placed on the market can be reused or recycled in a cost-effective manner.

### The main aims of the proposal are to:

- Prevent the generation of packaging waste, reducing it in quantity, and promoting reuse and refill.
- Ensure that all packaging on the EU market will be recyclable in an economically viable way by 2030.
- Increase the use of recycled plastics in packaging, thus enabling more high quality (“closed loop”) recycling and substituting virgin materials.

### The key measures to bring about this change include:

- Targets for packaging waste reduction at Member State level, and mandatory reuse targets for economic operators for selected packaging groups.
- Restricting over-packaging and certain forms of unnecessary packaging, and supporting reuse and refill systems.
- Establishing criteria for design for recycling to be applied to all packaging.
- Minimum inclusion rates for recycled content in plastic packaging.
- Mandatory deposit return systems for plastic bottles and aluminium cans.
- Harmonised labelling of packaging and waste bins to facilitate correct consumer disposal of packaging waste.

The review also proposes to replace the current Directive with a Regulation to increase harmonisation of the legislation across member states. It is expected that this Regulation will be implemented in 2024 / 2025.

Repak were asked by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications to submit their observations on the proposal and made a submission in this regard. We will continue to provide input to the department on the document as it proceeds through the European legislative process.

### 1.3

## PROGRESS OF THE PLASTIC CHALLENGE WORKING GROUP

The implementation of mandatory segregation and incentivised charging for commercial waste outlined in chapter 2 was a direct result of the Working Group sessions which commenced in 2019. It marks a significant advancement in Ireland's national recycling policy and is a positive step towards maximising resource usage and achieving future EU recycling targets.

**In 2022 the work of the Plastic Challenge Working Group continued with two meetings held in September and November. This resulted in identifying two key objectives for Members.**

1. Increasing reusable packaging systems for B2B Secondary and Transport Packaging.
2. Improving recycled content rates for packaging in Ireland.

We held a facilitated workshop in May '23 with multiple stakeholders and our Plastic Pledge Members to identify the challenges and develop solutions to these objectives. We will continue with further workshops to progress solutions to these two key areas in the forthcoming year.

## 1.4

# PLASTIC PLEDGE PAKMAN AWARDS

The Plastic Pledge Award is open to Repak Plastic Pledge signatories who provide detailed data of projects implemented that align with the 5 main objectives of the Plastic Pledge. Entrants have an opportunity to win a Gold, Silver or Bronze award.



## GOLD

- Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland
- Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard
- Lidl Ireland GmbH



## SILVER

- ABP Food Group
- ALDI Ireland
- NPP Group Ltd



## BRONZE

- Brown Thomas Arnotts
- Musgrave
- Primark Limited



## 1.4

# OVERALL PAKMAN AWARD - LIMERICK POLYMERS POLYMERS

Limerick Polymers Production is the newest site in one of Ireland's largest family-owned recycling groups. The site is Ireland's first purpose built plastic recovery facility and is the single largest investment in recycling infrastructure in the history of the state.

The plant itself is fully automated and is capable of processing over 70,000 tons of mixed plastic packaging per year. As a direct result of the facility there has been a 53% increase in the amount of mixed plastic film being recycled in Ireland in 2022 and this will increase further in the coming years as Limerick Polymers Production continues to expand.

According to the 2022 Pakman Awards judging panel, the entry from Limerick Polymers Production was a best-in-class example in waste recovery, and its efforts to create a truly circular economy for plastic packaging in Ireland. Limerick Polymers Production was also announced winner of the Waste Recycling and Recovery Facility award.



1.5

# PACKAGING DESIGN GUIDE REVISED

Repak's updated comprehensive Packaging Design Guide has played a crucial role in supporting the application of Eco Fee Modulation. The guide offers valuable insights and recommendations for designing environmentally friendly packaging solutions. By following these guidelines, Repak's Members have been able to bring about behavioural and design changes in packaging practices.





# PLASTIC RECYCLING AT COMMERCIAL PREMISES

## 2.1

# STUDY ON PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE SEGREGATION AT MEMBER BUSINESSES

In 2022 we conducted a number of visits to Members to identify possible opportunities to assist businesses in the area of segregation. A cross section of Members were included, such as packaging manufacturers, large retailers, distributors, meat processors and pharmaceutical companies.

**The focus of the visits was on the management of plastic packaging waste at these premises with the following revelations:**

**1.**

In many premises, plastic and paper packaging materials were being diverted to general waste. This was particularly evident for rigid plastics and non PE based flexible plastics such as PP bags.

**2.**

Many members did not have a mixed dry recycling bin and this had neither been provided by the waste contractor or requested by the member. Due to this, a large amount of material ended up in general waste bins or general waste compactors and therefore diverted to energy recovery, rather than sorting for recycling.

**3.**

The most significant opportunities were found with larger food manufacturers and retailers due to the volume and complexity of these operations, however, all Members have an active role to play.

The recommendations from the report included, continued education in the area of commercial waste segregation by Waste Operators with their commercial customers, and incentivised pricing for commercial waste.

Repak is as always committed to supporting the commercial sector during this transition and is providing guidance to businesses on how best to collect and separate waste in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

## 2.2

# REGULATORY CHANGES TO ADDRESS SEGREGATION

Ireland has had significant success in the past 25 years in relation to increasing recycling rates at the household level. However in recent years it has become more difficult to grow this further and it is also the most expensive waste stream to fund from a Repak perspective.

New legislation was introduced for incentivised charging for waste collection in the commercial sector which comes into effect on 1st July 2023. This change will bring the commercial sector in line with the residential sector, for whom incentivised pricing has been in place since 2017.

### Measures in the new regulations for commercial waste include:

- All waste collection companies will be required to provide a residual, mixed dry recyclable and bio-waste bin to all their commercial customers;
- All waste collected must be weighed, with details on the weights of the individual bins communicated to customers;
- Waste collection companies must ensure that all commercial customers are placed onto a price plan that ensures that the cost to the customer for mixed dry recyclable or bio-waste is less than the cost of disposal for municipal waste. The introduction of this measure should not result in higher waste collection charges for commercial customers;
- Waste collection companies will be required to at least collect the recyclable waste materials as specified on [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie);
- Collection of recyclable waste and bio-waste must occur at least fortnightly.
- The regulations also require that waste collection companies update their customer charter for households, as well as introduce a customer charter for their commercial customers. This charter must be published on the collector's website and must give details such as the frequency of collections, methods of charging and details of the collection service for each type of waste.

In 2022 Repak advised registered Waste Operators of significant increases in funding for Commercial Plastic Recycling. This included an increase of 66% per tonne for fully segregated services/baled plastic as the successful adoption of incentivised charging for waste collection in the commercial sector is crucial to ensure Ireland can meet the targets set by the EU Waste Framework Directive. Repak continues to work closely with our Members to advance recycling from commercial sources.





# OBJECTIVES & PROGRESS

### 3.0

## OBJECTIVES OVERVIEW

We are delighted that our Members have continued to tell us about the work they have been doing throughout 2022 and the plans they have for 2023 against the five Plastic Pledge objectives. Below are just some of the highlights shared by our Plastic Pledge signatories<sup>1</sup>.

### OBJECTIVE 1: TO PREVENT

PRIORITISE THE PREVENTION OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE

This objective combines all aspects of waste prevention which can be achieved through the removal, minimisation or reuse of plastic packaging. As a result it also covers any initiatives that meet the requirements of the Single Use Plastics Directive.

#### In 2022 Plastic Pledge signatories:

- o Continued to implement projects that focus on lightweighting, reducing dimensions and introducing reuse systems.

### OBJECTIVE 2: TO SUPPORT

SUPPORT IRELAND TO DELIVER THE CEP PLASTIC RECYCLING TARGETS

This objective depends on the support of our Members to deliver the plastic packaging recycling targets of 50% by 2025 and 55% by 2030. Businesses can help to achieve this through their actions in terms of recycling on site at their own premises as well as through their support in educating staff and customers on the importance of increasing plastic recycling.

#### In 2022 Plastic Pledge signatories:

- o Achieved a significant recycling rate at their premises.
- o Continued to promote recycling education both through internal communications and externally through labelling and various media platforms.

### OBJECTIVE 3: TO SIMPLIFY

PACKAGING IN THE PLASTIC PACKAGING SUPPLY CHAIN

For many businesses the priority over the past number of years has been identifying those plastics and laminates that are complex or difficult to recycle prior to setting plans to remove them from the business. Many of our Members continue this work with goals set for achievement between now and 2025 currently in progress.

Submissions indicate that our Members are taking a systems approach to designing their packaging with greater potential for recyclability and many are piloting projects in this area.

<sup>1</sup>Appendix 1 shows the achievements and plans of individual businesses in more detail.

3.0

## OBJECTIVES OVERVIEW

### OBJECTIVE 4: TO INCREASE

INCORPORATE RECYCLED CONTENT TO BUILD A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Incorporating recycled content into plastic packaging helps to build a secondary market for these materials and therefore helps to build a circular economy. Again we continue to see some real results in this area.

**Some highlights for 2022 include:**

- o An average recycled content of over 52% with some achieving as high as 100%.
- o Trays and PET bottles with 100% recycled content.
- o Plastics from businesses own operations integrated back into the supply chain.

### OBJECTIVE 5: TO REDUCE

ENSURE OUR APPROACH ALIGNS TO THE EPA'S FOOD WASTE CHARTER

Reducing food waste is a key component of the EPA's National Waste Prevention Programme and the Government's Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020 – 2025.

Repak's Plastic Pledge signatories continue to ensure that all changes that eliminate or reduce plastic packaging do not do so at the expense of product shelf life and that all steps are taken to ensure that food waste does not increase.

<sup>1</sup>Appendix 1 shows the achievements and plans of individual businesses in more detail.



# CONCLUSIONS

## 4.0

# CONCLUSIONS

The Members who have provided submissions to this report provide valuable data and analysis to evaluate the effectiveness of Repak's initiatives and identify areas for further improvement across the 5 objectives.

Great work is being done by our Signatories but more submissions are required with greater emphasis on data.

Repak's Membership and Recycling & Recovery team continue to work with its key stakeholders during 2023 with a significant focus placed on commercial waste and ensuring it is destined for recycling streams.

This is a significant opportunity not only to increase recycling rates for our Members but also to reduce their costs.

# APPENDIX: MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS & PLANS



# OBJECTIVE 1: TO PREVENT

PRIORITISE THE PREVENTION  
OF PLASTIC PACKAGING  
WASTE



**ABP Food Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

All avoidable single use plastics are being phased out across our business with respect to catering activities on site. We have introduced reusable options where possible or alternative material options.

We made further improvements in 2022 to reduce the amount of plastic film used for retail pallets, this was achieved by reducing the number of rotations per pallet. This project removed over half a tonne of plastic packaging from the supply chain.

**Plans for 2023**

We are currently investigating moving to a more sustainable mince format that would result in approximately 55% minimum plastic saving per pack in a mono material which would be fully recyclable. We hope to have progress for this in 2023. ABP will continue to focus on reducing the amount of packaging we use both internally and send to our customers, which is constantly reviewed by our retail production team and implemented where possible.



**Aldi**  
**Achievements for 2022**

ALDI Ireland eliminated problematic plastic packaging (black plastic, PVC and EPS) from Core Range Food in 2020. ALDI works closely with its suppliers to introduce new, innovative, sustainable packaging solutions that has resulted in over 2,700 tonnes of total plastic being removed from its stores since 2020. Throughout 2022, ALDI has had the following successes in plastic reduction:

- Light weighting of our lower tier oil range decreasing the overall plastic weight by 15%.
- Light weighting of our bagged rice range resulting in a 4.3% weight decrease.
- Micron reduction on elements of our Chocolate range including Chocolate Buttons and Bubbly Bars decreasing plastic weight by 20%.
- 10% plastic reduction in our cereal range and 24% plastic reduction in our cereal bar film.
- Micron reduction of 25% in our ice cube range.
- Moved peanut butter from plastic to glass jars saving 13 tonnes of plastic per annum.

