

**Repak Members’
Plastic Pledge Report
2021**



ACRONYMS

CEP	Circular Economy Package
DCCAE	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
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

2021 was another year of significant achievement by Repak's Members in helping to deliver the actions set out in Repak's Plastic Packaging Recycling Strategy 2018–2030.

The number of businesses signed up to the Repak Members Plastic Pledge has now increased to 142 and the momentum in relation to tackling avoidable plastic packaging waste, increasing the recyclability of plastic packaging and incorporating recycled content continues to move forward. The Covid 19 pandemic continued to impact many businesses during 2021. Despite this many businesses continued the great work we have seen since the launch of the Repak Members' Plastic Pledge in September 2018.

- Many Members have adapted their packaging and operations to ensure compliance with the Single Use Plastics Directive which placed market restrictions on items such as plastic straws and oxo degradable packaging.
- Members also continue to remove complex packaging from their supply chain and continue to move us closer to achieving the EU's goal of all plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable by 2030.
- In 2021, Repak funded plastic recycling of 96,412 tonnes and sent 200,066 tonnes for recovery – a total of 98% of the estimated plastic packaging placed on the market by all businesses.
- Actions to date when accumulated will result in the reduction or replacement of over 26,000 tonnes from the estimated 315,805 tonnes of plastic packaging placed on the market in 2021. Repak Members placed 144,011 tonnes on the market, representing 46% of the total.
- On average plastic packaging reductions of 25% were achieved by businesses.
- Over 600 million single use plastic items have either been replaced with non-plastic or reusable alternatives or removed from the Irish market completely.
- Members who reported their recycling rates for packaging captured at their premises are achieving an average of 69%. However in 2021 Repak funded 3.5% less backdoor recycling tonnes. Significant improvement opportunities remain in this area.
- Members who reported projects to increase recycled plastic in packaging achieved an average of just over 60% recycled content with some packaging achieving as high as 100%.

Five Key Objectives

Repak Members' Plastic Pledge

Objective 1 Prevent Plastic Waste

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

Objective 2 Support Circular Economy

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 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**.

Objective 4 Use Recycled

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

Objective 5 Avoid Food Waste

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

Thank you to the following Plastic Pledge Members, Partners and Stakeholders who contributed to our Plastic Challenge Working Group Meetings during 2021:

Members



BROWN THOMAS
ARNOTTS



Partners & Stakeholders



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



2021 Member Contributors

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.





1.0 Introduction

1.1 Single Use Plastic Directive Market Restrictions become Irish Law

2021 saw the transposition of the Single Use Plastics Directive into Irish Law.

The first part of this transposition covered market restrictions on certain single use plastic items that came into force on the 3rd July 2021.

This banned the placing of the following single use plastic items on to the Irish market from that date:

- Plastic Straws.
- Plastic cutlery and stirrers.
- Disposable plastic plates.
- All items made from oxo degradable plastic.
- Expanded polystyrene beverage cups and take away food containers.
- Plastic cotton bud sticks.
- Plastic balloon sticks.

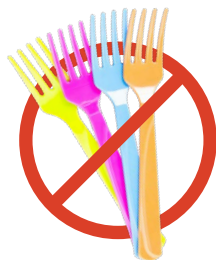
The remaining components of this legislation will be brought into force on a phased basis between now and 2024 and include:

- New separate collection targets for plastic beverage bottles (90% by 2029).
- Recycled content targets for plastic beverage bottles (30% by 2030).
- Requirements for cap tethering on plastic bottles by 2024.
- New EPR schemes for wet wipes and tobacco products.
- Consumption Reduction targets to be met by 2026 for plastic beverage cups and food containers.

Restricted Items as of July 2021



Plastic Straws



**Plastic cutlery and
stirrer**



plastic plates



**oxo degradable
plastic**



Expanded polystyrene



**Plastic cotton
bud sticks**



**Plastic balloon
sticks**



1.2 Net Necessary Cost and Eco-Fee Modulation

Repak have been working on designing eco-fee modulation as part of delivering the Circular Economy Package. A process that commenced with plastic and composite materials. Our ambition is to boost recycling by incentivising eco-design of packaging products in a fair and cost-effective way and one in which will stand up to scrutiny.

