

Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy  
2018 - 2030



## Repak Members' Plastic Pledge Report 2019



**REPAK** 

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## ACRONYMS

<b>CEP</b>	Circular Economy Package
<b>DCCAE</b>	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>EPS</b>	Expanded Polystyrene
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>HDPE</b>	High-density Polyethylene
<b>LDPE</b>	Low-density Polyethylene
<b>MRF</b>	Material Recovery Facility
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>OPRL</b>	On Pack Recycling Labelling (UK Packaging Labelling System operated by WRAP)
<b>PET</b>	Polyethylene Terephthalate
<b>PP</b>	Polypropylene
<b>PS</b>	Polystyrene
<b>PPWD</b>	Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive
<b>PVC</b>	Polyvinyl Chloride
<b>rPET</b>	Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate
<b>RPS</b>	Repak Payment Scheme
<b>SUP</b>	Single Use Plastic
<b>WRAP</b>	Waste & Resources Action Programme (UK)

# Executive Summary

Repak's Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy 2018–2030 sets out a clear path of actions for Repak Members. A key action by Members is to commit to a Plastic Pledge which will make a significant contribution towards meeting Ireland's packaging recycling targets as set by the Circular Economy Package (CEP).

The Plastic Pledge was launched in September 2018. To date 115 of Ireland's packaging producers have signed the pledge and Repak will grow this number significantly throughout 2020 and beyond.

- Our second report highlights the continued proactive approach that the signatories of the Plastic Pledge are taking to remove avoidable single use plastics from their business premises and from sale. Many have already achieved this in advance of the Single Use Plastics (SUP) Directive becoming law here in Ireland in 2021.
- In addition, businesses are examining where plastic use can be minimised during the course of their day-to-day operations. This will minimise waste arising during the production of their products. They are also actively reducing avoidable plastics associated with their consumer products.
- In 2019, Repak funded plastic recycling of 87,505 tonnes and sent for recovery 210,291 tonnes – a total of 96% of the estimated plastic packaging placed on the market by all businesses.<sup>1</sup>

- Actions to date when accumulated will result in the reduction or replacement of 16,100 tonnes from the estimated 310,094 tonnes of plastic packaging placed on the market in 2019. Repak Members placed 131,958 tonnes on the market in 2019, which represents 43% of the total.
- One packaging reduction programme alone has removed over 1,000 tonnes of plastic packaging from the market during 2019.
- Over 200 programmes designed to make plastic packaging more recyclable have been completed or are in progress by Members, representing a 66% increase versus 2018.
- Innovations have been developed and commercialised that tackle issues in relation to laminated plastic materials.
- Repak's Plastic Pledge Members reported a great achievement during 2019 with over 21,000 tonnes of recycled plastics used in packaging and raw materials.
- Trials are continuing to ensure that the integrity of packaging is retained when such changes are made, aligned with our goal of preventing food waste. This is about ensuring that activities designed to reduce plastic waste align to Ireland's goals to halve food waste by 2030.
- Repak's Plastic Pledge is complemented by our consumer communication on 'Join Team Green', encouraging all businesses and consumers to recycle one additional piece of plastic per day. More than 10,000 people across Ireland have now joined Team Green.

<sup>1</sup> Data from Repak estimates.

## Five Key Objectives

# Repak Members' Plastic Pledge

### 1 Prevent Waste

Focus on prevention of plastic packaging waste by minimising single use packaging and promoting packaging reuse where possible.

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### 2 Support Circular Economy

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

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### 3 Simplify Polymers

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

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### 4 Use Recycled

Help build a Circular Economy for used plastic packaging by increasing the use of plastic packaging with a recycled content.

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### 5 Avoid Food Waste

Ensure the reductions in use of plastic packaging do not jeopardise our opportunities to achieve Ireland's goal of a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030 as set out in Ireland's food waste charter.

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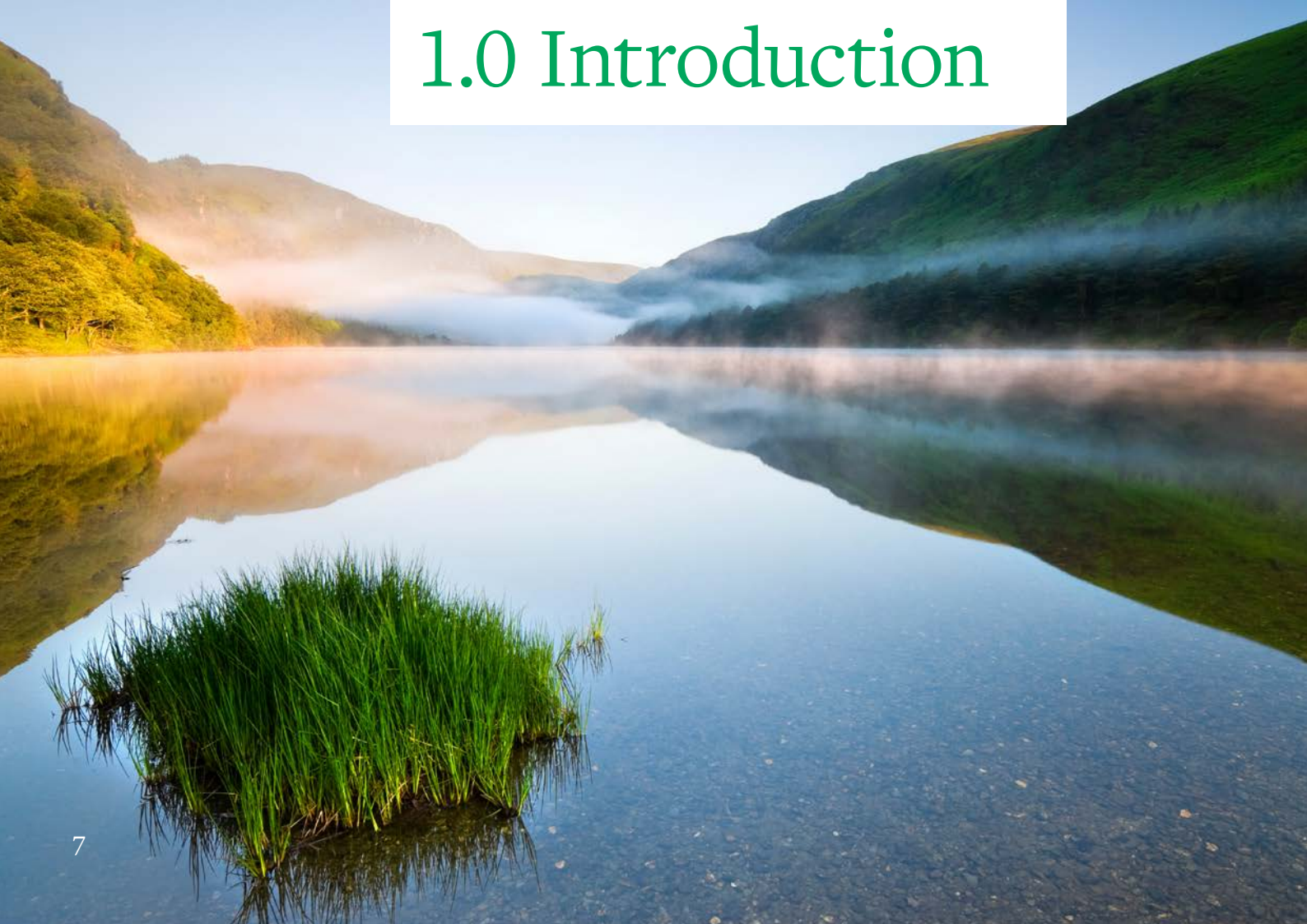
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all of our Plastic Pledge Members who contributed to this year's Report. Also, thank you to the participants who formed part of our Plastic Challenge Working Group, and provided valuable input on identifying and addressing the Plastic Challenge, at our meeting in November 2019.



REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE

# 1.0 Introduction





### 1.1 EU Waste Legislation and Plastic Packaging

2019 was another unprecedented year in terms of changes to waste legislation.

During the year we saw the final approval of the EU's Single Use Plastics (SUP) Directive, a key part of the EU's Plastics Strategy. This was the fastest approval of legislation in the history of the European Union, and is due to be transposed into Irish Law by July 2021.

At that point we will see bans on many single use plastics such as disposable plates, cutlery, straws, balloon sticks, cotton buds made from plastic and packaging items made from expanded polystyrene (EPS).

Our 2019 report shows that many of Repak's Members continue to be proactive by eliminating items that are subject to these market restrictions.

Under the SUP Directive we will also see changes requiring producers to incorporate recycled content into PET beverage bottles of 25% by 2025 and 30% by 2030.

Specific collection targets for PET beverage bottles will also be set for the first time under this directive, with 77% to be collected for recycling by 2025 and 90% to be collected by 2029.

In order to protect marine life where beverage packaging has been littered, closures will also need to be designed so that they are tethered to bottles by 2024 and remain with the bottle when discarded.