The above resulted in a 17.60% plastic reduction in Aldi own label products.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023, ALDI will work towards its plastic and packaging target of a 40% reduction of own label plastic packaging by 2025 (against 2020 baseline). Key projects for 2023 include:

- Light weighting of our soft drinks range.
- Primary packaging optimisation for Beer.
- Light weighting of film for multipack crisps.



**Aramark**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Aramark's plastic consumption reduced from 19% of our food packaging category in our F21 financial period (01/10/20 – 30/09/21) to represent only 9% of the category during F22 (1/10/21 – 30/09/22). Plastic disposables in our business are predominately RPET and are mainly salad, deli containers and cold drink cups. Clingfilm usage remains high and is included in our plastic statistic. Cases of cups reduced from 5715 to 4929 – if 1000 compostable cups is roughly 15kg, then if we assume 15kg per case  $786 \times 15\text{kg} = 11790\text{kg}$  of CO<sub>2</sub> saved. We purchased 4565 reusable items last year – if one reusable item is used only once a day, in place of a disposable that's 1.666m disposables not used – saving 25000 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>.

**Plans for 2023**

The Aramark 2023 objective is to further reduce our plastic packaging usage by either switching to paper product or a reusable product. We aim to reduce our plastic packaging by a further 5% during 2023.

Aramark's plan for 2023 and beyond is to further promote reusables – be that encouraging customers to enjoy their meal in a dining room with crockery and cutlery or implementing a return deposit scheme on reusable carriers – coffee cups, take away clam shells, soup pots etc.



**Aurivo**

**Achievements for 2022**

Two projects were implemented in our dairy ingredient manufacturing plant. Plastic is used to wrap pallets for transport and plastic hoods are used to protect finished product during shipping. As a result of a number of trials the gauge of shrink wrap was reduced from 100 to 85 micron & the gauge of the plastic hoods was reduced from 35 to 25 micron. Together this will result in a plastic saving of 3 tonne per annum.

**Plans for 2023**

We are working with another supplier to replace a 500ml bottle with a carton that's made from renewable material.



**Blenders**

**Achievements for 2022**

Blenders complies with the EU Single Use Plastics Directive.

**Plans for 2023**

We will revisit consideration of reusable dispenser options.



**Britvic Ireland**

**Achievements for 2022**

Britvic has consistently shown a commitment to minimising avoidable single-use packaging.

We are also one of the leading suppliers of returnable watercooler bottles into offices through our Ballygowan Watercooler Division – our watercooler bottles are refilled an estimated 40 times

through their lifetime before being recycled and this allows us to supply Ballygowan Natural Mineral Water without any single-use plastic packaging. We have introduced paper only cups with our water cooler solutions, reducing the need for single use plastic cups.

In 2020 we acquired 'The Boiling Tap Company' which supplies a range of premium water filters which include the option of hot, cold sparking and even flavoured beverages which eliminate the requirement for packaging altogether. We have rebranded this company to 'Aqua Libra' and continued its rollout and expansion as a key part of our 'Beyond the Bottle' strategy that aims to reduce the need for single use plastics within our brands. We also have a process of continuous improvement with regards to lightweighting our bottles. We achieved 3.3% further reduction in packaging weight per serve in financial year 2022 and with our current measures we plan to see a 5.17% reduction in 2023.

**Plans for 2023**

The Boiling Tap Company has been rebranded Aqua Libra and we have ambitious plans for the business with sustainability and packaging reduction at its heart. The Aqua Libra brand is the first in Britvic that has pledged to never use plastic packaging. The brand has begun installing tap units into customers premises. Aqua Libre was also used to highlight our 'Beyond the Bottle' initiatives at the Dubai Duty Free Irish Open 2022.

We have also focused our innovation on areas with a lower packaging weight per serve and efficient use of plastics such as our Robinsons Drops, MiWadi Minis and double concentrate dilutes.

Moving forward we have several projects running simultaneously to continuously reduce our packaging weight per serve in the coming year.

- MiWadi lightweighting -9.5%
- Robinsons lightweighting -23.7%
- Reduction in micron gauge of Pepsi 24pk can from 70 micron to 60 micron plastic shrink.
- Change to neck finish on PET line 6 in 2023 & Lines 2 & 3 in 2024

All of the above projects work together to continue our journey in reducing our use of virgin PET.



### Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

Our vision to create a circular economy for our packaging, is a world with dramatically lower carbon emissions and climate impacts. Because packaging accounts for 56% of our overall carbon footprint, our World Without Waste efforts are essential to meeting our science-based target and our NetZero by 40 commitment. We're reducing our carbon footprint by lightweighting our packaging and incorporating more recycled and renewable material.

We use 46% less virgin plastic today than we did in 2017 and in 2023 we aim to significantly accelerate this further as we continue our journey to deliver the commitment we laid out in our Repak Members' Plastic Pledge on packaging design, including reducing plastic packaging waste by minimizing avoidable single-use plastic. We continued to eliminate 'single-use' plastic shrink wrap from our multi-packs, through our move to KeelClip™ and Q-Flex Card Carton Packs; a move that eliminated 496 tonnes of plastic. Through continued 'light-weighting', our plastic bottles use 15% less plastic. Our light-weighting initiatives reduce plastic use by approximately 1,200 tonnes annually.

We continued to source point-of-sale materials made from recycled materials and focused on shifting from single-use point-of-sale materials to permanent solutions and increase the use of shelf-ready packaging for their stores, by way of 'mobile units' (MUs). This continued roll out of mobile units will continue to eliminate the use of single use plastics from our tertiary packaging annually.

#### Plans for 2023

In Q2 2023, we will extend our use of KeelClip™ across our Schweppes multi-pack can range eliminating a further 50 tonnes of plastic annually.

In Q3 2023, we will further lightweight our Deep RiverRock range with a focus on our 500ml bottles and larger Take-Home Coca-Cola owned portfolio.

We are also continuing to trial new packageless dispensed formats with our 'At Work' customers, encouraging the use of reusable beverage vessels to eliminate the need for polyethylene lined paper cups.



### Dawn Farm Foods

#### Achievements for 2022

We removed plastic drinking water cups and plastic water bottles from water stations with the objective of eliminating 180,000 water cups and 1,800 plastic bottles annually. The removal of plastic drinking water cups and plastic water bottles from water stations will continue to be looked at in 2023.

A supplier of sustainable box options has been sourced and approved for use on site. We are currently completing transport tests to ensure the safety (temperature control) and integrity of the box and quality of samples delivered to our customers. Currently looking at this for 2023 and estimate we will remove 1800 polystyrene boxes from the system. In total, we avoided 2.7 tonnes of Plastic Packaging.

#### Plans for 2023

Ingredients for each batch must be accurately weighed, single use plastic bags are used to hold and transport each ingredient. These plastic bags then end up on the general waste stream as they are contaminated. We plan to trial the use of compostable bags for this practice in 2023 which would eliminate 72,000 single use plastic packaging bags per year.

Drums are used to transport and hold single use plastic drums. These drums then end up in the general waste stream as they are contaminated. We plan to assess the feasibility of installing a wash station in 2023 so these drums can be reused and eliminate 3,460 drums per year.



### Frylite

#### Achievements for 2022

Replacement of single use wheelie bin liners for recycled liners. This improvement was cheaper and easier to achieve than had been expected. No issues with product. Some single use packaging comes into Frylite contained in the commercial waste cooking oil and grease trap supplied by our customers, e.g. plastic cutlery, some packaging, etc. This is very hard to remove and we do try to educate our customers but this will always be an issue. We have instead looked at more sustainable ways to dispose of this plastic.

Launched early March 23, we diverted our processing waste from council landfill to WtE plant in Dublin, a step up the waste hierarchy ladder to more sustainable solutions. Whilst all our buckets for our fresh cooking oils have to be made from virgin plastics, we have a system whereby all this plastic once redundant (less attrition of >10%) is sent to an Irish reprocessor for onward sale into plastics manufacturing UK & Ireland. 5 tonnes approx. of plastic packaging waste was avoided / reduced over the year.

#### Plans for 2023

We are working with an Irish plastics reprocessor to take the regrind from all our rigid plastics (buckets, barrels, wheelie bins, tanks, etc) and use it to make recycled containment that we will purchase directly for the storage of our waste oils as used by our customers. In addition, working towards ensuring that we introduce 30% min recycled content for our waste containment, i.e. wheelie bins and barrels. We are looking at a project to extract plastic wrap from our internal processes and treatment to divert for recycling rather than to incineration. We are looking to achieve a part recycled pallet wrap for our internal processes and goods transportation.



### Hilton Foods Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

With the intention of reducing our plastic packaging we started out with a full review of all the products we produce and the packaging used to pack them. Following this review we have moved a number of products to smaller trays resulting in a 2 tonne plastic reduction. Also as part of this review we have moved a number of products out of trays which contain an absorbent pad and into a new padless tray format which has a dimpled bottom that holds excess drip and therefore removes the need for the absorbent pad. In total over 2 million pads annually have been removed from the packaging we send out to our customers. The new padless tray also uses a thinner sheet than the standard padded tray and the move to this tray has resulted in a 650Kg annual reduction of plastic used on these products.

On top of the tray reductions we have also reviewed the plastic waste generated on site and identified that on line rework contributed to 800kg of waste per week. An internal project team have worked to address this and through this project we have reduced our annual rework waste by over 8 tonnes. Overall this year we have reduced our plastic by 10.65 tonnes.

#### Plans for 2023

We are downgauging the sheet used to produce our skin pack trays, targeting a 20% reduction and will also remove pads from our clear MAP trays through introduction of dimpled bottom trays.



### Irish Country Meats

#### Achievements for 2022

All avoidable single use plastics have already been removed across our business with respect to catering activities etc. on site. In total 5.2 tonnes of plastic packaging waste was avoided or reduced.



### Irish Distillers

#### Achievements for 2022

We have replaced the PET sleeves on our West Coast Cooler Original and Rosé 750ml bottles with paper labels and moved the 250ml sleeve wrapped bottles to aluminium cans. This has resulted in an average annual reduction of 27.81 tonnes of plastic. The majority of our Jameson Original 50ml bottles have moved from a shrink wrapped tray to a board box which has resulted in a 0.45 tonne reduction in plastic annually.

Removing single use plastic from our packaging has many environmental benefits, including reducing the carbon footprint as less plastic is being produced and preventing it from entering our waste streams so it will not go to landfill. We have a zero waste to landfill policy for our production sites in Irish Distillers.

We receive over 200,000 pallets of dry goods each year, produce 110m bottles of product and zero waste goes to landfill. All of our glass bottles come in from suppliers with plastic layer pads between each layer of glass which are reusable to prevent waste. We have done a full review of all packaging we use on site and its recyclability and are in the process of finding alternatives to non-recyclable components where possible. Our total tonnage of plastic packaging waste reduced over the last 12 months was 28.26 tonnes.

#### Plans for 2023

- We are removing NRF closures from markets where possible, this will be rolled out in the coming months and result in 6.07 tonne of plastic being eliminated.
- We plan on moving the remainder of our 50mls from a shrink wrapped tray to a board box which should result in an additional reduction in plastic of 0.46 tonne annually.
- Any components identified as non-recyclable in the review of all packaging we have carried out are being replaced with recyclable components where possible.



### Kearney's Home Baking Ltd.

#### Achievements for 2022

We have reduced our plastic bag usage in 2022 to 13.93kg from 80.12kgs in 2021.

#### Plans for 2023

We plan to eliminate the use of plastic bags completely by end of 2023.



### Lidl

#### Achievements for 2022

In 2018 Lidl Ireland & Northern Ireland committed to reduce our plastic packaging consumption by 20% by the end of 2022, against a 2017 baseline. We are proud to announce in mid-2022 that we reached our target one year ahead of schedule. To allow continuous and comparable reporting while our business grows, we calculate the plastic reduction on a revenue adjusted basis.

**Instant hot chocolate tub reduction:** optimised tub shape to reduce plastic weight. Plastic weight has been reduced by over 30%.

**Potato and carrot bag reduction:** micron reduction on the plastic bags for potatoes and carrots.

**Yoghurt bucket reduction:** by optimising the shape of the bucket and removing the handle, we have reduced weight of our 1kg Greek yogurt full fat and low fat by 20.9%. We also optimised our flavoured 1kg yogurts and reduced them by 19.6% - we are looking to remove the handle off this product as well soon. Combined this leads to a reduction of almost 30 tonnes of plastic annually.