To do this Repak have been gathering Net Necessary Costs from key operators as producers are now required to fund 80% of the Net Necessary Cost of the Collection, processing and recycling of packaging materials.

This net cost takes account of any income or cost associated with the handling of waste materials. As the cost of handling non-recyclable materials is higher, this is being reflected in Repak fees on a phased basis in a process known as eco fee modulation.

In 2023 Repak's fees for plastics and composites will be fully aligned to this net cost. 2023 will also see the full rollout of eco fee modulation to all other packaging materials.

1.3 Reintroduction of Soft Plastics

As a key step to increasing opportunities to recycle more plastic packaging, during 2021 we saw the reintroduction of soft plastics to the household recycling bin. This project was monitored through the Plastic Challenge Working Group and involved stakeholders from the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, Irish Waste Management Association and Repak.

In order to minimise consumer confusion, all soft plastics are now accepted. Recyclable plastics will then be sent for recycling to polymer reprocessing facilities and non-recyclable laminates and composite materials will be removed for energy recovery.

In addition further funding has been allocated for increasing plastic packaging recycling at commercial premises which commenced at the beginning of January 2021.

1.4 Progress of the Plastic Challenge Working Group

In 2021 the work of the Plastic Challenge Working Group continued with three Working Group meetings held virtually in February, June and December.

The working group continued to monitor the progress of a number of key projects many of which are now a key part of the Government's Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy and the new Circular Economy Bill.



Pictured at the 2021 Pakman Awards — **Left:** Rachel Nugent, Aldi Stores (Ireland) Ltd.; **Middle:** Miles Karemacher, Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland; **Right:** Hugh McAfee, Lidl Ireland GmbH



GOLD PLASTIC PLEDGE AWARD

In 2021 we were delighted to award three businesses with a Gold Plastic Pledge Award

- Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland
- Aldi Stores Ireland Ltd.
- Lidl Ireland & Northern Ireland



SILVER PLASTIC PLEDGE AWARD

The following businesses took home Silver awards on the night.

- ABP Food Group
- Britvic Ireland
- Irish Distillers
- Tesco Ireland



BRONZE PLASTIC PLEDGE AWARD

The following businesses took home Bronze awards on the night.

- Danone Ireland
- Mannok Pack Ltd
- NPP Group Ltd

Plastic Pledge Pakman Awards

In 2021 we were delighted to return to our full awards ceremony following the impact of Covid 19 in 2020.

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. In addition, entrants must demonstrate educational efforts to support staff and consumers.

REPAK MEMBERS' PLASTIC PLEDGE



2.0 Plastic Recycling
at Commercial Premises



2.1 Background

In November 2021, Repak launched its campaign to address the area of plastic packaging backdoor waste segregation in line with objective 2 of the Repak Members' Plastic Pledge.

Almost half of plastic packaging waste that arises on the Irish market originates from commercial premises.

In 2020 Repak saw a 3.5% decline in the tonnes of backdoor plastic packaging waste it funded for recycling versus 2019.

This is most often due to poor waste segregation practices on site as a result of:

- Recyclable plastic packaging being discarded in business general waste bins.
- Material being too contaminated when placed in a recycling bin, making it unsuitable for recycling.
- Waste collection infrastructure or services that do not meet the current needs of the businesses.

Although this decline is a concern it must also be seen as a significant opportunity to increase plastic packaging recycling rates, with almost 50% of all packaging waste generated in Ireland discarded at commercial premises.

2.2 What can you do?

Legal Obligations on Businesses

First of all it is important to note that there are certain legal obligations on Irish businesses when it comes to the segregation of packaging waste.

Regulation 5 of the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 as amended states that:

- Producers should ensure that packaging waste is separated at source, by material type.
- Packaging waste should be collected by a contractor for the purposes of recycling.