During 2020, the new Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive will also be transposed into Irish law. This will increase recycling targets for overall packaging, as well as for each individual packaging material, requiring Ireland to recycle 50% of plastic packaging by 2025 and 55% by 2030.

In order to support this, Repak's Members are making significant progress in redesigning plastic packaging in order to make it suitable for high quality recycling.

In addition, all of these new legislative requirements oblige Repak as a Producer Responsibility Organisation to implement changes to the way that packaging statistical data is reported. This ensures we have sufficient data on the collection and recycling of specific plastic packaging categories.

### 1.2 Eco Fee Modulation

Eco fee modulation will also act as a key driver to increase the recyclability of packaging placed on the Irish market by setting fees for that packaging on the basis of whether or not it is possible to recycle it.

During 2019, Repak completed a pilot study to help address Members queries in relation to the new reporting structure and in 2021 will roll out a modulated fee structure for plastic packaging with the highest fees applying to non-recycled plastic packaging.

In addition, Repak has recently published a Packaging Design Guide, which provides Members with practical advice on how to make their packaging recyclable. To view or download the Packaging Design Guide:

[https://repak.ie/images/uploads/reports/Packaging\\_\\_\\_Design\\_Guide\\_Version\\_3\\_June\\_2022.pdf](https://repak.ie/images/uploads/reports/Packaging___Design_Guide_Version_3_June_2022.pdf)





REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE

## 2.0 2019 Activities



# COCA COLA HBC IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND



Pictured at the 2019 Pakman Awards: Mr Richard Bruton, TD, Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment with Gillian Shields, Louise Sullivan, Tara O'Rourke, and Mark Haughey of Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland, winners of the Plastic Pledge Member of the Year Award, and Mr Tony Keohane, Chairperson of Repak.

During 2019, Repak partnered with its Members and stakeholders on a number of initiatives, to help achieve the objectives of the Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy and Repak Members' Plastic Pledge.

## 2.1 Formation of the Plastic Challenge Working Group

In order to set out a roadmap to tackle the key barriers to achieving the objectives of the Repak Members' Plastic Pledge, November 2019 saw the formation of a multi stakeholder working group.

This group included Repak Member businesses, representatives from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Environmental Protection Agency, Local Authorities and associations representing the waste industry.

The group collaborated at the first Working Group forum to define the challenges involved in the collection and recycling of flexible plastic packaging from Irish households and in improving plastic packaging recycling rates from commercial businesses. This helped to identify possible solutions to tackling these issues.

From this, a number of projects have been identified and timelines have already been proposed for their implementation with proposed changes to Irish waste policy taken into account. The leaders from the initial group have formed a steering committee and will meet on a regular basis going forward in order to ensure that these projects are delivered.

The top projects identified by the Plastic Challenge Working Group are outlined on the next pages.

## Plastic Challenge Working Group Outputs

### Projects Related to Commercial Collection & Recycling

Some examples of the projects currently being examined in relation to Commercial collection and recycling include the following:



#### 1 Incentivise

Incentivised Pricing Waste Collection for Commercial Businesses to help maximise recycling – Examining Feasibility.

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#### 2 Waste Training Programme

A Waste training programme designed for businesses to help them understand their legal obligations and waste management best practices – In Progress.

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#### 3 Toolkit

A list and toolkit for what can be recycled at a business premises to be made available at [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie) – In Progress.

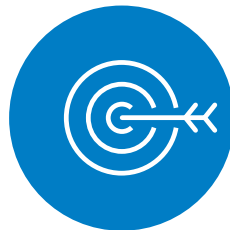
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#### 4 Data Sharing

Improving the sharing of data to allow for more accurate waste data – Examining Feasibility.

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#### 5 Assessment

Metrics and assessment of business performance on waste management – Examining Feasibility.

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## Projects Related to Household Collection and Recycling

The following projects relate to the collection and recycling of plastic packaging from the household (mostly focussed on flexible packaging).



### 1 Guidance

Guidance on Eco Fee Modulation and associated Packaging Design Guide – Completed - May 2020.



### 2 Reintroduction

Reintroduction of Flexible Plastic Packaging to household recycling collections – Examining Feasibility.



### 3 Standardisation

Standardisation of Household Recycling Bin Colours – Examining Feasibility.



### 4 Financial Incentive Scheme

Introduction of a financial incentive scheme or green bank to help accelerate capital for new plastic recycling facilities – Examining Feasibility.



### 5 Pack Labelling

Standardise on pack labelling to enhance plastic recycling – In Progress.



**It is important to note** that a number of the above recommendations are relevant to the overall packaging recycling challenge and may help to increase Ireland's recycling rates for other packaging materials placed on the market.



### 2.2 Plastic Pledge - Pakman Award

May 2019 saw the launch of the new “Plastic Pledge Member of the Year Award”. Ten entries were received from Repak’s Members for this prestigious new award.

The quality of the entries received from Pledge signatories was exceptional and highlighted the commitment of these Members to addressing Ireland’s plastic challenge.

Congratulations to our first winner, Coca Cola Hellenic Ireland and Northern Ireland, for demonstrating significant progress on its “World without Waste” Strategy in Ireland.

A special recognition award was also presented to Quinn Packaging for the launch of its Detecta™ product, designed to make its black plastic tray products detectable in a Material Recovery Facility, thereby increasing the chances of them being captured for recycling.

Repak is expanding the Plastic Pledge Award category to include a gold, silver and bronze level award. To be eligible, entrants must show evidence based on the new criteria, now published on the Pakman Awards website. For further information, please visit [www.pakman.ie](http://www.pakman.ie).

### 2.3 Supporting Ireland’s Plastic Recyclers

In keeping with Repak’s Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy 2018-2030, Repak, through its Member funding, has introduced a number of additional supports for Irish plastic recycling businesses.

Initiatives helping to increase plastic packaging recycling rates across Ireland include:

#### Plastic Bonus

Repak provides a financial bonus at year end to waste contractors who actively tried to increase plastic recycling tonnages and quality over the previous 12 months. The bonus is directly related to the increase in plastic tonnage recycled by a waste contractor in a calendar year.

It is not offered as an incentive at the start of the year but as a reward for waste contractors who have worked with Repak and their customer base during the year. This work includes taking the right steps to achieve better recycling quality and tonnages through educational programmes, additional contracts and investment in equipment, all of which must lead to increased recycling of plastic.

#### Subsidies Introduced for Plastic Reprocessors 2019

A key principle of waste management is the Proximity Principle which states that “material should be recycled as close to its source as possible”.

The Plastic Reprocessors Subsidy aims to increase the amount of plastic being re-processed within Ireland by the recycling industry in line with the proximity principle and in order to help create a circular economy for plastics within Ireland.

Nine recyclers have signed up for the subsidy so far and the new claims process commenced in the second half of 2019. 13,781 tonnes of plastic packaging were subsidised and re-processed within Ireland during 2019.

To be eligible for this subsidy, plastic recyclers must demonstrate that they are compliant with all requirements under Irish Waste Legislation and must meet all of the eligibility criteria set out within the Repak Payment Scheme (RPS).



### Team Green Recycling Machines

Team Green is an initiative that encourages individuals, schools, communities, businesses and organisations to come together to reduce waste, recycle more plastic, and protect our environment.

Repak is currently operating a pilot of 10 Team Green Recycling Machines in locations nationwide such as third level colleges, a hospital and shopping centres. The Team Green Recycling Machine is suitable for both PET bottles and aluminium cans. The equipment compresses the bottles and shreds the cans, separating liquid from the solid waste so that the packaging is as free as possible from contamination when recycled.

Repak's Members help to fund the collection by Sunflower Recycling, a community based employment scheme which collects the bags from the Team Green Recycling Machines. Repak has also sponsored Sunflower Recycling with a collection van for this purpose.

A number of Repak's Members were directly involved in both the Team Green and Team Green Recycling Machine initiatives throughout 2019.