**Lid removal and reusable lids:** plastic reduction of 5.75 million lids leading to over 17 tonnes of single use plastic being avoided annually. We now offer a reusable alternative that includes point of sale information which explains the reason for the missing lids to customers.

**Reusable beverage crates:** moving from single use pallet wrapping and cardboard layer pads to reusable beverage crates that are delivered to stores and collected. We are currently exploring rolling this out to further lines.

**Plastic-free wet wipes:** We are in the process of moving all of our wet wipes containing plastics to exclusively offering plastic free and biodegradable wet wipes made from viscose.

**Reusable bottles for fresh orange juice:** In September 2021 we started offering a reusable glass bottle for our fresh orange juice machines in store beside the current PET bottles. Customers pay the same price for 500 ml orange juice in the single use plastic bottle as they do for 650ml in the reusable glass bottle, therefore they get 30% more juice for their money. This incentivises the use and reuse of the new bottles. Fifteen months after its introduction, we have sold over 80,000 refills. Assuming customers would have otherwise bought the same amount of 500ml single use plastic bottles - considering the bottle, label, and cap of the bottles - this avoided the equivalent of almost 250,000 pieces of single use plastic.

Total tonnage of plastic packaging waste avoided over the last 12 months is 50 tonnes.

#### Plans for 2023

**DEFINE NEW TARGET:** Our next step will be to develop and publish updated target(s) in 2023 to ensure our focus is kept on reducing and removing packaging where sustainably possible. We are committed to continuously strive to reduce the detrimental impact that unnecessary and unsuitable packaging formats and materials have on our environment.

**NEW FOCUS:** Over the last 12 months we have utilised our new packaging database to give clear and detailed information on our packaging footprint, track our continuous improvements and are currently using these valuable insights into identifying high-impact products and projects. This information will continue to enable us to focus our efforts on products and projects that have a substantial influence on our plastic footprint. We use this data to inform our short term, mid-term, and long-term packaging strategy.

## OBJECTIVE 1: TO PREVENT PRIORITISE THE PREVENTION OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE

**OPTIMISATIONS:** We have aligned several optimisations and trials that will go live in 2023.

These will remove and reduce packaging while focussing on high volume items across our range to maximise our impact.



**Musgrave Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Plastic remains a problem, which is as much about packaging changes as it is changing consumer behaviour. Our strategy is to eliminate non-recyclable packaging across in-store and own brand products, and where we have to use packaging to preserve food to minimise food waste it will be recyclable, reusable or compostable.

We also aim to remove unnecessary plastic packaging wherever possible. In 2022, SuperValu and Centra reduced plastic by 27 tonnes across 18 different projects, working with internal colleagues, suppliers and partners to enact change.

SuperValu alone removed 16.8 tonnes of plastic packaging while 376 tonnes of non-recyclable black plastic trays across fresh meat & fish changed over to recyclable clear plastic.

Some milestones include:

- Supervalu and Centra apples ranges plastic removal and change to cardboard trays and paper labels with a total plastic removal of 8.5 tonnes of plastic.
- The removal of 7.2 million plastic bags with compostable shopping bags.
- Removal of 9.1 million non-recyclable black plastic trays from fresh meat and fish ranges with a sustainable solution.
- Replacing the plastic bags on SuperValu Snack Pack bananas with a recyclable band. This change will replace 5.61 tonnes of plastic annually with a more sustainable solution.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we continue to focus on the removal unnecessary plastic packaging wherever possible. We break down each category with our trading and own brand teams to identify opportunities to removed plastic from our ranges. We do this alongside our



**Nestle**  
**Achievements for 2022**

In 2022 we continued work on our “Negative List” for hard to recycle plastic items, phasing out their use across all of our packaging and removed thousands of pieces of unnecessary plastic from Confectionery display units.

We announced the transition of Quality Street twist-wrapped sweets from foil and cellulose to recyclable paper packaging. By replacing the double layer of foil and cellulose with a paper wrap, Quality Street will remove more than two billion pieces of packaging material from its supply chain.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we will continue to explore further packaging innovations.

**Nomad Foods** **Nomad Foods**

**Achievements for 2022**

In 2022 we completed and fully implemented two major projects in our Irish based manufacturing plants. On primary packaging we have downgauged film from 15 to 12.5 micron on all our finished pizza products and production lines on both sites. This project has delivered a total annual reduction of 93 tonnes of plastic from primary packaging from Naas and Longford.

On secondary packaging we have also now completed installation of new balers in one of our packing lines in our Naas facility. This project delivered a total reduction of 72 tonnes per annum of plastic from our secondary packaging.

At the end of 2022 we removed the reseal from our Birds Eye peas and natural vegetable ranges, based on 2022 volumes this has removed 160 tonne of plastic annually across the UK and Ireland.

suppliers and by carrying out analysis of our packaging database.



We complete  
the package

**NPP Group Ltd.**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Over the last twelve months we have carried out pallet wrap audits with many of our customers with the aim to reduce the amount of film they are using in their operations. During the audit we analyse the current film and machinery being used. We test the current film on a pallet for load stability and consumption of film per pallet. This process is then duplicated with NPP film with the objective of reducing film consumption and costs whilst maintaining or improving load stability. In most cases, we will also look to reduce the number of revolutions per wrapping cycle, speeding up the production process. Over the last 12 months we have removed 130 tonne of pallet wrap from the market, which is also a saving of 348 tonnes of Co2.

In 2021 we also began a new initiative called ‘Carbon Free Fiber Film’. FiberFilm is a unique high-efficiency pallet wrap that can reduce the amount of material used to wrap a pallet by up to 60%. On top of this FiberFilm is also a carbon neutral product. The Co2 emissions generated by the manufacture and use of this product are offset through a number of different initiatives such as tree plantation. At the end of the year each customer is sent a certificate outlining how much Co2 has been offset on their behalf. In 2022, 334 tonnes of Co2 was offset through this initiative.

**Plans for 2023**

Our focus for the next 12 months is to continue to work with our customers to reduce the amount of wrap they are using and to also introduce pallet wrap with recycled content.



**Tesco**  
**Achievements for 2022**

The following are some key deliverables achieved in 2022:

- Toothpaste box removal: Through re-designing the Tesco Own Label 'Pro Formula' toothpaste range, not only have 55.9 tonnes of cardboard packaging been removed annually. Also, the tube and cap material were changed to PE material.
- We have reduced the usage of OP plastic on salad leaf bags by 13.8%, saving 4 tonnes of material annually with the installation of new Ultrasonic sealers.
- By removing the individual plastic wrappers from each of the 40 Tesco Limescale tablets, we have removed 5 tonnes of plastic.
- We have removed the handles on packs of Fred & Flo Nappies, saving 36 tonnes of plastic.
- Plastic-free Pens and Pencils: By replacing plastic bags & boxes with card packaging solutions, 3.5M pieces of plastic (17 tonnes) have been removed from Own Brand writing products.
- Tesco Ireland have changed the packaging on 5 own brand sausage lines to make the product packaging recyclable at kerbside.
- Through reducing the tray footprint across multiple Irish fresh meat and burger lines (including beef mince, bacon chops and burgers), 21.9 tonnes of plastic packaging have been removed per annum.
- We have changed our 150ml yogurt packaging so the outer layer is removable from the tub which will ensure recyclability of both layers.
- We have removed plastic from our porridge sachets and reduced the plastic in our produce punnets.
- We have changed some of the coloured and harder to recycle plastic on cooked meats to clear easy to recycle packaging.

- We have included more recycled content in our sandwich skillets and our wrap clam shells.
- In April 2022 Tesco launched new recycled plastic flowerpots. This latest green innovation sees customer waste soft plastic taken to a purpose-built site where it's cleaned, sorted, and moulded into slate-grey flower planters. The recycled plastic pot, designed and made in Ireland, from 100% mixed plastic packaging, is the result of an innovative partnership with Paltech, a sister company of Tesco's food waste partner, Green Generation.
- All Tesco Own Label paper and cardboard used is now fully sustainable sourced.

Following the ongoing consultations with our suppliers, we relaunched a 'Tesco Packaging Preferred Materials List' where we continued to remove all packaging that is hard to recycle from our business across primary, secondary & tertiary packaging with the focus on using materials that are easier to recycle. We initially focused on the removal of PVC & Polystyrene. In 2022, we added new hard to recycle materials such as waxed paper & siliconized paper.

We also held remote supplier conference in 2022 where we brought together our suppliers from across Ireland to engage them on our packaging strategy for Ireland and our asks of them to work with us to support our packaging ambitions. In 2023, our packaging plans will continue to be based on our 4R approach – Reduce, Remove, Recycle, Reuse.

The 4R strategy is based on the following:

- Remove all non- recyclable and hard to recycle materials
- Reduce packaging where we can
- Look for opportunities to reuse packaging
- Ensuring all packaging is recyclable

This 4R approach will allow us to deliver and communicate a clear message to our customers on the great work we have achieved. This will be done by applying a 'R' logo to our packaging.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023, we plan to continue our Red, Amber, Green list of preferred materials and work in conjunction with our suppliers to continue making their packaging more easily recyclable, and further remove hard-to-recycle materials.

We will be introducing a new reusable netted bag dispenser for the fruit and veg department. This reusable net bag is to support our ongoing efforts to reduce plastic and help introduce our customers to more sustainable ways to shop.



# OBJECTIVE 2: TO SUPPORT

SUPPORT IRELAND TO DELIVER  
THE PLASTIC PACKAGING  
RECYCLING TARGETS



**ABP Food Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

ABP achieved zero waste to landfill from 2015. The most important aspect in the segregation and reduction of waste materials onsite is effective staff training. At ABP we combine the continuous review of work practices with training to help staff understand how materials can be segregated and subsequently disposed of. Constant engagement with staff generates a better understanding of ABP's targets and promotes two-way communication, whereby floor staff are encouraged to make suggestions how to further reduce waste and optimise production.

ABP staff continuously engage with environmental organisations, retailer webinars and workshops to improve learnings on waste management. For instance, staff on our Cahir site engage annually with a REPAK packaging technologist to help identify reduction projects that could be implemented through their prevent and save initiatives and ensure recycling rates are maximised onsite.

**Plans for 2023**

Waste audits are continuously carried out on sites to ensure that all waste streams are captured. These will be completed again throughout 2023, to maximise the recycling rates on our sites. We are currently improving signage onsite to see if we can maximise recycling rates further.



**Aldi**  
**Achievements for 2022**

All soft plastics and card are baled at back of house in all ALDI stores, backhauled to ALDI RDC's and then sent for recycling with our contracted waste providers. 97.58% of our packaging is recyclable.

We ensure that no waste goes to landfill and if not able to be recycled it will be processed through RDF sites for energy from waste. 625 tonnes of plastic were recovered and recycled from our back of house waste in 2022 and 100% of our back of house plastic waste is recycled.

ALDI's Head Office has segregated bins in all canteens (General, Recycling, Compost) and all plastic is baled for recycling and collected by our waste providers. Aldi are Members of WRAP and the Plastics Pact in the GB business.

ALDI Ireland, in partnership with the ALDI South Group, has also announced itself as an endorser of a Global Plastics Treaty to End Plastic Pollution. Over 80 global businesses across the plastics value chain, financial institutions, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), have committed to supporting the development of a legal UN treaty to end plastic pollution. Aldi signed up to be a RECOUP member to aid Design for Recyclability in 2022.

**Plans for 2023**

ALDI will be introducing dual labelling to differentiate between GB and IE recycling guidelines to provide more accurate information to our customers. This will also prepare the business for EU mandatory recycling labelling in 2025.

Tethered caps on plastic bottles are being developed and rolled out throughout 2023. The removal of shelf ready packaging will be explored in further categories in 2023. ALDI will continue to educate colleagues on how to recycle and how to reduce their plastic use in their day to day lives.



**Aramark**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Given the fact we do not control the waste stream for our business (clients often manage the waste as we are delivering catering services in 200+ different client locations) we are not able to measure this data as we would like.