It is important therefore that your business is segregating recyclable plastic packaging materials such as plastic pallet wrap, shrink hoods, case wrap and pallet sheets from other types of waste. If in doubt about what your waste contractor will accept in the recycling bins or in bales ask them for their assistance.

It is also essential that these recyclable materials are kept clean, dry and loose so that they are suitable for recycling at the point of collection.



What you should expect from your Waste Contractor

Waste contractors have a significant role to play in helping you to maximise recycling at your premises. It is therefore critical to work with them in order to ensure that they are offering:

- 1 At least a three bin service for recycling (General Waste, Organic Waste and Mixed Dry Recycling).
- 2 Support in order to source segregate by material where possible such as through baling of plastic film, bottles and the separation of other recyclable items such as drums or barrels. These items are usually manufactured from highly recyclable plastics such as Polyethylene (LDPE or HDPE), Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) or Polypropylene (PP).
- 3 A breakdown of what the waste contractor is doing with your waste showing
 - what materials are being recycled,
 - what materials are being recovered or disposed,
 - Food waste collected,
 - the associated cost of all of the above.

This can usually be shown on a monthly basis and can help you track trends over the year to see how well your managing and any further improvements that might be needed.

The more material that is being recycled, the lower the cost. In fact it is important to note that source segregated material that has been baled is often collected free of charge.

What to do if there are any shortfall's in the current arrangements

If you are having challenges achieving good segregation on site due to the bins or balers you currently have, it is important to engage with your waste contractor who can advise on how you improve this. It is also important to note that improvements in recycling rates will not only help the environment but can reduce costs for your business.

It is also important to ensure that any improvements are implemented within an agreed timeframe.

Evaluate and review your waste services on a regular basis. A list of waste contractors (recovery operators) is available on our website at www.repak.ie.

If you need any additional support you can also contact our packaging services team here at Repak.





3.0 Objectives and Progress

We are delighted that our Members have continued to tell us about the work they have been doing throughout 2021 and the plans they have for 2022 against the five Plastic Pledge objectives. Below are just some of the highlights shared by our Plastic Pledge signatories¹.

Objective 1: Prevent Plastic 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. It is important to note that it is now illegal to place items subject to market restrictions within the Directive on the market since July 2021.

In 2021 Plastic Pledge signatories:

- Removed or replaced more than 600 million single use plastic items with reusable or permitted non-plastic alternatives.
- Reduced plastic packaging by an average of 25% through various lightweighting programmes.

Objective 2: Support Circular Economy

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 2021 Plastic Pledge signatories:

- Achieved a recycling rate of 69% at their premises.
- Continued to promote recycling education both through internal communications and externally through labelling and various media platforms.

It should be noted that on site recycling remains a significant opportunity with recycling rates for plastics at commercial premises remaining an opportunity for Ireland

¹ Appendix 1 shows the achievements and plans of individual businesses in more detail.

3.0 Objectives and Progress

Objective 3: Simplify Polymers

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 businesses continue this work with goals set for achievement between now and 2025 currently in progress.

Objective 5: Avoid Food Waste

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.

Objective 4: Use Recycled

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 2021 include:

- An average recycled content of over 60% reported.
- Trays and PET bottles with 100% recycled content.
- Plastics from businesses own operations integrated back into packaging for their products.



4.0 Conclusions and Next Steps

This year the final piece of waste legislation impacting packaging became Irish law with the transposition of the Single Use Plastics Directive.

The recycling targets set out in the Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive for plastic remain a challenge. However there is also an opportunity to work together with our Member businesses to achieve these.

Repak's Membership and recycling and recovery team will continue to work with its key stakeholders during 2022 with a significant focus placed on how we get more plastic packaging out of general waste bins and skips and into recycling streams. This is a significant opportunity not only to increase recycling rates for our Members but also to reduce their costs.

We are also looking forward to working with our Plastic Pledge signatories, partners and stakeholders throughout 2022 to ensure that progress continues on projects that will enable our waste management and recycling programmes to capture more plastic packaging and reach the circular economy targets for plastic packaging recycling.



Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



ABP Food Group

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- All avoidable Single Use Plastics being phased out across our business with respect to catering activities on site. We have introduced reusable options where possible or alternative material options.
- Bagasse tray introduced for customer – this replaced plastic trays removing nearly 50 tonnes of plastic packaging annually.
- We moved from a 23mu to a 12mu film for retail plastic wrap – Weight per retail pallet reduced by 49% in film weight.

2022 PLANS

- 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.
- Our focus for 2022 is to further work to reduce liner usage in our retail unit – hope to make approx. 2 tonnes plastic removal.
- We hope to assess bags used for product to see if any reductions can be made.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



Aldi Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Aldi Ireland have eliminated problematic plastic packaging (black plastic, PVC and EPS) from Core Range Food in 2020. In 2020 we also moved to 100% pulp-based packaging across Core Range (which is either FSC or PEFC Certified or made of minimum 70% recycled content).

Aldi has worked with its Irish suppliers to introduce new innovative, sustainable packaging solutions that has resulted in over 2,150 tonnes of virgin plastic being removed from its stores nationwide.

In the past 18 months, Aldi has led the retail market driving plastic reduction. Successes include:

- Becoming the first retailer to launch new home compostable trays made from sugarcane across all its multi-award winning premium Specially Selected Irish steaks range.
- Moving all 1L milk cartons to fully renewable plant-based material.
- Aldi introduced fully biodegradable teabags made from plant-based materials across all its own-label ranges. The switch, which is a first in Irish supermarkets, means each of the 286 million Aldi teabags sold every year will be biodegradable.
- Aldi replaced all single-use plastic straws from its juice range with paper straws, removing over four million single-use pieces of plastic.

2022 PLANS

In 2022, Aldi will work towards its plastic and packaging targets.



Aramark Northern Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Aramark's commitment is to eliminate avoidable single-use plastic and minimise impacts of plastic packaging whilst working towards 100% reusable or recyclable packaging by 2025.

42% of all our front of house disposable packaging in 2021 was compostable vs 25% in 2020.

With regards to front of house disposables less than 20% of our packaging is plastic.

2022 PLANS

Where this isn't an option our disposable packaging offer is tailored towards packaging that can be recycled and we continue to educate our colleagues and clients with guidelines on which bins to use.

Whilst clingfilm remains a challenge with no suitable alternative being available we are able to change the coffee cup lids and our drive this year is to push/promote the paper coffee cup lid.



Blenders Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Blenders complies with the EU Single Use Plastics already.

Covid-19 increased hygiene standards resulted in an uplift in single serve sachet line condiments such as Tomato Ketchup and Mayonnaise. Conversely appetite for refillable dispensing options reduced and plans for developing these were put on hold until post pandemic.

Research and trials were conducted with foil lids used for sealing dip pots. Thickness of plastic and several different types of material types were trialled. We found that there is a limit to the reduction that is technically possible before the shelf-life is compromised, particularly with acidic foods. We have now found the optimum balance between materials composition to assure safe and quality products over the shelf-life.

2022 PLANS

Revisit consideration of reusable options – Covid-19 controls permitting.



Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2021, we continued our journey to deliver the commitment we laid out in our Repak Members' Plastic Pledge on packaging design. These were aligned with our company's World Without Waste strategy, and we had several ambitions, including reducing plastic packaging waste by minimising avoidable single-use plastic.

We continued to eliminate 'single-use' plastic shrink wrap from our multi-packs, complementing our move in 2020 to the KeelClip™ on packs of up to eight cans, in April 2021, we introduced Q-Flex Card Carton Packs for our larger multipack cans; a move that eliminated a further 290 tonnes of plastic from our supply chain. This combined move to card has removed over 500 tonnes of plastic. We continued our focus on primary packaging and reducing the overall plastic needed in our bottles. Through 'light-weighting', our plastic bottles use 12% less plastic. Our light-weighting initiatives reduce plastic use by approximately 1,200 tonnes annually.

We continued to source sourced point-of-sale materials made from recycled materials and focused on shifting from single-use point-of-sale materials to permanent solutions.

We also continued to work closely with our large and medium sized retailers to 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.