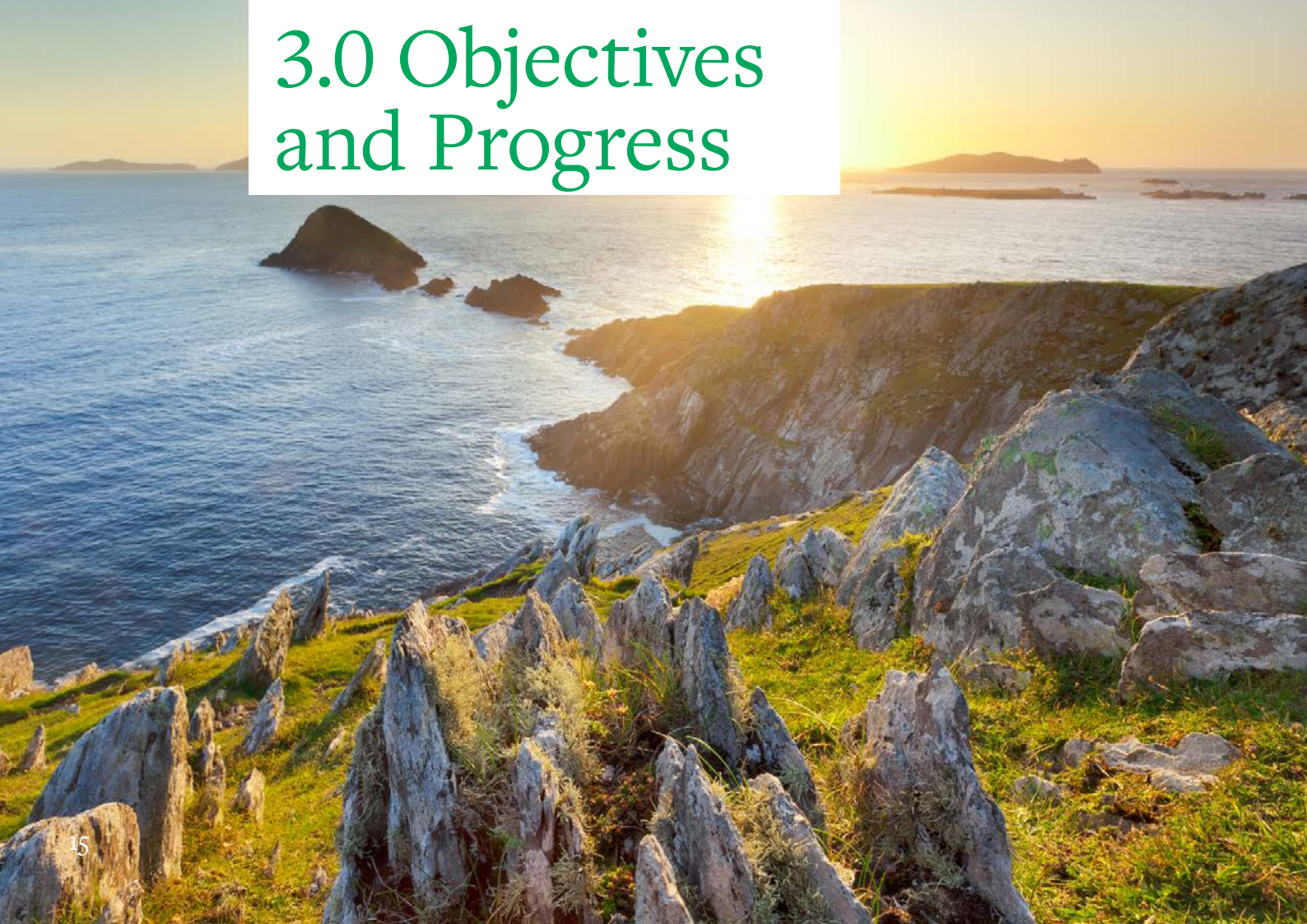
### Other Community Initiatives

Four South Dublin Sports clubs were given bags to collect plastic bottles and aluminium cans that may have otherwise been deposited in general waste bins. Each club receives a financial contribution per bag collected. Repak is working with many more clubs and Tidy Town organisations on this initiative during 2020.



REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE

# 3.0 Objectives and Progress



### 3.0 Objectives and Progress

During 2019, we have seen a continued effort to eliminate avoidable plastics from the Irish market along with a significant drive to increase the recyclability of plastic packaging and reduce material complexity. These efforts will result in an increased percentage of recyclable plastic packaging placed on the Irish market with greater opportunities for recycling.

These steps will also play a significant part in raising Ireland's plastic packaging recycling rates as we move closer to 2025 and 2030.

Thank you again to those Members that have agreed to share some insight into the work they have completed in the past year in relation to the five individual pledge objectives. Below are some of the highlights shared by our Pledge Members.

Please also see Appendix 1 — Member Achievements & Plans for further details.

#### 3.1 Objective 1 - Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste

Achieving this target will require the minimisation of avoidable SUP and the promotion of reusable or non-plastic alternatives where possible. This is a key step to enable Ireland to meet the requirements of the EU's SUP Directive.

During 2019 Repak's Plastic Pledge Members continued:

- The trend of reducing or completely eliminating SUP items covered by the SUP Directive, with millions of these items removed from their business premises and product ranges.
- Replacing SUPs with reusable versions.
- Major lightweighting programmes, with some projects removing over 1,000 tonnes of plastic from the Irish market.
- Progressing numerous projects that will reduce plastic packaging further.

#### 3.2 Objective 2 - Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets

This target involves Repak's Members supporting Ireland to deliver the CEP plastic recycling targets of 50% of all plastic packaging by 2025 and 55% of all plastic packaging by 2030, as set by the European Commission in the Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive approved in July 2018. This is being achieved through:

- Continuing staff education to help maximise packaging recycling at their business premises.
- In excess of 200 programmes designed to make plastic packaging more recyclable.
- Reinforcing the recycling message both on packaging and by supporting Repak's Team Green Campaign.

#### 3.3 Objective 3 – Reduce complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain

By designing plastics with recycling processes and secondary raw material markets in mind we increase the opportunities for plastics recycling and create the potential for a more circular plastics economy.

Repak's Plastic Pledge Members have yet again shown throughout 2019 that they are focussed on reducing or eliminating these materials where possible while ensuring that the quality and safety of products is maintained.

Projects reported by Repak's Plastic Pledge Members include:

- The development of recyclable mono-material equivalents to non-recyclable composite packaging items on the Irish market.
- Numerous projects that involve the removal of difficult to recycle plastics such as Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) from products.



### 3.0 Objectives and Progress

#### 3.4 Objective 4 – Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy

In line with the CEP Plastics Strategy, Repak has included a target for Members who have signed the Plastic Pledge to incorporate recycled content where regulation allows for this.

Many bottlers have been proactive in relation to binding targets within the SUP Directive that will require 25% recycled content in PET bottles by 2025 rising to 30% recycled content by 2030.

Some highlights for 2019 include:

- Launch of beverage bottles with 100% recycled content.
- Over 21,000 tonnes of recycled plastic reported as being used in packaging and raw materials in 2019.
- Recycled content being incorporated into packaging materials such as plastic films, stimulating the market for more recycled plastics.

#### 3.5 Objective 5 – Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA’s Food Waste Charter

A key action item for Ireland’s recently formed Waste Advisory Group is the reduction in food waste. Ensuring actions taken to reduce plastic packaging waste do not have a detrimental impact, has never been more critical.

Repak’s Plastic Pledge Members have committed to ensuring that reductions in the use of plastic packaging do not jeopardise our opportunities to achieve a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030. Some highlights include:

- Shelf life and package testing remains a priority for Members.
- Where necessary, food continues to be donated by Members.

Where food waste is unavoidable, innovative schemes are underway to recycle the packaging from these products.



REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE

## 4.0 Next Steps

During 2020, Repak will continue to engage with our Members and other stakeholders through our Plastic Challenge Working Group. This group will meet four times this year to ensure progress on projects and to identify further projects that will help to drive forward the five Plastic Pledge objectives.

Repak's Pakman Award process will set a new standard for our pledge signatories to strive for and we look forward to awarding the gold, silver and / or bronze awards to successful Pakman Award entrants.

Repak will continue to work closely with our Members throughout 2020, in order to provide guidance on plastic packaging waste reduction through our Prevent & Save packaging technology programme.

Our newly launched Packaging Design Guide will support Members in relation to ecodesign of plastic packaging. It also provides Members with a greater insight into how plastic and other common packaging materials are recycled, and how design can impact on those processes.