**Plans for 2023**

Aim to get closer to clients waste stream management systems and capture this data better.



**Aurivo**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Implementation of tethered caps.



**Blenders**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Work with a trusted waste contractor to optimise recovery of salvageable waste, including plastic.

Colour coding of waste receptacles is in operation and staff are aware of this system. 90% of Plastic Recycled by Business.

**Plans for 2023**

Continue working with the waste contractor to optimise recovery of salvageable waste, including plastic.



### **Britvic Ireland** **Achievements for 2022**

Education of our customers and consumers are central to achievement of recycling targets and Britvic is committed to using the power of our brands to ensure all of our packaging is recycled. Our brand advertising, when featuring any form of packshot, now features a 'please recycle me' logo and this is a mandatory part of any advertising brief across all channels.

We also use our brands communications to encourage consumers to recycle their bottles through engaging media content and working with our sponsorship partners to showcase their sporting heroes recycling responsibly. Our Ballygowan social media messaging shows the clear sustainability that is highlighted through our partnerships with the IRFU & the GAA.

Packaging is a key area of impact for our products from an environmental perspective. We have a series of goals around packaging reduction and circularity. In support of a circular economy, we want to be in 100% recyclable packaging and 50% recycled PET bottles across our Grocery range. We will also work to improve circularity through packaging which is easier to recycle and more likely to stay in the economy and out of the environment such as the introduction of tethered caps, clear PET preforms and through our active support for the introduction of a well-designed DRS for Ireland.

#### **Plans for 2023**

We remain committed to communicating the importance of recycling to our customers and encouraging responsible recycling behaviour among our consumers. This will form part of our above the line campaigns across all of our brands. Recycling remains central to the messaging on the Ballygowan brand, we relaunched the brand in 2021 to strengthen the sustainable identity of the brand.

We are actively working on the groundwork to prepare for the implementation of DRS next year in Ireland. Britvic brands will comply with and strengthen the messaging around DRS as we are avid supporters of the scheme and the benefits it will bring to the environment and circularity in our industry.

Britvic is preparing for the introduction of tethered caps and is ready to fully comply and support this EU measure that should help to reduce plastic lost into the environment.



### **Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland** **Achievements for 2022**

World Without Waste sets out an ambitious target for packaging collection and recycling. By 2030, we will collect and recycle the equivalent of every bottle we sell.

Over the last year, we have worked closely with the wider beverage and retail sector to establish DRS Ireland (Re-Turn), an organisation that has been created to ensure the smooth roll-out and successful operation of Ireland's Deposit Return Scheme. With representation on the Board of Re-Turn, Coca-Cola HBC has played an integral role in bringing together key operational partners from right across the drinks supply chain, including producers and importers right through to retail businesses. We are working with them to ensure the scheme is designed and implemented effectively and delivers a world leading deposit return system for Ireland.

We are also supporting the development of a PET2PET or 'bottle-to-bottle' recycling facility in Ireland, which would support the value chain for plastic recycling, while ensuring a regular feedstock of high-grade recyclate, which we can invest back into our bottles.

We are continuously trying to engage consumers to ensure that we keep them actively involved in the big issues facing

society – and that includes packaging. We know that consumers have an important role to play in ensuring that our packaging is collected, sorted, and recycled and does not end up as litter or in the oceans. With this in mind and building on the success of our Dublin #CircleCity (A partnership with environmental charity Hubbub and The Coca-Cola Foundation to fund on-the-go recycling infrastructure across the city), we further invested in the scheme, doubling the number of recycling stations. Since installation 83% of plastic bottles and cans in the areas covered by the scheme now end up in the recycling bins, as opposed to the general waste.

Finally, we are continuing to use the power of our brands to encourage greater behavioural change and consumer awareness by further integrating recycling messages across all Coca-Cola and Deep RiverRock advertising and on-pack. 72% of plastic was recycled.

#### **Plans for 2023**

In late 2023, we will begin the transition to tethered closures on all beverage containers of up to three litres. This is in line with the EU SUP Directive's tethered closures rule to have lids that 'remain attached' to the container during its lifetime, to reduce the caps ending up in the environment as litter and increase their recycling. In 2023, we will further invest in #CircleCity with the aim of bringing the programme to other cities across Ireland. We will also continue to encourage consumers to play their part in recycling and keeping our environment free of litter and are seeking innovative ways to partner with our customer to raise awareness of the benefits of keeping resources within the recycling chain. We will also bring greater messaging instore and on packs with bold messaging in relation to recyclability and recycled content. We are discussing partnership opportunities with key customers to help shoppers make informed choices about the sustainability of their beverage packaging.



### **Dawn Farm Foods Achievements for 2022**

#### **Segregation Systems**

Segregation systems were further implemented on site with signage and awareness specific to the area and facility.

#### **Recycling Audits**

Monthly Audits were carried out by the Environmental Department to further drive recycling awareness and targets are reviewed regularly to assess further opportunities.

#### **Environmental Champions**

Environmental Champions were introduced to Dawn Farms. These visit a local recycling facility to learn about the processes involved with recycling to gain knowledge about the recycling and composting facility to bring back to daily activities within the business. This visit assists our champions with the knowledge and understanding to ensure we recycle and compost appropriately.

#### **Environmental Awareness Day**

An onsite Environmental Awareness Day was carried out whereby all staff can bring in recycling material to dispose of for free which is then either recycled or donated to local charities. This also involves guest speakers/representatives from our local Recycling plant, Repak and Kildare County Council to further awareness on recycling.

#### **Skip Pack Compactor**

A Skip Pack was introduced on site in 2022 to allow for a faster turnaround of recycling bins to increase recycling rates. As a result, this increased recycling by 33 tonnes in 2022.

#### **2022 Progress:**

- Mixed Dry Recycling Increased by 201%
- Clear Plastic Increased by 12%
- Mixed Plastic Increased by 8%
- HDPE Increased by 43%

This resulted in an overall recycling rate for 2022 of 50%.

#### **Plans for 2023**

##### **Recycling Campaign**

In 2023, we are running a Recycling Campaign to further drive awareness, As part of this campaign we will take our colleagues to visit a MRF plant to understand the segregation process of recycling to further drive segregation awareness on site.

##### **Skip Pack Compactor**

We plan to increase from a 5 tonne compactor to a 10 tonne compactor to allow for further recycling in 2023.

##### **Packaging Policy**

We plan to implement a packaging policy in 2023 which outlines the standard we have set for supplier material coming to our site.

##### **Environmental Awareness Day**

We plan to hold an Environmental Awareness Day and collection in 2023 where recycling will be a key topic.



### **Frylite Achievements for 2022**

Approx 80% of all packaging we handle is recycled through Frylite to an Irish plastics reprocessor. Of the 20% we do not recover, 15% is attributable to branded products bought in to sell directly to customers with the remaining 5% attributable to our plastics that we handle when unpacking deliveries and packing deliveries for onward supply to our depots. Our recycling rate for 2022 was 80%.

#### **Plans for 2023**

A long term project started this year to focus on sustainable procurement and identify suppliers who are able to advise on sustainable improvements in their packaging materials including plastics. Additionally, the in-house segregation and recycling of our pallet wrap as advised in earlier section.

As described above, focus on sustainable procurement and reaching out to our suppliers to identify where they can make or have made improvements on their plastic packaging used. Majority of plastics +80% we use and supply, are readily recyclable. We ensure this material is being recycled with an Irish reprocessor and not disposed to landfill or to incineration as viable plastic. <5% equates to the single use element of our packaging.

As described in sections previously. We are focusing on a long term 2023 + 3years to remove single use plastics from our suppliers and work towards sustainable alternatives. We are fortunate that over 80% of our plastics used are fully recyclable yet we are committed to improve this further so exceeding the 2030 target and min commercial requirement.



### Hilton Foods Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

We moved all our clear trays to signum format (PET tray where only the sealing edge is PE) and we moved our sausage film to a recyclable material. We procured 60 tonnes of trays which have been made from 50% difficult to recycle Jazz plastic (coloured pots tubs and trays). 0.35% of plastic was recycled by business (most of the plastic waste generated on site is contaminated).

#### Plans for 2023

Top films are planned to include 30% recycled content and we are looking at mono trays where the sealing edge can be washed off during the recycling procedure to improve the quality of the PET recycle.



### Irish Country Meats

#### Achievements for 2022

ICM are long-standing members of Repak, supporting the development of Ireland's recycling infrastructure. Through detailed waste segregation, 98% of waste generated is diverted to recycling channels. Ongoing awareness training was delivered to staff. 98% of plastic was recycled by business.

#### Plans for 2023

As founding members of the Plastic Action Alliance, we have detailed milestone plans for 1, 3, 5 and 10 years.

- To reduce both the use and quantity of plastic packaging without compromising on quality, shelf life and consumer experience.

- No longer use PVC in our packaging where viable alternatives exist with the required functionality by the end of 2020.
- Ensure that we have 30% average recycled content across all plastic packaging by the end of 2025.
- Redesign packaging to reduce the amount of plastic in each pack.
- Eliminate problematic or unnecessary single-use plastic packaging through improved design, innovation, or alternative renewable options by 2025.
- All plastic packaging will be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2025.



### Irish Distillers

#### Achievements for 2022

- In 2022 we recycled 132.25 tonnes of plastic from onsite operations. We have a zero waste to landfill policy for our production sites where we fill in excess of 100 million bottles each year. By working with Panda Waste, we ensure any waste that cannot be reused or recycled is processed through RDF (Recovered Derived Fuel). This is a green alternative to landfill and is used to produce electricity which reduces the quantity of fuels imported into a country.
- We have reviewed all of our packaging and established that over 98% of the total volume of products we supply are fully recyclable.
- We have been working with a company that take our PET23 label back plastic and process it into a viable alternative material to virgin PET that can be used to produce polyester fibre. Initial trialling has taken place and so far we have sent 2.92 tonnes of plastic through this process.

- Sustainability and responsibility guidelines have been provided to all staff to educate them about packaging materials that should not be used and may cause issues during recycling.
- We are members of Eco Vadis, a supplier sustainability network which provides sustainability ratings on our suppliers. This helps procurement teams monitor Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)/Environmental, Social and Governances (ESG) practices in the supply chain.
- We follow the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) guidelines, which aim for a circular economy; keeping resources in use for as long as possible, extracting the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recovering and regenerating products and materials at the end of each service life. This allows us to be more collaborative with our plastics suppliers, packaging manufacturers to innovate new ways to build the circular economy.

#### Plans for 2023

- In 2023 we will gradually increase the quantity of PET23 label back plastic that is processed into a viable alternative material to virgin PET and used to produce polyester fibre.
- We will be replacing our plastic slip sheets that are used when sending out our products, with a cardboard slipsheet alternative. This would replace 72 tonnes of plastic currently used with a cardboard alternative, initial trials have already taken place.

 **Kearney's Home Baking Ltd.**

**Achievements for 2022**

We are members of Origin Green under a 5-year plan so we track our recycling each week and analyse at the end of each, always with a view to reducing every year. We are continually reusing plastic trays that are returned to our premises with returned product – these are washed / cleaned and dried – reused and it currently accounts for 2.6% of our plastic tray packaging.

**Plans for 2023**

We are continuously looking at using lighter trays to reduce the weight of our plastic purchase.



**Lidl**

**Achievements for 2022**

**Lidl Ireland Commitment:**

By 2025, 100% of our own-brand packaging will be reusable, designed for maximum recyclability or made from renewable resources

**Deposit Return Scheme (DRS):**

In 2021, Lidl was the first retailer in Ireland to introduce a reverse vending machine trial, piloting the upcoming deposit return system in Ireland. The initial trial was launched in our store in Glenageary, Co. Dublin and we have since expanded the trial to Claremorris, Co. Mayo. As of December 2022, between the two stores, we have processed approx. 800k PET bottles and aluminium cans. Customers receive 10 cents in store credit for every empty PET beverage bottle and beverage can they place into our machines. As a next step in this project, Lidl was the first retailer in Ireland to introduce the PET bottle material into the packaging for our products in 2022. This allows Lidl customers to buy back the material they inserted into our reverse vending machines and by that to be part of the Irish circular economy.