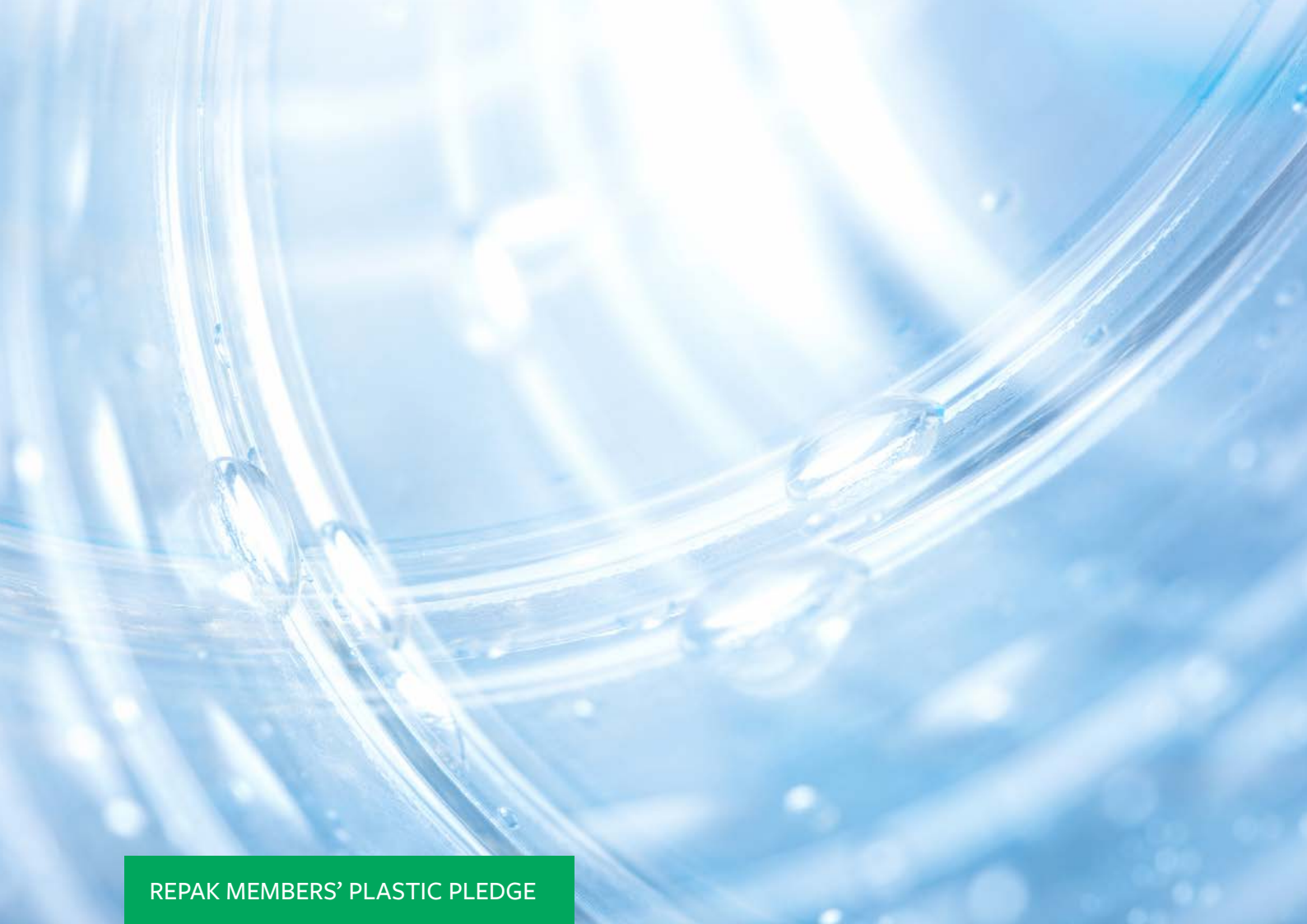
## 5.0 Conclusions & Recommendations

This report yet again highlights our Member's commitment to delivering the objectives outlined in our Plastic Pledge. It also demonstrates the work the industry is undertaking to deliver a circular plastics economy, ahead of the PPWD and SUP Directive coming into law.

There are now many developments helping eliminate non-recyclable plastic components, which do not jeopardise food safety and quality, leading to food waste.

Through the Plastic Challenge Working Group and "Repak's Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy 2018-2030" Repak and its Members are collaborating with all relevant

stakeholders to help Ireland become a leader in plastic packaging waste prevention and management. As an organisation uniquely positioned to help ensure that our Members packaging is recycled, Repak will continue to work on ensuring that the efforts of our Members take us closer to reaching the ambitious targets for plastic recycling set down by the CEP.



REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE

# Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans



# Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



## 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Successfully eliminated all single use plastic cutlery, plates and straws from the Cahir site.
- Canteen is now providing water in cans and are part of the 'Every Can Counts' scheme.
- ABP reusable coffee cups introduced.
- Reduced liner thicknesses used in production, saving 2.75 tonnes.
- Smaller and reduced micron plastic shroud introduced for product on euro pallets, saving over 4 tonnes of plastic.
- Project completed to optimise pallet wrapping, saving almost 26.5 tonnes.
- Examining reusable options and reduced plastic on deliveries from suppliers using a Preferred Packaging Specification.

## 2020 PLANS

- All sites aiming to eliminate items impacted by the SUP Directive during 2020.
  - Aiming to replicate the reduction projects carried out in ABP Cahir now across all sites.
  - Ensure that all ABP sites are using the minimum amount of packaging required whilst maintaining food safety and quality of the product.
- 



## 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Replaced single use plastic produce bags with compostable bags – expected to remove 10 million plastic bags.
- All employees at Naas Head office given a reusable cup.
- Removed 495 tonnes of plastic packaging from the Irish market.

## 2020 PLANS

- Introduce three new eco-friendly bags to all stores, including a Paper Bag for Life, a Paper Shopping Bag and a Compostable Shopping Bag. This work is expected to remove 2.5 million plastic bags.
  - Replace 420,000 difficult to recycle foamed polystyrene pizza bases with readily recyclable cardboard pizza bases.
  - Remove plastic wrapping from cards during 2020.
-

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste

BROWN THOMAS

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

**ARNOTTS**

- In customer and team restaurants, all plastic straws, cutlery, cups and water bottles have been eliminated and reusable cups or compostable cups are now in use.
- Discounts are offered for reusable cups.
- Single use plastic carrier bags eliminated in favour of FSC/PEFC certified paper bags or reusable plastic bags made from recycled plastic.
- Single use plastic cotton buds and wet wipes eliminated from the beauty hall.
- Only FSC/ PEFC certified recycled board with biodegradable filler is used for e-commerce packaging.
- Arnotts Origins counter introduced take back scheme for collection and recycling empty make up containers (any brand).

#### 2020 PLANS

- Eliminate remaining plastic fillers and jiffy bags with plastic fillers for e-commerce packaging.
- Trial reusable e-commerce packaging to replace single trip packaging.
- By the end of 2021, eliminate polystyrene in transit packaging.

**BALLYMOUNTAIN**  
Builders Providers Ltd

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reused plastic covers received from suppliers to reduce plastic waste.

**barry**  
PACKAGING

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Introduced new Kleankanteen reusable water bottles as part of commitments to reduce avoidable single use plastics in the office.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Staff to be provided with reusable travel cups to help eliminate disposable coffee cups.
- Alternatives to shrinkwrap to be investigated to reduce plastic packaging.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- A feasibility study on elimination of plastic bags for mayonnaise has been completed.
- Assessments completed in relation to shrink-wrap.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Investigations into alternative dispensing options to be completed in order to reduce the need for single serve packaging.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Despite being a distributor, Business Electronic Equipment (BEE) press their suppliers on reducing single use plastic packaging.
- Their supplier Philips Dictation have replaced their cardboard box leading to the removal of the plastic window.

#### 2020 PLANS

- BEE's supplier Casio are moving from blister packs for calculators to cardboard boxes.
- It is expected that this project will help to reduce packaging overall as smaller outer cartons will then be needed.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Included reusable products in the range as an alternative to the single use option e.g. sustainable and reusable glass pipettes.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Assessing products that contain a reduced amount of packaging waste or products that can be reused/ recycled.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Requested that customers collect tiles and timber in covered trailers or enclosed vehicles to reduce the unnecessary use of plastic pallet wrap.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Plastic used in plastic bottles has been reduced by 10%.
- Moved to a smaller closure across all PET bottles, along with the introduction of a lighter 500ml bottle across the range which has reduced PET use by more than 550 tonnes.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Move to best in class bottle to eliminate 108 tonnes of plastic.
- The introduction of innovative KeelClip™ technology for secondary packaging on multipack cans will eliminate 215 tonnes of plastic annually.
- Encourage a shift to returnable mobile units to significantly reduce tertiary packaging.



**DANONE**

*Danone Early Life Nutrition*

*Danone Waters*

*Danone Nutricia Wexford*

*Danone Ltd.*

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Review of packaging to identify Single Use Plastics.
- Removed plastic spoons in “on the go” yoghurts.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Apply ecodesign principles during packaging development and develop alternative delivery or reuse models that eliminate single use packaging.
- Address unnecessary materials such as straws from toddler milk products.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reduced the size of display packing on all hand tools as new orders are placed.



#### 2020 PLANS

- Replace a plastic insert used as packing with a small piece of cardboard, reducing plastic use by 6 tonnes.
- Reduce bulk use and care books by 20%.
- Remove plastic shrinkwrap and use bulk boxes to reduce both plastic and cardboard.



## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- 7,560 kg of shrink wrap removed and replaced with card (Heineken Festive Pack, Fosters 6 Pack)
- Removed 640 kg of hi-coning (plastic can rings) on Beamish single cans.
- Resulting in the removal of 8,200 kg in total.
- 11,232 drinks bottles, 3,750 fruit and granola pots and 576 plastic yogurt pots.
- This was managed by auditing and reviewing the items for sale in the Bistro and finding alternatives to plastic.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Continue on the journey to eliminate plastic, focusing on shrink and coning.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reusable bottles and water fountains provided to staff. 17,000 single use bottles or almost 500kg of plastic removed.
- Plastic inserts on metal cannisters replaced with paper pulp alternative. Over 1 tonne reduction in SUP per annum.
- Pallet wrap lightweighted and optimised to reduce usage by almost 8 tonnes.
- All Value Added Packs are now plastic free reducing plastic waste by more than 17 tonnes.
- Reusable plastic layer pads used on incoming pallets of glass and slip sheets used on finished product pallets. This ensures that 72 tonnes of plastic packaging remains in a closed loop.

#### 2020 PLANS

- 1.4 tonnes of PVC capsules recently replaced with PET to now be moved to a certified compostable alternative.
- The sale of drinks in plastic bottles will be stopped on site and at hospitality events.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Plastic shrinkwrap has been reduced from 40 to 35 micron (12.5%).
- Hand pallet wrap has also been reduced.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Continue to deliver 'Planet Passionate', Kingspan's 10 year Sustainability Programme during 2020.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Plastic cutlery for on the go salads replaced with wood versions.
- Worked on solutions for replacing plastic straws for juice packs with paper alternatives.
- All plastic cotton bud sticks replaced with paper alternatives.
- The last expanded polystyrene trays have now been removed from sale.
- Reusable net bags are now offered for fruit & veg to replace single use plastic bags.
- Expanded the loose and cardboard packaged fruit and veg ranges.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Examine paper wipes to determine those that contain plastics to ensure that SUP labelling is implemented.
- Work with beverage suppliers to ensure that Lidl reaches the 25% recycled content target for beverage bottles by 2025.
- Trial recyclable alternatives to the lightweight plastic bags used for fruit & veg.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reduced plastic used in the Ireland and UK supply chains by 2,606 tonnes in the last four years.
- Lightweighted the Ribena 500ml bottle in January 2019, saving a further 325 tonnes of plastic annually.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Launch a paper straw in 2020 for the Ribena carton.
- Launch Ribena with a reduced sleeve to reduce plastic usage and increase recyclability.

### Munster Packaging

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Worked with customers to design innovative packaging solutions that help eliminate avoidable plastic packaging.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Removed 29 tonnes of clear plastic from SuperValu and Centra produce.
- 75 tonnes of plastic removed from SuperValu and Centra own brand water lines.
- Launched a reusable compostable shopping bag as an alternative to the plastic variant.

#### 2020 PLANS

Musgrave aim to ensure that, by 2025, 100% of its own-brand, fresh produce and in-store packaging will re-usable, recyclable or compostable and in 2020 will:

- Test and fast-track packaging and merchandising innovation that supports packaging elimination.
- Eliminate plastic straws, stirrers and cutlery.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Prohibited the use of Oxo degradable plastics.
- Stopped selling or using any item that is subject to a ban under the SUP legislation.
- 30% of heavy duty sacks sold by NPP have moved from 120 micron to 100 micron.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Compiled a negative list of hard to recycle plastics and also created a timetable to phase these out.
- Commenced the phase out of plastic straws in February 2019.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Continue with the phase out of hard to recycle plastics across their portfolio.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- A lightweighting programme across the Vacuum Skin Packaging Tray range prevented 1,000 tonnes of plastic packaging from entering the market in 2019.



#### 2020 PLANS

- Remove plastic straws from all products by March 2020.
- Became the first retailer in Ireland to announce the removal of plastic wrap from multipack tinned beans, tuna, soups and tomatoes from March 2020, saving 10 tonnes of plastic.

## Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Moved from carbon black plastic trays to detectable alternatives. (80% of product now in detectable colours).
- Worked to ensure that on pack recycling labels are clear on products.

### 2020 PLANS

- Carry out mono-material trials in order to achieve fully recyclable packaging for consumers.
  - Improve the recyclability of packaging materials delivered by suppliers.
- 



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2019, Aldi Ireland released 3 more plastic and packaging pledges, in addition to the existing 8 pledges. These include:

1. Aim to remove difficult to recycle packaging including expanded polystyrene, PVC and non-detectable black plastic from all core range food products by the end of 2020
  2. Aim to remove non-biodegradable glitter on Christmas wrapping paper and greeting cards by Christmas 2019 and on all products by the end of 2020
  3. Aim to reduce plastic packaging by 25% by the end of 2023
- Currently working alongside a Packaging Technical Expertise Team in order to reach these 3 additional pledges
  - Created quarterly reports in order to keep up to date on recyclable plastic and packaging progress in each category.

In 2019, a number of Irish bought products' packaging moved from non-recyclable to recyclable plastic. These include:

- Moved Mini Bites from a non-detectable black plastic tub to a clear opaque plastic tub making it 100% recyclable
- All produce, fresh beef and fresh fish lines have moved from non-detectable black trays to clear trays
- 1.65 million non-detectable black trays moved to cardboard trays on Specially Selected Tomatoes.
- Removed 10 million non-detectable black plastic trays from fresh beef and fruit & vegetable ranges.
- Created quarterly reports in order to keep up to date on recyclable plastic and packaging progress in each category.

### 2020 PLANS

- Aldi's buying team are working with suppliers and packaging consultants to communicate improved, more accurate recycling guidelines on the back of packaging.
-

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets

BROWN THOMAS

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

ARNOTTS

- Segregation of waste has been improved across the board including plastic packaging and plastic hangers to maximise recycling.
- A 5% improvement in recycling rates was seen in 2019.

**BALLYMOUNTAIN**  
Builders Providers Ltd

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ballymountain Builders Providers ensure that all plastic that cannot be reused by the business is recycled.

**barry**  
PACKAGING

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2019 Barry Packaging started to promote the switch from lamination finished packaging materials to natural kraft.
- Barry Packaging has rolled out recycling stations across its offices, canteen and in warehouses.
- Carried out tool box talks with staff on recycling and waste management.

 CARL STUART GROUP

#### 2020 PLANS

- Through their partner LLG, Carl Stuart will promote products with recyclable packaging materials. These products will be marked so that customers are able to identify them in webshops.

 Coca-Cola HBC  
Ireland & Northern Ireland

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Worked with Repak to extend the reach of Team Green and Team Green Recycling Machines.
- Empowered 740 employees to become Team Green environmental champions and improved recycling infrastructure in their offices.
- Supported 6,000 volunteers at 254 events to remove 29 tonnes of litter from the Irish coastline.
- Recycling messages now appear across all Coca Cola and Deep RiverRock advertising and on pack.
- Coca Cola HBC also took the bold move to swap their 'Deep RiverRock' logo for a '100% Recycled Bottle' message on front-of-pack to help change consumer mindsets in relation to the value and importance of recycling and using recycled materials.

#### 2020 PLANS

- In 2020, Coca Cola in partnership with Dublin City Council and Hubbub, will launch approximately 250 recycling bins to help increase recycling across Dublin City.
- Recycling education is a key part of Coca Cola's World Without Waste Strategy and will continue during 2020 through point of sale and on pack as well as through above the line advertising in relation to recyclability and recycled content.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets



**DANONE**

*Danone Early Life Nutrition*

*Danone Waters*

*Danone Nutricia Wexford*

*Danone Ltd.*

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Partnered with Loop Industries to explore chemical recycling solutions to provide increased food grade recycled material.
- Promoted recycling through campaigns with Cow & Gate baby food jars and the Evian brand in September 2019.
- Danone Waters supported the Cambridge Institute of Sustainable Leadership's research into sustainable packaging materials to ensure ease of recyclability.
- Supported phases 1 and 2 of Hubbub's "In the Loop on the Go" recycling campaign (the blueprint of which is now being used in the Dublin city centre circle city campaign).

#### 2020 PLANS

- Adopting a dual strategy for polystyrene to reduce dependency on this material while also collaborating to develop recycling streams.
- Continue with plans to phase out all PVC packaging by 2021.
- Roll out of On Pack Recycling Labels to ensure that consumers have clear guidance of how to dispose of materials and to encourage recycling rates.

**Heineken  
Ireland**

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Heineken Ireland have shown a progressive improvement in how they manage waste packaging at their Cork site.
- On average the recycling rate for the four quarters of 2019 was almost 70%.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Heineken Ireland are aiming to meet a waste KPI in 2020 of 75% of all waste to recycling and data for quarter 4 shows that they are well on the way to achieving this goal.