This project is a collaboration across the Irish packaging recycling as well as packaging and food manufacturing supply chain. We are proud to have collaborated with Shabra Plastics & Packaging, Waddington Europe, Versatile Packaging, and our direct supplier Silver Hill Foods. The PET bottles have been cleaned, flaked, and manufactured back into food grade packaging, filled with our own brand product, and delivered back to store. This has been completed by stakeholders based in Ireland. Thirty percent of the total tray weight is made from our collected bottles. We hope that in completing this trial and launching this packaging we can demonstrate that truly recyclable packaging is not “waste” but an important and highly sought-after raw material that brands and retailers give value to by demanding recycled content in their products.

**Plastic waste segregation & recycling:**

Since 2021, 100% of the segregated plastic waste from our operations is recycled. Our waste management provider assured us that even specific hard to recycle flexible and rigid plastics, are now being used for the creation of products such as garden furniture and fencing posts, pallets, and flowerpots. In 2022, we were able to send approximately 772 tonnes of plastic from our stores and warehouses off for recycling.

**Customer recycling stations:**

We installed customer recycling stations in all our stores. We invite customers to dispose of unwanted excess packaging before leaving the store. It is then returned from stores to our main distribution centres and sent to external providers for further sorting and recycling together with our warehouse waste.

**Sustainability focus event for our suppliers:**

In October 2022, Lidl hosted our second annual Lidl Sustainability Focus Event for our key suppliers. At the event we awarded suppliers who have championed packaging innovations and packaging reductions. We also presented ways in which suppliers can work with Lidl to improve their packaging footprint as well as

other sustainability projects and initiatives.

**Packaging optimisation initiative – workshops:**

In 2022, Lidl's in-house packaging technologist ran workshops with buyers and suppliers, presenting the necessity of mono materials and design requirements that packaging must fulfil to be recyclable and sustainable. Through trainings, creating guidelines for recyclable packaging and working directly with our suppliers, we have targeted packaging with unrecyclable plastics and composites. These have been identified and replaced with easier to recycle alternatives.

100 % of the plastic waste occurring at our sites is segregated and sent off for sorting and recycling with our waste provider.

**Plans for 2023**

**New focus:**

Our new, improved packaging database will continue to help us communicate the status and progress of our packaging KPIs. We plan to communicate updates on our packaging progress in our customer leaflet and sustainability reports.

**New to market:**

We will continue to evaluate further removal of packaging components and new to market packaging solutions by running trials to see how the supply chain and the customers react to the changes. This will help educate customers and make them aware of the ecological benefits those solutions have compared to the current standard. The goal is to raise awareness and accelerate the adaptation of packaging that is proven to be more sustainable into the market.



### **Musgrave Group Achievements for 2022**

Musgrave and our brands have the target of 100% of our packaging being recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025. In 2022, our brands made considerable progress towards this goal. For example 96% of packaging for our SuperValu and Centra brands was recyclable, reusable or compostable. This was an increase from the previous year and we continue to make progress towards 100%.

We know the importance of consumer communication and education to ensure that our packaging is disposed of in the correct way. We communicate this statistic to our customers in our stores along with on pack guidance on what to do with the materials when the customer is finished with them.

We have also been making positive progress towards our packaging targets in Musgrave Marketplace with 85% of packaging now recyclable, reusable or compostable for products sold through our cash and carry outlets and directly into the food service industry. 90% of our plastic packaging is recycled.

#### **Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we continue to focus on changes to packaging to progress towards our target of 100%. We will also focus on consumer education and communication to ensure recycling rates increase to enable Ireland to achieve plastic recycling targets.



### **Nestlé Achievements for 2022**

Across all of our sites we segregate waste and we are working towards ensuring that none of our waste is sent to landfill. Our

factory in Askeaton has been zero waste to landfill since 2015. In 2022 Kit Kat announced the introduction of wrappers made with 80% recycled plastic which is being rolled out across the entire two-finger product range. These wrappers can also be recycled through kerbside recycling in Ireland. Following the roll-out of kerbside recycling for flexible plastics, we now include additional on-pack guidance for Irish consumers. This points them to [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie) and clearly states that these materials should be recycled at home. This is used alongside the On-Pack Recycling Label (OPRL) in the UK.

#### **Plans for 2023**

In 2023 Nestlé Confectionery will continue to roll out recycled plastic packaging across the KitKat product range ahead of widespread implementation in 2024.

We are participating in a pilot project in Dun Laoghaire and Rathdown to explore coffee pod recycling at kerbside, with plans to extend this post pilot to other areas.

### **Nomad Foods Nomad Foods**

#### **Achievements for 2022**

In 2022, following REPAK's advertising campaign to raise awareness of the inclusion of flexible plastic with domestic household recycling collections, as a business we have updated messaging on all Goodfella's branded consumer packaging to include specific recycling information for the Irish market. Instead of only carrying UK only OPRL based 'Don't recycle at home' instructions for plastic packaging we use the relevant labelling for the Irish Market.

As a business we also continue to run 'learning vitamins' on what can and can't be recycled at home with consumers. This is to improve the education of colleagues on what they can also do at home.

## **OBJECTIVE 2: TO SUPPORT SUPPORT IRELAND TO DELIVER THE PLASTIC PACKAGING RECYCLING TARGETS**

#### **Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we will continue to roll out specific IE consumer recycling information on other Nomad brands (Aunt Bessie's, Birds Eye) when the opportunities arise to update packaging.



We complete  
the package

### **NPP Group Ltd.**

#### **Achievements for 2022**

Currently 93% of the products we supply to our customers are recyclable. We aim to increase this figure over the next few years by working with our manufacturers to develop new materials that will maintain or improve product protection.

We supply our customers with information on the recyclability of each product we sell to them. We continue to educate our staff and customers on the sustainable agenda.

We are actively recycling as much waste as possible from business including corrugate, foam, wooden pallets, plastic waste etc. On average 500kg of plastic is collected per week for recycling.

#### **Plans for 2023**

Our focus for the next 12 months is to continue to educate the NPP team and our customers on recycling and identify areas for improvement.



**Tesco**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Contaminated packaging materials from our back of store food waste would previously have been sent to incineration when separated during the AD process. By working in partnership with Green Generation, an anaerobic digestion (AD) plant in Kildare, and with Paltech, a start-up company focused on recovering and reusing soft plastics to make products, we introduced a process whereby food waste is separated from its packaging and processed through AD, creating bioenergy. The packaging is then segregated, and where required, washed and dried to remove impurities/food contamination. Plastic/packaging that can currently be recycled is managed appropriately to ensure we continue to close the loop. For soft packaging materials that cannot currently be recycled, Paltech use an enclosed pressure moulding system to turn large volumes of mixed-waste plastic into heavy-walled large products, such as poles, median motorway barriers and more. Through this instore recycling process, all our Tesco Own label packaging can now be fully recycled.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023, we plan to continue our Red, Amber, Green list of preferred materials and work in conjunction with our suppliers to continue removing packaging or making it more easily recyclable, helping to close the loop.

Our packaging plans continue to be based on the 4R approach:

- Reduce
- Remove
- Recycle
- Reuse

This approach will allow us to deliver and communicate a clear message to our customers on the great work we have achieved. This will be done by applying a 'R' logo to our packaging. The 4R strategy is based on the following:

- Remove all non- recyclable and hard to recycle materials
- Reduce packaging where we can
- Look for opportunities to reuse packaging
- Ensuring all packaging is recyclable



# OBJECTIVE 3: TO SIMPLIFY

REDUCE COMPLEXITY  
IN PLASTIC PACKAGING  
SUPPLY CHAIN



**ABP Food Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

In 2022 we purchased no carbon black packaging, we have worked with our suppliers to either use clear, coloured, or detectable black for product that can be detected at recycling centres.

During 2022 we continued to roll out the introduction of our compostable bagasse trays. The packaging is made of renewable sugarcane pulp, a waste by product from sugarcane manufacturing. The trays are both industrial and home compostable and fully recyclable. We successfully nearly doubled the amount of bagasse trays we put on the market in 2022. With the successful rollout in Ireland, one of our large UK retailers have now embraced this pack for their steak's product.

**Plans for 2023**

Mono trays that are 100% recyclable and contain 100% recycled content are the ultimate solution for achieving a circular economy. We are trialling mono packaging solutions for our products, providing shelf life's are achieved we will roll this out next year. We aim to work towards our 2025 targets:

- 100% plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable.
- Eliminate problematic or unnecessary single-use plastic packaging through improved design, innovation, or alternative renewable options.
- Ensure an average recycled content of 30% across all packaging.



**Aldi**  
**Achievements for 2022**

ALDI works with its suppliers to introduce new, innovative, sustainable packaging solutions. This has enabled ALDI to replace or remove over 2,550 tonnes of non-recyclable packaging materials since 2020. 97.58% of ALDI's packaging is recyclable. 100% of problematic plastic packaging was eliminated from stores by the end of 2020.

Several initiatives took place in 2022 moving packaging from non-recyclable to recyclable plastic, such as:

- Snack Noodles were moved from multi materials to mono PP cup and sleeve.
- Stock Pots moved from multi materials to mono PP.
- Porridge Pots were moved into a card pot solution.
- Replacing multi material pump sprays with mono plastic alternative, roll out completes in 2023.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023, ALDI will work towards its plastic and packaging target of maintaining the position of zero tolerance of problematic plastics and to continue working towards 100% recyclable, reusable or home compostable packaging by 2025.

We will continue to work with our suppliers to get our packaging as optimised as possible. We are currently exploring the reduction of plastic packaging in line with product packaging redesigns for breakfast meats and cooked sliced meats.



**Aramark**  
**Achievements for 2022**

91% of our disposable packaging is made from paper or compostable packaging.

**Plans for 2023**

Leftover food in or on our packaging is our biggest challenge so compostable packaging remains our focus as waste food residue does not prevent the product from being recycled/composted.



**Aurivo**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We are working with a customer to remove the PVC sleeve on a bottle and replace with a label.



**Blenders**  
**Achievements for 2022**

In 2022, the material in the squeeze bottle plastic lids has been changed from non-recyclable multi-polymer to single polymer recyclable. This was implemented when old stocks were exhausted in March 2022. No wastage of old stock occurred.



### **Britvic Ireland**

#### **Achievements for 2022**

Sustainability considerations form a core part of our innovation process and decision making – Project Managers must complete a review of sustainability implications of all innovation projects including confirming recyclability and ensuring the full environmental footprint of packaging is taken into consideration during development and projects can (and have) been halted or changed in scope due to concerns around the recyclability of the proposed packaging.

While all of our plastic bottles are made from recyclable materials we have recently removed coloured PET preforms from both our Fruit Shoot and 7up brands, this increases the quality of recycle and is an important step in furthering the level of recyclable plastics we integrate into our products. The impact of this measure is significant as the production of 7up in Ireland uses 6,128 tonnes of PET in primary packaging annually, while for Fruit Shoot the figure is 726 tonnes.

#### **Plans for 2023**

We continue to review any non-recyclable materials in our system and have projects actively addressing any outstanding gaps as we will be in 100% recyclable packaging by 2025. We have a series of goals around packaging reduction and circularity. In support of a circular economy, we want to be in 100% Recyclable packaging as stated above, and 50% recycled PET bottles across our grocery range by FY26.



### **Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland**

#### **Achievements for 2022**

We have interrogated all aspects of our supply chain to ensure that our packaging is as sustainable as possible. All our primary packaging, bottles, and cans are 100% recyclable and we are

committed to maintaining this. In 2022, we began the roll-out of R100 100% recycled plastic film for our multipack bottles across our Deep RiverRock portfolio. We continue to access our wider use of 'single use' plastic shrink for tertiary packaging, actively seeking solutions to reduce and/or eliminate the non-recyclable plastic within our supply chain. We removed 10 tonnes of difficult to recycle plastics and composites.

#### **Plans for 2023**

We continue to look at how we can optimise our pallets and reduce the amount of wrap we use to transport our goods to customers. If successful we could reduce our use of plastic pallet wrap by an average of 39% – saving hundreds of tonnes of material.