  
**Irish Distillers**  
Pernod Ricard

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2019 Irish Distillers recycled over 170 tonnes of plastic from its onsite operations.
- Successfully trialed a fully removable metal closure to aid the recycling of their 500ml PET bottle.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Fully removable metal closure to be introduced for 500ml PET bottle during 2020.
- Trials to be completed on a similar closure for 50ml PET.
- Project underway which will determine how the business communicates recycling information about products to the consumer. This project should be complete in 2020 and necessary changes will then be made to product labels.
- Working with a company who will take PET23 label backing plastic material and process it into a viable alternative material to virgin PET that can be used to produce Polyester fibre.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- 256 million PET bottles recycled into raw materials.
- 69% of waste recycled.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Focus on providing upcycling solutions for consumer plastic waste.
- Divert waste from landfill and keep materials in the economy.
- Ensure that production waste is used in products to help move production facilities towards zero waste.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2019, Lidl developed a plastic footprint analysis for FY 2016, 2017 and 2018 of own-brand products to identify the plastic footprint and the recyclability of their products.
- All packaging information is gradually changing to adopt the new On Pack Recycling Label (OPRL) and better inform the consumer on correct disposal.
- In May, Lidl implemented the installation of recycling bins behind tills across all stores nationwide. Customers can dispose of unwanted excess packaging before leaving the store and Lidl then recycle these materials on their behalf. 3 bins are offered, cardboard and paper, plastics (flexible and rigid plastic) and other recyclables (e.g. cans). Lidl can recycle certain plastics, such as flexible plastics, that are not currently recyclable at a household level, and guarantees that nothing goes to landfill.
- Lidl's in-store and warehouse waste management concept helps maintain zero waste to landfill.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Work with the suppliers of the top 50 products with higher plastic footprint and propose packaging optimizations to increase recyclability and reduce plastic weight.
- Enhance the recyclability of packaging on fruit and veg.
- Label products to highlight where packaging has been optimised.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launched communication campaigns across social media to encourage consumers to keep recycling.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Continue to update on pack recycling labels to support their customers to recycle more.
- Work will continue on packaging design to maximise recyclability within the existing recycling infrastructure.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Non detectable black plastic removed from SuperValu fresh produce and ready meals. 100 tonnes of plastic packaging made more readily recyclable.
- Non detectable black plastic removed from Centra fresh produce and ready meals. 30 tonnes of plastic packaging made more readily recyclable.
- 47 tonnes of black plastic removed from SuperQuinn sausages and replaced with detectable alternative.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Eliminate non-detectable black plastic in own brand, produce and instore.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Information on the recyclability of each product is now included in specifications.
- 95% of the products supplied to National Plastic Packaging's customers are recyclable.
- All waste is fully segregated and over 2.6 tonnes of plastic is recycled per annum.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Introduction of a recyclable barrier film that has had some laminate structures replaced to make the film recyclable.
- Launch of Earthpouch, a fully stand up pouch that is made from paper and uses a plastic free heat sealable coating. The pouch is recyclable as part of the paper stream and is suitable for repulping.
- Launch of food trays that are recyclable and optimising tray sizes to reduce material.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In July 2019 Nestle launched the confectionery recycling programme in partnership with TerraCycle to offer Irish consumers the option to recycle flexible plastic packaging.
- TerraCycle accumulates confectionery and pet food wrappers and sends them to a specialist recycler for pelletising.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Developing clear recycling guidance for all packaging for roll out in early 2021.
- Ensuring for some products that they will be future proofed for when infrastructure is rolled out more widely.
- Continue working on interim collection schemes for confectionery packaging and coffee capsules (through Parcel Motel) while also working on solutions with industry and government to develop the waste management system.



## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the CEP Plastic Recycling Targets



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In March 2019 launched Quinn Packaging's important innovation "Detecta" to aid the recycling of black plastic trays.
- Contracts now in place with two of Ireland's leading retailers.
- 500 tonnes of otherwise undetectable black plastics has been diverted to recycling.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- A core focus for Tesco during 2019 was to remove all hard to recycle materials from Tesco own label products.
- Working with suppliers, Tesco identified a way in which black plastic packaging could be made fully detectable. This was implemented on over 100 products, resulting in 448 tonnes of packaging being made more recyclable.
- Implemented a trial in the Cabra store to help consumers recycle packaging in store at the end of their shopping trip and introduced a "little helps" section in store to help educate consumers about at-home recycling with point of sale materials aligned to Repak and [mywaste.ie](http://mywaste.ie).
- Contributed to the DCCAE stakeholder engagement forum and consultation on the development of Ireland's future waste policy.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Publish a new red, amber and green list of preferred packaging materials and work with suppliers to make packaging more recyclable.
- Work with branded suppliers to develop category specific plans to tackle plastics and packaging hotspots in stores.
- Recover more plastic packaging from food waste. Through Green Generation and Paltech's process, 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.
- 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, Tesco aim to capture up to 500 tonnes of packaging materials this year.
- Paltech use an enclosed pressure moulding system to turn large volumes of mixed waste plastic into heavy walled large products.

## Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ABP have pledged to no longer use PVC in packaging where viable alternatives exist.
- Successfully trialed Recycled PET as an alternative on mince packaging with no adverse impact on shelf life.
- Trials conducted on numerous mono-materials and these remain ongoing to ensure that the shelf life of products is not impacted.

### 2020 PLANS

- Once tooling replacements have been completed in 2020, the replacement of PVC with RPET will eliminate almost 133 tonnes of PVC per annum from the supply chain.
  - At present there is no fully recyclable multi laminate bag that can guarantee the shelf life required. ABP as part of the Plastic Action Alliance have therefore partnered with researchers in Athlone Institute of Technology to review what can be done with waste multi laminate bags as a possible alternative route to energy recovery.
- 



### 2020 PLANS

- Moving from polystyrene pizza bases to cardboard pizza bases across the Specially Selected Range, removing 420,000 non-recyclable trays.
- 



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Philips Dictation have aided the recycling of calculator boxes by removing the plastic window from the box.

### 2020 PLANS

- Casio moving from blister packaging to cardboard boxes will remove PVC from this pack format during 2020.
- 



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Trials have been progressed on single layer plastics.

### 2020 PLANS

- Work on single polymer solutions to continue.
-

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain

BROWN THOMAS

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

**ARNOTTS**

- Brown Thomas and Arnotts have updated their Ethical Trading Regulations to specify their sustainable packaging requirements to suppliers.
- This includes increasing the use of recyclable and fully compostable materials and the elimination of polystyrene from packaging by 2021.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Continue engagement with suppliers on the above requirements to support their implementation.



CARL STUART GROUP

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- LLG has encouraged Carl Stuart to purchase products packed in recyclable material.
- Agreements signed with forwarders that guarantee CO2 neutral transport of goods.

#### 2020 PLANS

- With the purchase of a novel packaging machine and the removal of a filling material, Carl Stuart will reduce non-recyclable packaging waste from their process.
- In addition their PadPak cushioning machine will reduce packaging and filling material used.



Coca-Cola HBC  
Ireland & Northern Ireland

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Moved Sprite bottles from green to clear to PET to improve its recyclability.
- Assessed our secondary and tertiary packaging and are actively seeking solutions and partnerships to reduce and/or eliminate the non-recyclable plastic within the supply chain.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Introduce the KeelClip™, an innovative, minimalist paperboard packaging solution for 4, 6 and 8 multipack cans.
- These design changes will eliminate 215 tonnes of LDPE shrinkwrap from circulation annually, a polymer type that is not currently collected for recycling, from households in Ireland.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



#### DANONE

*Danone Early Life Nutrition*

*Danone Waters*

*Danone Nutricia Wexford*

*Danone Ltd.*

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Danone has conducted a review of polymer use throughout the business and identified as more difficult to recycle.

#### 2020 PLANS

- This assessment will continue in 2020 to identify polymers in use that are not recyclable, reusable or compostable and that can hinder the recycling or composting of other items.
- Recyclability by design to be embedded within the innovation pipeline across the business.
- Continue with the phase out of Polystyrene for yoghurt pots during 2020 and replace PVC and PS with more recyclable alternatives by 2021.
- Launch Danone brand yogurt in PET pots.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- A bubble and slide card is used instead of heat sealed plastic and card to aid ease of separation for recycling.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Under the Pernod Ricard 2030 roadmap, materials that can cause recycling issues, for example PVC, have been prohibited.
- All PVC capsules were replaced with recyclable PET, resulting in 1.39 tonnes of PVC being removed from waste streams.
- PVC stickers have been replaced with paper and PP alternatives.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Capsules made from aluminium only are being trialled as a replacement for poly laminate capsules that contain a plastic layer. This would make the capsules recyclable and remove 250kg of plastic.
- Exploring communication to the consumer on pack that these capsules are recyclable.



#### 2020 PLANS

- A key element of being Planet Passionate is to divert waste from landfill and keep materials in the economy.
- Kingspan has set challenging targets for circularity and also in the areas of energy, carbon and water.
- As part of that challenge Kingspan Insulation aim to ensure that products are packaged in recyclable materials.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2019 Lidl Ireland set secondary internal packaging targets after identifying the plastic polymers that are less desirable due to recyclability and the ones that are preferable.
- In 2019, Lidl Ireland removed all the plastic packaging with undetectable black carbon pigment from fresh lines and substituted them for clear recyclable plastics or other detectable pigments:
  - By Jan 2019 – Removed all black plastic in fruit and veg
  - February 2019 – Removed black trays from fresh fish lines
  - By August 2019 – Removed black trays from fresh meat lines
  - From Jan 2020 – All Deluxe beef and duck lines moved to detectable black or grey trays.