### **Dawn Farm Foods**

#### **Achievements for 2022**

##### **Print on Pack**

Label elimination by printing labels directly onto packages known as our “print on pack project”. To date this has achieved a 34-tonne reduction in paper and cardboard and 20 tonne reduction in non-recyclable backing paper.

##### **Blue Flexi Packaging**

Converted from clear semi rigid packaging to blue flexi packaging, reducing the microns of plastic required to carry the product. To date, this has resulted in a 99 tonne reduction in plastic packaging.

##### **Plastic Sample Packaging**

Replace non-recyclable plastic sample packaging used for customers with recyclable sample bags, tape, boxes and insulation packaging. The replacement of all customer bubble wrap and non-recyclable pouches. To be rolled out by the end of 2022 start of 2023, 109 tonnes of difficult to recycle plastics and composites removed from the business.

#### **Plans for 2023**

##### **Print on Pack**

Continue to roll out the “print on pack project” across the remainder products.

##### **End of Use Recyclable Tops**

Divert approximately 93 tonnes of plastic into the recycling stream by switching thermoformed lines to end of use recyclable top and base web by 2026. Packaging used on all thermoformed lines (Slicing Lines Plant 1 & Plant 2) is currently not suitable for end of use recycling so we are looking to change these top & base webs to recyclable material. This will involve process testing and shelf-life testing to ensure the food safety of our products. This is planned to begin in 2023 and will likely run into 2024.

##### **Plastic Sample Packaging**

Replace non-recyclable plastic sample packaging used for customers with recyclable sample bags, tape, boxes and insulation packaging. The replacement of all customer bubble wrap and non-recyclable pouches. To be rolled out by the end of 2023.

##### **Black Flexi Web Packaging**

Black trays are recyclable, however the sensors in recycling plants struggle to detect the material due to the black coating. As a result, we segregate these black trays and bail them to allow for recycling. 6.6 tonnes of material diverted from incineration to recycling.



**Frylite**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We have made progress to reduce non-recycled plastics utilised in non-food processes i.e. bin liners of which we have now entered into the supply of a fully recycled plastic liner.

As a business these plastics generally come from customers within the waste cooking oils and food wastes collected. We do not control at source these plastics and can only try to educate our customers to be mindful of these materials entering their waste.



**Hilton Foods Ireland**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Our flow wrap sausage film has moved to a mono OPP film and as a result our flow wrap sausage films have moved from being 0% recyclable to 100% recyclable. We moved all of our clear trays to signum format (PET tray where only the sealing edge is PE). We removed 12% of difficult to recycle plastics and composites from the business.

**Plans for 2023**

Our next objective will be to target our vac pack rasher films, once again aiming to move from 0% recyclability to 100%.



**Irish Country Meats**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We changed our MAP trays for one of our major customers, which now contains up to 90% recycled content. Trials were ongoing on the removal of base soak pads from our MAP trays and bag fill/box fill projects were ongoing throughout all customers.

**Plans for 2023**

Ongoing trials on the removal of base soak pads from our MAP trays with reviews on our wider customer base to expand a further roll-out of PVdC free bags. We are targeting for increased take up (from a low base) of reusable crates on export markets.



**Irish Distillers**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We moved some of our label backing plastic from 100% virgin PET to 30% rPET, resulting in a 2.68 tonne reduction in our use of virgin plastic annually.

We have been working with a company that take our PET23 label back plastic and process it into a viable alternative material to virgin PET that can be used to produce polyester fibre. Initial trialling has taken place and so far we have sent 2.92 tonnes of plastic through this process.

Some of our Spot range tubes had a thin plastic laminate layer which rendered them non-recyclable. We have removed this and added paper bases in place of metal, which will ensure they are fully recyclable and the 46 tonnes of paper can enter the recycling stream annually.

We have reviewed all of our packaging and established that 98% of the total volume of products we supply are fully recyclable.

**Plans for 2023**

- In 2023 we will gradually increase the quantity of PET23 label back plastic that is processed into a viable alternative material to virgin PET and used to produce polyester fibre.

- More of our label materials are becoming available on label backing plastic that contains rPET. In the coming months we will move additional labels onto label backing plastic that has 30% rPET content and this will reduce our use of virgin plastic by an additional 28.72 tonnes annually.



**Kearney's Home Baking Ltd.**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We are getting as much of our trays as possible made from PET which has the great advantage of being 100% recyclable. It is also one of the plastics that can be reprocessed as post-consumer material into food-grade regranulate through an appropriate recycling process -- and can thus be reused for new food packaging.

**Plans for 2023**

We are continuously looking at reducing the weight of our plastic packaging.



**Lidl**

**Achievements for 2022**

**Lidl Ireland Commitment:**

By 2025, 100% of our own-brand packaging will be reusable, designed for maximum recyclability or made from renewable resources.

*Examples of implemented projects aligned with the outlined Repak goals are:*

**Mushroom Packaging Optimisation:**

Replacement of PVC Stretch-wrap with OPP flowwrap on all fresh mushrooms leading to a removal of unrecyclable PVC in the range. There is no impact on shelf-life because the flowwrap is perforated, allowing excess water to evaporate while not letting the mushrooms dry out. Previously this was achieved by utilising breathable PVC.

**Material Simplifications:**

Throughout 2022 there has been ongoing work across Lidl's product ranges to replace mixed materials (e.g., PET/PE mixes) with easier to recycle mono materials.

**Black Plastic Removal:**

In line with our international strategy, we have successfully removed all black single use plastic packaging from our listed assortment. In 2022 we continued implementing our "clear first" policy, where we push for the use of clear and lightly coloured plastic to increase the usability as a raw material. We removed over 500 tonnes of black plastic and use as little coloured plastic as possible to allow for a high material worth when recycling. In 2022, we continued to avoid listing any packaging made from black plastic into our listed own brand assortment.

**Plans for 2023**

**New focus:**

Our new and improved packaging database informs us which products contain the highest tonnes of mixed and undesired plastics in our product range and allows us to specifically focus on finding solutions for those ranges. We continue to look out for innovations in the market and work together with our product suppliers as well as the packaging suppliers delivering to them.

**Optimisations:**

We have already aligned several packaging optimisations and trials focussed on recyclability that are to go live in 2023.

**Mono PE, PP and PET:**

Are our preferred materials when a plastic inclusion is necessary to fulfil packaging functions because of their existing international recycling streams – we will continue to switch all our packaging to mono PE, PP and PET where feasible – moving away from difficult to recycle plastics and composites.

**Waste sorting facilities:**

We will continue and expand our work with waste sorting facilities and recycling companies both in and outside of Ireland to assure maximum recyclability of our packaging range. Multiple visits and regular meetings are being planned in to make sure that our packaging strategy aligns with the requirements and realities of the Irish waste infrastructure and our buyers are made aware of the scale their buying decisions have on the recycling industry.



**Musgrave Group**

**Achievements for 2022**

We are committed to making 100% of our own brand packaging recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025. We are also committed to helping our customers make more sustainable choices. In 2022, SuperValu removed over 35 tonnes of plastic packaging while 376 tonnes of non-recyclable black plastic trays

across fresh meat and fish changed over to recyclable clear plastic. This change was possible through close collaboration with our supplier and by identifying lines where we can make the most impact at a national level. We replaced the plastic packaging on SuperValu Apples and Pears with cardboard which removed over 27 tonnes of plastic annually.



**Nestle**

**Achievements for 2022**

In 2022 we transitioned the packaging of a number of our products to a mono-material structure, including our pet food brand Purina which launched its first mono material pouches that are designed to be recyclable: We also simplified the Nescafé In1 and Maggi So Juicy ranges from more complex structures to mono PP.

**Plans for 2023**

Transitioning our packaging to mono PP/PE structures remains a key priority to drive the recyclability of our packaging.

**Nomad Foods** **Nomad Foods**

**Achievements for 2022**

As a business any packaging materials for new product development must be in line with recyclability criteria or guidelines for specific markets and meet Nomad CSR objectives. New packaging for projects cannot be progressed if not recyclable. Existing packaging portfolios are being reviewed to increase recyclability.

**2021**

At the start of 2021, 87.6% of packaging was recyclable. Over 2021, our vegetable bags have been moved to a recyclable film accounting for 8.3% of our packaging portfolio.

At the end of 2021, 95.9% of our packaging is recyclable with a small amount remaining still to move to recyclable packaging. In 2022 we achieved a recyclable rate of 98.78%.

**Plans for 2023**

We are working towards 100% of packaging being recyclable, this is currently on track. Key focus areas are our cook in pack products (Steamfresh) and bagged poultry. We are still trialling to deliver recyclable films across these final areas.



**NPP Group Ltd.**

**Achievements for 2022**

We launched TempGuard in 2021. It is a curbside recyclable material developed for shipping pre-packaged, temperature sensitive goods. TempGuard is a highly customisable box liner that can be optimised through thermal modelling to meet the needs of one and two-day shipping. This capability ensures perishable items arrive fresh, and food waste is reduced. TempGuard™ liners are made from kraft paper and paper fibres, providing consumers with completely curbside recyclable packaging. The boxes that the TempGuard liners



**Tesco**

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023, we plan to continue to develop our Red, Amber, Green list of preferred materials and work in conjunction with our suppliers to continue to reduce polymer use in packaging, making it more easily recyclable.

We will continue our reduce and remove programme, where we will reduce and or remove any excess packaging from our products across primary, secondary, and tertiary packaging.

are used in are also FSC certified. TempGuard is an alternative solution to EPS boxes, which are unrecyclable. In 2022 we supplied our customers with 1300 fully recyclable TempGuard Boxes.

**Plans for 2023**

We are in the process of moving our food customers from 45 micron shrink bags to 38 micron bags. The bags are designed to deliver the highest levels of product protection to maximize food quality and safety throughout the supply chain.

125 tonne of shrink bags were supplied over the last 12 months so the change from 45 micron to 38 micron bags will reduce plastic usage by roughly 20 tonne annually.

The relationships we have with our suppliers are critical to the success of our business. We work with suppliers such as Sealed Air who produce a variety of protective and food packaging products. Sealed Air have pledged that by 2025, 100 percent of the packaging materials it produces will be recyclable or reusable. In addition, the company aims to incorporate an average of 50 percent recycled or renewable content into its packaging. We will work closely with Sealed Air to identify opportunities to improve sustainability in the Irish market.

# OBJECTIVE 4: TO INCREASE

INCORPORATE RECYCLED  
CONTENT TO BUILD A  
CIRCULAR ECONOMY



**ABP Food Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

ABP's meat trays contain minimum 80% recycled PET (rPET). As a food processing company we need to ensure the packaging we use for our products is certified to food contact standard. This is something that limits us in the area of work for increasing the amount of recycled materials we use within our packaging.

For one of our customers we introduced a frosted pack replacing clear plastic, this results in a lower carbon footprint tray. For the frosted trays there is a lower attributed global warming potential for transport as post-industrial recycled content comes from within our suppliers processing plant. Coloured trays also contain less PET virgin (in reality 2% but this can be up to 20% depending on regrind availability).

**Plans for 2023**

We are working with our suppliers to see where we can increase the amount of recycled content we use. Our focus in this area is a continued focus on films to see if it is possible to make improvements and understand what impact recycled content has on our packaging performance for product.



**Aldi**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Aldi achieved 19.40% recycled content currently within our plastic packaging. ALDI's eco-loop shopping bags are made from 100% recycled content, 80% of which comes from ALDI stores. Several initiatives took place in 2022 to incorporate recycled content into plastics, some examples are:

- Started moving the shower gel, shampoo and sun care bottles over to 30% recycled content, this will be completed in 2023.

- 30% recycled content added to capsule and sleeve of in Gin and Vodka.
- Moved from virgin plastic to 50% recycled content in our condiments range.
- Added 30% recycled content into the outer film on toilet and kitchen rolls.
- 50% recycled content added into our washing up liquid.
- 35% recycled content added into the outer film of our Nappies range.

**Plans for 2023**

ALDI's Buying Teams are working with suppliers continuously to improve the recycled content within our plastic range. In 2023, ALDI will work towards its plastic and packaging target of 30% of own label plastic packaging to be made of recycled content.