Other achievements:

- Removed completely the polystyrene in fruit and veg and confectionery, and substituted them for cardboard or recyclable clear plastic trays.
- Eliminated the plastic liner in many bakery products after testing that none of the packaging functions were altered.
- Reduced the packaging size in several products (bacon and cold meats trays).
- Working with Meade Potato Company, Lidl Ireland developed the first potato compostable bag in Ireland.
- Increased loose fruit and veg products from 20% to 30% in volume from Lidl's total assortment.
- Conducted 2 packaging training sessions to all food Buyers and the Branding and Packaging team so they could be aware of the new packaging requirements and the polymers that Lidl are trying to eliminate from their packaging. The trainings were conducted by Voice Ireland in March, and by 3Keel in November.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Work on a one-to-one basis with suppliers to have the undesirable polymers in packaging materials replaced.
- Work with their packaging technologist, assistant buyers and suppliers during the packaging changes and track the reductions achieved.

*Musgrave*

#### 2020 PLANS

- Assess all in-store packaging lines to identify/implement more sustainable alternatives.
- Eliminate Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) packaging in own brand, produce and instore.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Working closely with customers on new polymer technologies to enhance recyclability and for the purposes of value engineering.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Introduction of a Recyclable Barrier Film. This film provides a high barrier but some laminate structures have been replaced so the film can now be recycled.
- Changing a Laminated PE to Recyclable PE film that maintains barrier properties. Non-recyclable material will be removed from the market.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Established the Nestlé Institute of Packaging Science, the first of its kind in the food industry. The Institute will enable us to accelerate efforts to bring packaging that is environmentally friendly, functional and safe to the market.
- Published design for recycling golden rules for Nestlé's packaging developers and suppliers.
- Relaunched YES! bars in a flow wrapped paper wrapper in July 2019 which is recyclable, a first for the confectionery industry.
- Removed harder to recycle black caps on all Nescafé products.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Having identified the 10 most challenging packaging formats in the portfolio, individual category roadmaps have been set out to identify solutions for them by 2025.
- Begun developing alternatives to plastic packaging across the brand portfolio where feasible.
- Smarties products, which started the move to be plastic free in 2019, will shift to paper-wrapped across the range in 2020.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in the Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



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#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

At Tesco we want to ensure that:

1. We remove hard to recycle materials from our packaging by the end of 2019
2. Our packaging will be fully recyclable by 2025

To do this Tesco have identified a list of preferred packaging materials to use in Tesco own-label product packaging through which they will simplify polymer usage and remove non-recyclable components.

This year Tesco Ireland:

- Removed polystyrene from the pots and lids of Tesco Fresh Cream, from the sleeve used on some dairy products and from boxes and trays used on counter fish products. This will result in a full year removal of 40 tonnes of polystyrene from packaging per annum.
- Removed PVC from the base tray and films used in several Tesco cooked meats and produce packaging, resulting in a full year removal of over 359 tonnes PVC from packaging.
- Were the first retailer to introduce recyclable detectable black plastic trays. 448 tonnes has now moved to detectable black plastic, in over 100 individual Tesco Own Label Products.
- To achieve this, Tesco has worked with five own label suppliers: Hilton Foods, Manor Farm, O'Brien Fine Foods, Carroll Cuisine & Ballymaguire Foods.
- Moved 97 tonnes of black trays to clear trays where a detectable black tray could not be sourced.
- Committed to not accepting new products in packaging from Tesco's Red list of materials; this is captured at the very start of their NPD process.

Tesco also held a packaging conference in October which brought together over 500 suppliers from across Ireland and the UK to ask them to work with the business by supporting their packaging ambitions.

#### 2020 PLANS

- In 2020 Tesco Ireland plan to publish a new Red, Amber Green list of preferred materials.
  - They will work in conjunction with suppliers, both own-label and branded, to continue to simplify polymer use in packaging and make it easier to recyclable.
-

# Objective 4: Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy



## 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- As part of the PVC replacement project ABP successfully trialled Recycled PET.

## 2020 PLANS

- As part of the Plastic Action Alliance, ABP have pledged to incorporate 30% average recycled content in plastic packaging by 2025. By implementing the PVC replacement project this will increase recycled content within their packaging portfolio.
- The Plastic Action Alliance are also working with Athlone Institute of Technology to complete four research project reviews, in the area of soak pads, polypropylene recycle availability, multi laminates and circular economy.
- One of these studies will examine the changes to tray characteristics after reprocessing and possible impact on performance.
- Due to trial new developments by suppliers that are made up of 100% recycled content.



## 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Began discussions with suppliers to source and use packaging materials with a recycled content.
- Aldi Ireland's flexi loop bags are now made from 100% recycled plastic.

## 2020 PLANS

- Efforts will continue to incorporate recycled content in plastic packaging where possible.

BROWN THOMAS

## 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

ARNOTTS

- Reviewed design of store and ecommerce packaging with suppliers.
- Identified several improvements to enable use of materials with higher recycled content.
- Implementing these improvements on new orders.

## 2020 PLANS

- Introduce more reusable B2C carrier bags made from recycled plastic.
- Replace all new orders of B2B virgin plastic single use plastic bags with 100% recycled plastic bags.



## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 4: Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy



CARL STUART GROUP

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- During 2019, Carl Stuart started to focus on suppliers offering sustainable products.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Carl Stuart and LLG will primarily promote products which fulfil this criteria - i.e. products that consist of recycled material or that are certified as biodegradable under controlled conditions.



Coca-Cola HBC  
Ireland & Northern Ireland

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Achieved 40% recycled content integration across their plastic portfolio thereby keeping resources in use for as long as possible.
- A study by ALPLA confirms that Coca Cola's investment in rPET will reduce the end to end carbon footprint of their packaging by 79%.
- In June 2019 the Deep River Rock brand introduced its 100% rPET bottle range across the full PET portfolio. The move eliminates 1,500 tonnes of virgin plastic from the supply chain annually.
- All on the go packs of 500ml or less now contain 50% rPET, while larger take home packs contain 25% rPET.
- This integration of recycled content eliminates 3,450 tonnes of virgin plastic from the supply chain annually.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Trial the use of R100 100% recycled plastic film for multipack bottles across the Deep River Rock portfolio.
- Committed to achieving 50% use of recycled plastic across their portfolio by 2030. It is envisaged that this will be achieved almost 10 years ahead of schedule in 2020.
- Exploring the feasibility of moving to 100% recycled PET in on the go packs. If achievable recycled PET integration will exceed 60% across the portfolio.



**DANONE**

*Danone Early Life Nutrition*

*Danone Waters*

*Danone Nutricia Wexford*

*Danone Ltd.*

#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Danone yogurt launched in 100% PET with a 30% rPET content.

#### 2020 PLANS

- In 2020 750ml and 1.5 Litre Evian will be made from 100% recycled plastic. 1 Litre bottles as well as bottles in 4 x 750ml and 6 x 1.5 Litre multipacks are made with 50% recycled plastic.
- Working within industry working groups and across Europe to find solutions to standard food grade recycled plastics.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 4: Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- As of December 2019, 500ml PET bottles contain 30% rPET, removing 8.1 tonnes of virgin plastic and improving the circularity of packaging.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Researching PET capsule samples with up to 25% recycled content. If viable this would reduce Virgin plastic use by 0.35 tonnes annually.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- 256 million bottles recycled into raw material.

#### 2020 PLANS

- As part of being Planet Passionate, our products will contain recycled materials and recycled production waste.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- 50% of material used in own-brand packaging to come from recycled materials by 2025.
- Asking suppliers to source plastics that contain recycled content and are confident to meet this target.
- Part of RESetplastic, the plastics strategy of the Schwarz Group which takes a holistic approach comprising action on avoidance, design, recycling, disposal and education/innovation.
- Integrates the circular economy concept into the design of any of the products that Lidl or Kaufland sells across the international markets.
- RESetplastic is composed of in-house expertise groups that support the packaging strategy across the countries.
- Support of GreenCycle, a recycling facility responsible for recycling the groups own packaging materials back into packaging for their own products, such as the Saskia sparkling water bottle available in Lidl stores, which consists of 50% rPET.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Specific targets to increase the recycled content in primary packaging set for products in 2020.
- On pack labels created for own brand product to highlight where it now has improved packaging to be rolled out in 2020.

Bespoke messages will apply when:

- The packaging contains at least 30% recycled materials
- The packaging is made of a more sustainable alternative material.
- The packaging volume or weight has been reduced by at least 10%.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 4: Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Communication added to the front of packaging and on social channels to drive awareness of the fact that Ribena has been using 100% recycled plastic in its bottles for over ten years and encouraged consumers to keep the recycling loop going!
- Ensured that all Lucozade Sport 380ml bottles given out at Irish race events that they partnered with were made from 100% recycled PET.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Increase rPET in Lucozade Sport from 0 to 100%.
- Move all outer case plastic wrapping (shrinkwrap) to 30% recycled content.
- Move consumer facing multipack shrink to using 50% recycled content.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Introduced a new range of films that contains up to 50% post consumer recycled raw materials.
- This range includes shrinkfilm, hoods, bottom and top sheets.
- Between 15 and 50% of regenerated material can be included in the film composition.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Launch of Eco Fiber Film, an innovative stretch film with reinforcement elements (fibers) that increase tear resistance.
- Eco Fiber Film contains 30% Recycled Raw Materials (post-industrial) and is 100% Recyclable.
- The film results in 50% less CO2 emissions than the market average and at least 50% less plastic waste.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launched a number of products in 50% recycled PE shrinkfilm.

#### 2020 PLANS

- In January Nestlé announced a CHF 2 billion (€1.8 billion) investment to accelerate the shift from virgin plastics to food-grade recycled plastics and to accelerate the development of innovative sustainable packaging solutions.
- In addition to their inhouse research capability, Nestlé have also launched a CHF 250 million sustainable packaging venture fund to invest in start-up companies that focus on these areas.

Nestlé are also planning action in the following areas:

- PP caps on glass jars and tins – target 30% recycled content by 2025.
- PE shrink films – target 50% recycled content by 2025.
- PET bottles – target 35% recycled content by 2025.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 4: Incorporate recycled content to build a circular economy



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### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Orbital by Quinn developed.
- Allows for the production of a food grade sheet made from 100% Recycled Post Consumer PET material.
- No requirement for outer capping layer of virgin PET, allowing maximum inclusion of recycled PET material.
- European Food Safety Authority certification for Orbital by Quinn received in July 2019.

### 2020 PLANS

- Orbital by Quinn launched in February 2020.
  - In 2020 Quinn Packaging will use 10,000 tonnes of recycled PET in its operations.
-

## Objective 5: Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA's Food Waste Charter



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ABP recognises the high importance of reducing food waste as outlined in Ireland's food waste charter. For all plastic packaging reductions or substitutions carried out, ABP ensure that there is no negative effect on the food product that could lead to food waste. With all trials carried out, shelf life tests must ensure that the shelf life can be retained for the product, the quality of the product must also to be of high standard.
- ABP have signed up to UK charity WRAP's "Target, Measure, Act" approach, committing to tackle food waste within the company to help deliver towards the Sustainable Development Goal 12.3. This collaborative approach taken by food businesses will significantly help to reduce food waste. ABP have pledged to work to reduce food waste across all ABP operations by 50% by 2030. All ABP sites including Ireland, UK and Poland are tracking food waste quantities in order to measure and report consistently.

### 2020 PLANS

- Packaging trials planned for mono-materials and reduced gauge materials with not be implemented if they adversely affect shelf life or increase food waste.



### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Aldi is a member of the Retail Action Group and signatory to Ireland's Food Waste Charter.
- Before packaging changes are implemented, trials and shelf life testing takes place to ensure that the quality of the product is not impacted.

### 2020 PLANS

- Continue to work with FoodCloud where food waste does arise.
- Promote reduction of food waste to customer by including tips in weekly leaflets.

BROWN THOMAS

### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

ARNOTTS

- Updated the group's Ethical Trading Regulations to communicate their sustainable packaging requirements to include food suppliers.

### 2020 PLANS

- Plan to continue engagement with food suppliers on the above requirements to support their implementation.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 5: Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA's Food Waste Charter



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- All objectives have been achieved without compromising on the quality or shelf life of products.
- Short dated stock is also donated to the Simon Community's food bank each quarter to eliminate food waste.
- In 2019, 180,000 bottles of water and soft drinks were donated.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Maintain the integrity of packaging in 2020 as sustainability initiatives are accelerated.
- Continue to donate stock during 2020 to reduce food waste in the supply chain.



#### DANONE

*Danone Early Life Nutrition*

*Danone Waters*

*Danone Nutricia Wexford*

*Danone Ltd.*

#### 2020 PLANS

- Through the Consumer Goods Forum Danone has committed to reduce food waste across operations by 50% by 2030 – in Ireland the business continues to look to re-distribute surplus products via charity networks such as Food Cloud.

## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 5: Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA's Food Waste Charter



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#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Extended range of loose fruit and vegetables on sale. Every time Lidl Ireland introduce a new loose fruit and veg product an assessment of the performance of that product in terms of sales, write-offs and how much of it is donated, is conducted.
- Once listed, they also review the performance on a quarterly bases.
- Currently, 30% of fruit and veg on sale are unpacked.
- Regarding the remaining products, a full analysis with the supplier is conducted to make sure that the quality and shelf life of the product remains the same or increases.
- Messaging included on packaging providing information on how to freeze the product so food waste can be reduced at a household level.
- Several campaigns launched on social media in order to inform customers how to avoid food waste at home.
- Donated the equivalent to 418,177 meals to FoodCloud, equivalent to 175,641 KG resulting in an estimated value of €526,923 of surplus food, rescued charities would have otherwise spent on food. From an environmental perspective that's an approximate 562,051 KG of CO2-equivalent avoided.
- Use of smartphone technology now allows stores in Northern Ireland to donate food at the push of a button through the FoodCloud app.
- Lidl Ireland's "Waste Not" initiative offers customers large discounts on chilled products.
- Waste Not also supports Lidl's commitment to the Food Waste Charter, by aiming to reduce food waste on the island of Ireland by 723,000kg each year.

#### 2020 PLANS

- In 2020, Lidl Ireland are hoping to introduce more categories for donation with FoodCloud on the learnings from in-store trials. Lidl Ireland have also added a FoodCloud target to all stores KPI's which is in addition to a closely monitored write-off KPI which is intended to encourage donations significantly.
  - Keep trialling new loose fruit and vegs, and keep working on packaging optimisations' as described in the previous sections.
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## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 5: Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA's Food Waste Charter



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Food waste measured for the 2018 calendar year at the Coleford factory site in Gloucestershire, UK.
- Total food production was 443,203 tonnes for this period. Food waste was 5,780 tonnes, which is 1.3% of total production. Note that the LRS food waste definition includes food sent to animal feed. In line with Champions 12.3 best practice, when food waste sent for animal feed is excluded, the food waste figure is 0 tonnes.
- This year LRS achieved an 8% reduction in total food waste, from 6,303 tonnes in 2017 down to 5,780 tonnes in 2018. This is equivalent to a 16% reduction in waste as a percentage of production, from 1.6% down to 1.3%.
- The food waste produced is a result of errors in the production process, such as fallen or underfilled bottles, and changes in production runs due to fluctuations in consumer demand.
- As these figures are based on 2018, all food waste was sent to animal feed.
- LRS take reducing all waste streams seriously and are a zero to landfill site.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Surplus product will continue to be given to local charities via Food Cloud in Ireland, who have been a partner since 2017.
- At the factory there is daily management of stock solutions to continuously monitor usage on site.
- If any issues or faults are identified with a bottle or cap, the liquid product is manually tipped back into the process so that it can be rebottled to avoid unnecessary waste. This equates to less than 1% of total concentrate product, but represents approximately 20,000 tonnes per annum.
- The Coleford factory already operates under the ISO 9001 (Quality), 14001 (Environmental) standards, and is currently working towards ISO 2200 (Food Safety). The prerequisites of all three standards is the correct management and reduction of all wastes.



#### 2020 PLANS

- Support consumers to reduce food waste in the home through product and packaging initiatives.



#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since their partnership began with FoodCloud, Nestlé have donated the equivalent of over 35,000 meals to the social enterprise.
- Nestlé Ireland also became the first food supplier to make a financial contribution to FoodCloud for its surplus food redistribution. The company provides a per pallet financial contribution to cover the costs to manage, store and redistribute any unforeseen food surplus, ensuring no food goes to landfill and creates a new sustainable income stream for the social enterprise, paving the way for other food industry partners to follow suit.



## Appendix - Member Achievements & Plans

### Objective 5: Ensure our approach aligns to the EPA's Food Waste Charter



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#### 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Tesco's focus in 2019 was to remove hard to recycle materials from product packaging whilst also ensuring that the integrity of the product holds up (i.e. health and safety and product protection).
- Exploring the possibility of having a larger core range of packaging free products in stores whilst understanding the impact that this could have on potentially driving increased food waste in stores.
- Tesco continue to focus on reducing food waste by minimising surplus through better ordering and availability, and then maximising surplus donations to FoodCloud where they occur.
- To date over 10 million meals to 350+ causes have been donated through this partnership, the first of its kind nationally in Ireland.
- Engaged 12 of the largest fresh food suppliers to come on board and align to Sustainable Development Code 12.3, to halve food waste from farm to fork by 2030.

#### 2020 PLANS

- Tesco's ambition is to halve food waste, from farm to fork by 2030 aligned to Sustainable Development Goal 12.3.
  - In 2020 Tesco will continue to work within their business, with suppliers and with consumers to reduce food waste in Ireland. These core suppliers are also working closely with Tesco on their own-label packaging commitments.
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