**Aramark**  
**Achievements for 2022**

All disposable packaging supplied through our preferred supply base has 35% or more recycled content. Coca Cola and Britvic our main soft drinks partners have made great progress in moving to recycled PET for bottled water and soft drinks.

**Plans for 2023**

With our soft drinks partners progress and support we continue to reduce the volume of virgin PET in our bottled water and soft drinks category and increase presence of recycled PET.



**Blenders**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Ongoing conversations with suppliers on how to safely increase the level of recycled content, food safety needs to be safeguarded.



**Britvic Ireland**  
**Achievements for 2022**

In 2021 we made a major step-change in this area when we launched our 100% rPET Ballygowan 500ml bottles. By switching to 100% rPET preforms for our Still & Sparkling Ballygowan 500ml bottles this put the over all brand at 50% rPET content. 2020 saw the build of our new PET recycling line in a joint venture with Esterpet which will provide us with a dedicated source of recycled PET in order to fulfil our commitments to hit 50% recycled content in all of our bottles by 2025.

**Plans for 2023**

This year will see us building on the achievements of 2022 and adding momentum to our journey in the use of recycled materials. In January 2021 we completed the planned transition into 100% rPET on the Ballygowan brand when we transitioned to 100% rPET preforms for the whole range. We have maintained this since its introduction despite the supply chain issues with rPET in recent quarters.

Throughout this year we will be rolling out recycled content in selected SKUs where possible and we will also be introducing recycled content to our flexible shrink packaging.





### Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

Over the last number of years, we have continued to invest extensively in recycled plastic (rPET) which is significantly more costly than virgin PET (is almost double that of virgin PET<sup>1</sup>). To date, we have achieved 52% recycled PET integration across our plastic portfolio. By converting post-consumer waste into a valuable resource, rPET excels in sustainability, keeping resources in use for as long as possible. We believe that our investment in rPET will lead to a closed loop for packaging; acknowledging that PET packaging need not become 'waste', but rather material with a value proposition which can use again through effective recycling. A recent industry study indicated that the production of rPET produced 79%<sup>2</sup> less carbon emissions compared to virgin PET. Similar results were revealed by the Association of Plastic Recyclers who released a report in late 2018 illustrating that using recycled plastic reduced greenhouse emissions by 67%<sup>3</sup> – alongside reducing energy consumption. The results demonstrate both a clear environmental and business incentive for companies.

<sup>1</sup> Based on Coca-Cola HBC 2022 supplier data.

<sup>2</sup> ALPLA study by Roland Fehring, denkstatt GmbH

<sup>3</sup> Association of Plastic Recyclers: Life cycle impacts for postconsumer recycled resins: PET, HDPE, and PP

#### Plans for 2023

We continue to partner with several Waste Management and Recycling companies to explore the potential to establish a local source of rPET supply in Ireland with the development of Ireland's first bottle-to-bottle plastic recycling plant. This will enable us to fully close the loop on PET recycling.

\* Baseline 2017



### Dawn Farm Foods

#### Achievements for 2022

We have been engaging with suppliers to convert non-recyclables to recyclable material. Plastics pallets are now returned to suppliers and re-sent to site. We achieved 50% recycled content in business between general waste and recycled.

#### Plans for 2023

We plan to divert the machine stretch wrap to 30% recycled plastic and continue with plastics pallets being returned to suppliers and re-sent to site.



### Frylite

#### Achievements for 2022

Replacement of single use wheelie bin liners for recycled liners. This improvement was cheaper and easier to achieve than had been expected and there were no issues with product. We cannot use recycled buckets for our food grade oils but we ensure that all are returned and end of life buckets are recycled with a recognised and licensed reprocessor for the regrind to go into making recycled Irish products. Approximately 5 tonnes of plastic was avoided as a result.

#### Plans for 2023

As described in sections previously, we are focusing on a long term 2023 + 3years to remove single use plastics from our suppliers and work towards sustainable alternatives. We are fortunate that over 80% of our plastics used are fully recyclable yet we are committed to improve this further so exceeding the 2030 target and minimum commercial requirement. Working with an Irish plastics reprocessor to take the regrind from all our rigid plastics (buckets, barrels, wheelie bins, tanks, etc) and use to make recycled content that we will purchase directly for the storage of our waste oils as used by our customers. In addition,



### Hilton Foods Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

All of our retail trays have recycled content with a minimum 80%, 475 tonnes of these retail trays were purchased in 2022. 340 tonnes of these retail trays contain a detectable dye which allows the recyclers to separate the trays into the PET recycling stream.

#### Plans for 2023

We plan that our top films will include 30% recycled content and move our vac pack rasher films from 0% recyclability to 100%.



### Irish Country Meats

#### Achievements for 2022

In 2022, carbon black trays were fully removed from production. 70-90% of the composition of all trays used for packing are from recycled materials and in turn are 100% recyclable. All of our reusable crates are from 100% recycled material and fully recyclable.

#### Plans for 2023

In 2023, we will look at trials on card skin packs as an alternative to plastic skin packs.



**Irish Distillers**  
**Achievements for 2022**

- Our average recycled content is 30%.
- We have moved some of our label backing plastic from 100% virgin PET to 30% recycled content, resulting in a 2.68 tonnes reduction in our use of virgin plastic annually.
- We have been working with a company that take our PET23 label back plastic and process it into a viable alternative material to virgin PET that can be used to produce polyester fibre. Initial trialling has taken place and so far we have sent 2.92 tonnes of plastic through this process.

**Plans for 2023**

- More of our label materials are becoming available on label backing plastic that contains rPET. In the coming months we will move additional labels onto label backing plastic that has 30% rPET content and this will reduce our use of virgin plastic by an additional 28.72 tonnes annually.
- In 2023 we will gradually increase the quantity of PET23 label back plastic that is processed into a viable alternative material to virgin PET and used to produce polyester fibre.
- We are in the process of reviewing all remaining plastic packaging and the available options to introduce recycled content where possible.



**Kearney's Home Baking Ltd.**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We reuse any trays that are returned with out of date product by washing and drying again.

**Plans for 2023**

We have started working with a company that is recycling all our waste plastic.



**Lidl**  
**Achievements for 2022**

**Lidl Ireland Commitment:**

We have pledged that by 2025, 50% of the materials used in our own-brand packaging will be made using recycled materials.

*Examples of implemented projects aligned with the outlined Repak goals are:*

**Prevented ocean plastic (POP):**

We are the first retailer in Ireland to include Prevented Ocean Plastic (POP) into its own brand range. We have moved over the PET bases of 5 lines of our fresh seafood products to contain 30 % POP. This equates to almost 19 tonnes of plastic being prevented from entering the ocean annually. The equivalent of approximately 750,000 bottles. The collection of those bottles provides a years' worth of well-paid work for an average bottle collector in predominately poor coastal regions around the globe.

**Roses in sleeves made from recycled plastic:**

In December 2022, we moved the OPP plastic sleeve on our Dozen Roses to HDPE sleeves containing 50% Recycled content leading to 2.5t of virgin plastic being avoided. We currently evaluate the roll-out of this solution to other lines depending on customer feedback. Average recycled content for project above is 50%.

**Customer recycling stations:**

We installed customer recycling stations in all our stores. We invite customers to dispose of unwanted excess packaging before leaving the store. It is then returned from stores to

our main distribution centres and sent to external providers for further sorting and recycling together with our warehouse waste.

**Plans for 2023**

**New focus:**

Our new and improved packaging database helps us to pinpoint which are the highest impact product ranges using materials that allow for the use of recycled content. We continue to look out for innovations in the market and work together with our product suppliers as well as the packaging suppliers delivering to them. Lidl already uses a high percentage of recycled plastic where it is safe to do so (mainly PET packaging for foodstuff and multiple plastics for non-food-contact materials) We are constantly evaluating opportunities to extend the usage of recycled content across our range.

**Optimisations:**

We already have aligned several packaging optimisations and trials focussed on recyclability that are to go live in 2023.

The new EU regulation for recycled plastic in food contact from September 2022 will impact the way we look at recycled plastic. While it is complicated and needs to be properly reviewed, it will also open the possibility to explore new recycling processes for food contact materials that Lidl will explore with its suppliers.



**Musgrave Group**  
**Achievements for 2022**

Musgrave have prioritised inclusion of recycled content in our packaging materials and formats and through our new/existing product development process we review the inclusion of recycled content. We target that 30% of plastic packaging will include recycled plastic by 2025 and we have been working hard to achieve this.

In 2022, we worked in close collaboration with our suppliers to change the material used in several lines across our product portfolio. One example of this is our SuperValu and Centra own brand water products. We worked with our supplier to ensure that the PET used for the bottles was 100% recycled content and we launched this to the market in 2022.

Musgrave was the first retailer to ensure own brand water bottles were made from 100% recycled content alongside two local Irish water suppliers. We communicate this change to consumers on pack to educate consumers on the importance of recycling and the circular economy.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we continue to review all options to increase the recycled content in our products.



**Nestle**  
**Achievements for 2022**

In addition to introducing recycled content for our two finger KitKat range, we have rolled out 30% recycled content shrink and stretch film across a number of categories. Nesquik tubs (excluding lids) now include 50% recycled PE, allocated by mass balance.

**Nomad Foods** **Nomad Foods**

**Achievements for 2022**

Our priority area is recyclability and while no additional plastic materials have recycled content all rigid plastic already have a high level of recycled content.

**Plans for 2023**

We have trials on chemically recycled content for some products this year in food contact. No more details can be shared as this is commercially sensitive. We are however working on non-food contact materials with recycled content that we are trialling over 2023. Projects are underway on both bale and pallet wrap to include minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content for various production sites.



**NPP Group Ltd.**

**Achievements for 2022**

**Pallet Hoods** - In 2022 we incorporated 30% recycled into 147 tonne of pallet hoods.

**Pallet Wrap** - Pallet wrap with recycled content is a relatively new addition to our range. 30% recycled content has been added to 32 tonne of pallet wrap so far.

**Shrink Film** - We worked with a drinks manufacturer to include 50% recycled content in the shrink film used to wrap their products. This resulted in a reduction of 366 tonnes of virgin material.

**Bags & Sacks** - 30% recycled was added to over 60 tonne of bags in 2022.

**Plans for 2023**

*In 2023 we will continue to work with our customers to include recycled content in their packaging. A number of projects are in the pipeline:*

**Hoarding** - Trials are ongoing with a number of different customers to incorporate 30% recycled content into their stretch hoarding. 345 tonne of hoarding with 30% recycled content.

**Pallet Wrap** - We are currently working on changing over two customers to pallet wrap with 30% recycled content. 550 tonne of pallet wrap annually with 30% recycled content.

**Shrink** - Trials are in progress to incorporate 222 tonne of shrink with 30% recycled content.

**Bags & Sacks** - We are trialling sacks with 30% recycled content with an animal feed company. The change to the new sacks will likely occur in 2023 and will result in over 300 tonne of sacks incorporated with 30% recycled content.



**Tesco**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We continue to prioritise environmental impact as a central aspect in our ever-changing innovation pipeline. Our preferred materials list already includes materials that are easily recycled and can be made from recycled content, including PET plastics, PP plastics for non-food applications, metal, glass and sustainably sourced board and paper.

# OBJECTIVE 5: TO REDUCE ENSURE THAT OUR ACTIONS DO NOT INCREASE FOOD WASTE



### **ABP Food Group Achievements for 2022**

We have set a 50% target by 2030, in alignment with the wider food and beverage sector as well as our retail partners. Our food waste policy follows the guiding principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal which looks at the sustainable consumption and production of food.

As a company which is positioned between the primary producer and the end consumer our focus has been about reducing losses on the supply and processing of meat. Our work starts at farm level continues through our processing facilities and on to the end consumer.

Although we utilise all waste streams our strategy now is to focus on producing as little food waste as possible. ABP have adopted the “Target, Measure, Act” approach, in order to work towards reducing edible classified food waste.

Throughout all processing plants, areas are monitored to identify the root cause of waste losses from processes, whether this be packaging or food waste. ABP has implemented numerous projects targeting the capture of edible fat and meat that was previously sent for rendering to reduce product value loss.

100% by-product recovery has allowed the company to make better use of animal by-products and move these products up the value chain. One great example is ABP's gel bone chip facility in Cahir; this allows added value in the processing of bovine bones, moving bovine bones from a waste material up the food chain. These gel bone chips are exported where the gelatine is extracted and then used in the food processing and pharmaceutical sectors. Any packaging changes made to improve recyclability are thoroughly tested to ensure at a minimum that shelf life is maintained, if not extended.

In 2022 we made great progress upgrading materials up the waste hierarchy. We focused on improved segregation and identified materials that could be upgraded.

We also highlighted the importance of reducing food waste at home with our employees.

We launched a leftover recipe competition during Food Waste Action week for our employees to get involved, which gets people taking about food waste and ways to reduce it. We are a signatory of Ireland's Food Waste Charter.

### **Plans for 2023**

Although we have already completed a lot of great work moving materials up the waste hierarchy, we will work to improve this further over the coming years.

We hope to complete more food waste campaigns and competitions onsite to encourage employees to recognise the importance of reducing food waste.



### **Aldi Achievements for 2022**

ALDI is a member of the Retail Action Group and have signed the Food Waste Charter committing to reduce Irelands food waste by 50% by 2030. ALDI also support the EPA's (Environmental Protection Agency) Stop Food Waste communications and regularly feature their advice, tips, and logos in their weekly leaflets.

Before any packaging changes mentioned above were implemented, trials and shelf-life tests took place to ensure that the quality of the product would not be impacted, consequently leading to a higher probability of food waste. Buying Teams worked on moving laminate films to higher quality Polyethylene (PE) and Polypropylene (PP) film.

### **Plans for 2023**

A number of ALDI's suppliers are currently carrying out trials and shelf-life tests to ensure the quality of the product is not affected by the changes in packaging. Food waste reduction tips are also shared with ALDI colleagues on our internal communications platform, MyALDI and externally to customers through tips on reducing food waste in our weekly leaflets via the Stop Food Waste logo and website link. ALDI also supported the 'Stop Food Waste Day', on all social channels, which took place on the 1st March.

ALDI has also pledged to eliminate 60 tonnes of food waste from our operations in 2023 in support of the Government's National Food Waste Prevention Roadmap. The nationwide roll out will reduce food from going to waste annually and will form a key part of ALDI's ongoing commitment to reducing food waste. In 2023, ALDI announced a new partnership with Too Good To Go (TGTG). The TGTG app lets ALDI customers buy and collect 'Surprise Bags' which are packed full of ALDI products at a great price, whilst making sure food gets eaten and not wasted. Stores are encouraged to ensure no food, that is fit for consumption, ends up in the bin, which will be supported by the below initiatives:

- Sale of reduced products (30%,50%,75%)
- Charity Donation via FoodCloud
- Surprise bags via Too Good To Go



### **Aramark Plans for 2023**

We are committed to reducing our Food waste by 50% by 2030. We have become a member of WRAP – a UK based organisation committed to supporting industry to reduce food waste. We are looking at different measurement tools and technology to support us on this mission.



### Blenders

#### Achievements for 2022

Continued to divert all edible surplus product from waste to a suitable local charitable partner. This was previously waste along with the associated packaging.

#### Plans for 2023

We maximise shelf-life of products where food safety and quality parameters allow.



### Britvic Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

There is very little food-waste related to our business. All plastic reduction initiatives are conducted in line with the principle that all improvements must continue to protect the high quality of our products and reduce or eliminate waste of all kinds.

#### Plans for 2023

We continue to maintain our standards and work on a process of continuous improvement in all areas.



### Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland

#### Achievements for 2022

We strive to avoid and minimise food loss and food waste across our entire value chain, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goal 12.3. However, where we have been unable to prevent food waste we work with various charitable organisations and partners to redistribute products close to expiration to safely and ethically dispose of surplus stock. In 2022, we appointed FoodCloud and FareShare Northern Ireland as our official charity partners. As well as supporting financially, we continue to provide them with surplus stock which is redistributed across 870 frontline charities. In the last 12 months alone, we have donated

over ¾ million bottles of beverages. This not only supports the challenge of food waste and food security, but it also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions by c. 263tn CO<sub>2</sub>-avoidance. In 2022, we also made a financial donation of over €50k to FoodCloud and FareShare.

#### Plans for 2023

We are committed to maintaining the integrity of our packaging throughout 2023 as we accelerate our sustainability initiatives. We will continue to donate stock to the Simon Community's foodbank, FoodCloud and FareShare throughout the year to reduce food waste in our supply chain.

In addition to this, we are supporting FoodCloud's development and implementation of a three-year Food Sourcing Strategy for Ireland, to unlock the potential of food redistribution across the supply chain and double the volume of food redistributed.



### Dawn Farm Foods

#### Achievements for 2022

##### Donation of surplus food to Food Cloud

In '20, '21 and '22 15 tonnes of food waste was avoided annually. This equates to 25,000 meals.

##### Stick Length Increase

We increased our stick length of certain products from 1.3m to 1.4m which allowed for 7.2kgs in every 3 sticks per rack.

##### Re-work Product Ends

We have slice cut off at the ends of our products, we carried out trials in 2022 to rework these ends back into the products.

##### Swan Conveyer Upgrade

We upgraded our conveyer belt with a swan neck which reduced food waste by 40Kg/day.

### Raw Material Samples

Reducing raw material samples – FSQA

2022 Progress: Starting to weigh Line 1 & Line2&3 waste and record data on an excel file. Going to collect data for a few weeks and put a plan in place to discuss with operators about what the needs are.

### Quality Control Sample Size

Reducing QC Sample size - Almost 5kgs of product is dumped daily due to excessive amounts of samples taken by production. This is predominantly the case with line 1 products as they are bigger batch sizes and the composite of samples includes many batches within that slicing JD. In this case, production QC could take less slices per batch and this will reduce waste. If we reduce the daily 5kgs being dumped this will make a difference both waste and cost wise in the future. – QA/production P2 line 1 samples.

### Ingredients Failures

Issue with wrong ingredients being added to batches at the final blender. – Paul Sullivan Plant 2.

We are a member of the Food Waste Charter.

### Plans for 2023

Donating to Food Cloud, assessing products producing high volumes of food waste and implementing reduction strategies will continue.



**Frylite**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We supply top quality food grade cooking oils in virgin grade plastic buckets. These buckets are used several times by Frylite before they degrade. Whilst not made from recycled plastic (requirement for food safety) we ensure that all redundant buckets, as well as all our rigid plastic containment, is fully recycled and the regrind used to make recycled plastic products and packaging that can be availed of by Irish manufacturers and consumers alike. Frylite also collect and recycle the waste oils and food waste to create a feedstock for renewable energy manufacturers i.e. for the generation of biogas and electric. Whilst we are committed to extend the volume of food waste collected commercially, we are also committed to assisting our customers in the reduction of food waste by providing guidance and reporting methods to help our customers understand the waste they generate and how best to manage and dispose of this resource. We are signing up to the Food Waste Charter in mid 2023.

**Plans for 2023**

We have signed up and report targets to WRAP UK for our NI operations. We are launching our food waste commitment June 2023 ROI, through the roll out of nationwide collections in ROI.



**Hilton Foods Ireland**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We increased our shelf life on 30 products by up to 2 days including mince and steaks and we are committed to the Food Waste Charter.

**Plans for 2023**

We have further plans to reduce our repack rate for example by changing the packing format on our gammon steaks we aim to save approx. 350Kgs of plastic.



**Irish Country Meats**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We are signatories of Ireland's Food Waste Charter. Any changes made to packaging to improve recyclability are rigorously tested to ensure at a minimum that shelf life is maintained, if not extended.

**Plans for 2023**

We are engaged in packaging projects that are discussed internally with a multi-disciplined team from procurement, production and environmental. We continue to conduct trials, audits and reviews of our current packaging and investigate alternatives that can offer similar shelf life whilst also reducing plastic content.



**Kearney's Home Baking Ltd.**  
**Achievements for 2022**

We are continually reducing our food waste and have it down to 2.5% but all our food waste is now used up 100% on the farm and we are certified by the department of agriculture to do this.

**Plans for 2023**

Further improvement on food wasted.



**Lidl**  
**Achievements for 2022**

As a food retailer, we recognise our responsibility to take leadership for minimising food losses and effective food waste measurement systems. Examples of actions we took to reduce food waste are:

- In 2022 we redistributed over 760,000 meals through our food distribution partner FoodCloud and we surpassed the 4 million total meals redistributed milestone in the lifetime of our partnership. These meals equate to an estimated Co2 saving of over 1 million Kgs and over 300,000 Kgs of food.
- Every time we propose a packaging optimisation for any of our products, we conduct a full analysis with the supplier to make sure that the quality and shelf life of the product meets the requirements and does not increase food waste.
- For every new loose fruit and veg product, we assess the performance of that product in terms of sales, write-offs and how much of it is donated to ensure we meet demand with adequate supply and the protection and shelf life of the product meets the demands.
- We will continue our Waste Not section in the chiller wherein chilled products at best before dates (and perfectly safe to eat) receive a huge price reduction.

Even though all of our colleagues are avoiding food waste wherever possible, and our processes and donations make sure we sell or donate as much of our food as possible, some products can't be sold or donated. Our waste management provider collects this residue organic waste from our stores to feed their Anaerobic Digestion plant to fuel their fleet of vehicles, which in turn deliver to our stores or collect waste.

**Plans for 2023**

Logistics Project in 2023: Launch of "Zero Waste" which we hope to receive Gold Standard DIN accreditation. All waste streams will be analysed which will include plastics and food waste.

**Waste Not 2023:** In 2023 we will be launching our Fruit and Vegetable Boxes which will be sold at a reduced price under the Waste Not programme. This will include fruit and vegetables which do not meet quality standards but are still perfectly safe to eat. We aim to reach the 4 million meals donated milestone under FoodCloud.



**Musgrave Group  
Achievements for 2022**

In Musgrave we have prioritised tackling food waste in our updated sustainability strategy, Protecting the Planet and Benefitting our Communities. Our food waste target is a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030 in line with government and industry objectives.

We use the food waste hierarchy to inform our action – prevent, reduce, redistribute, recycle, recover and dispose. At a retail level we work with all of our retail operations to ensure our stock ordering system reflects demand as accurately as possible. We also ensure that our stock mark down and reduce to clear process is working effectively with all retailers to ensure customers have the option to purchase food nearing its date at a marked down price.

In 2022, we began trials of the Too Good To Go app with our Centra and SuperValu stores with a strong uptake from customers. Our Musgrave Marketplace sites and our distribution centres work with Food Cloud to redistribute any food surplus to local charities and community groups. Since 2014 when the partnership began, we have redistributed more than 870 tonnes of surplus food to a network of charities and community groups across the country, this equates to over 2 million meals.

We consistently review, through our own brand new/existing product development process the opportunity to extend the shelf life of our products wherever possible alongside any potential changes to packaging to achieve a reduction in plastic packaging or to increase the recyclability of our products packaging. We are a signatory of the Food Waste Charter.

**Plans for 2023**

In 2023 we plan to identify further how to reduce food waste at a retail level by working with industry partners and our retailers to progress towards our target of 50% food waste reduction by 2030.

**Nomad Foods Nomad Foods**

**Achievements for 2022**

All packaging changes have been tested to ensure that shelf life isn't impacted and we are part of the 10:20:30 project on reducing food waste.

**Plans for 2023**

Continue to ensure shelf life isn't impacted and membership to 10:20:30.



# NEXT STEPS

## 5.0

### NEXT STEPS

Applying the principle of circularity is a crucial step towards achieving sustainability. By optimising the use of resources, reducing waste, and promoting recycling and reuse, we can contribute to a more sustainable and efficient packaging system for Ireland.

A systems approach is fundamental to ensuring circularity for plastic packaging throughout the supply chain.

Continued education in the area of commercial waste segregation, and also designing for circularity, will be key.

We ask our Members to commit to the 5 key objectives and tell us your stories so that we can amplify the good work that you do.

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REPAK MEMBERS'  
PLASTIC PLEDGE REPORT

COMMIT TO THE PLEDGE  
AND TOGETHER WE CAN  
BE THE CHANGEMAKERS

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