2022 PLANS

In Q3 2022, we will further lightweight our Deep RiverRock range with a focus on our 500ml bottle. This will achieve a plastic reduction of over 65 tonnes. Also, in Q3 2022, we will further lightweight our larger Take-Home Coca-Cola owned portfolio, saving 70 tonnes of plastic. We are also trialling 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.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



Dairygold Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

A preliminary trial was carried out in 2021 to evaluate the product integrity of Glenor Cheddar Cheese packaging, which would allow for the reduction in plastic packaging from 100 microns to 80 microns. This would eliminate 20% of plastic at source.

This impacts an estimated 32,000 tonnes of Cheddar produced.

2022 PLANS

The trial has been deemed successful in 2022 and will initiate a new packaging change, reducing 20% plastic from all Glenor Cheddar cheese from Q1 2022.



Dawn Farm Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Project 1:

Replace single use plastic cutlery for customers with compostable bamboo cutlery.

2021 Achievements: Single use plastic cutlery has been eliminated from use in the Science and Innovation Development kitchen and replaced with sustainable options. Estimated plastic removal 20kg.

Project 2:

The replacement of all customer polystyrene boxes.

2021 Progress: 2021 Achievements: A supplier of suitable 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.

2022 PLANS

Project 1:

Remove 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.

Project 2:

The replacement of all customer polystyrene boxes. This project will result in the long-term removal of approximately 1800 polystyrene boxes a year.



Heineken Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2021 Heineken reduced imported plastic packaging by 9.3% from 300 to 272 tonnes.
- Completion of the project to remove 4 million pieces of plastics from across the portfolio, as we removed shrink wrap and can connectors from the portfolio.
- We have taken a decision to no longer have PET bottles which is an additional 350,000 items.
- Despite the limited events during COVID we still ran trials of reusable cups where available and are working with our event partners to remove 500,000 single use plastics cups from our summer events schedule.



Irish Country Meats

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All avoidable Single Use Plastics have been removed across our business with respect to catering activities on site.

Bag fill/Box fill projects have delivered 10.4% reduction in bag use in Q4 2021.

Reusable crate usage has increased by 30% in 2021 on our domestic trade to over 80% take up with a corresponding decrease in cardboard.

2022 PLANS

Through a full review of box liners across our full product line, with the object of removing any non-essential packaging, we expect to remove approximately 2 tonnes of liners.

Increased take up (from a low base) of reusable crates on export markets is a target for 2022.



Jacobs Douwe Egberts

2022 PLANS

In 2022 Kenco will re-launch its specialities range of sachet coffees. The new packs will use 27% less packaging material than the previous range, producing a smaller physical footprint product. JDE is committed to further packaging reduction projects, with a corporate target of reducing total packaging by 15,000 tonnes by 2025.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste



Kearney's Home Bakery

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We have reduced our plastic bag usage by 18%.

We have started to reuse plastic trays that are returned to our premises with returned product – these are washed / cleaned and reused and it currently accounts for 3.7% of our plastic tray packaging.

2022 PLANS

- We plan to eliminate the use of plastic bags completely during 2022.
- We are looking at using lighter plastic trays to reduce the weight of our plastic purchases.



Lidl Ireland GmbH

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Lidl Ireland Commitment: We have pledged that by the end of 2022, we will reduce the volume of plastic packaging by 20% by reducing and removing plastic wherever feasible or creating reusable alternatives.

Examples of implemented projects aligned with the Repak goals are:

SUP REMOVAL

Plastic Cutlery: We substituted all remaining plastic cutlery and straws that were part of a product with non-plastic alternatives. Removing 17 tonnes of plastic per year.

Cotton Buds: Since 2018 we have substituted all the plastic sticks in our cotton buds with paper alternatives – removing 180 million pieces of plastic annually. At 0.25g per swap, that is 45 tonnes of plastic removed annually.

Other SUP: We have also stopped selling single use plastic products such as plastic drinking straws, plastic cups, plastic plates and plastic cutlery. In total these efforts alone remove over 200 million pieces of plastic from our range annually.

PACKAGING REDUCTION/ REMOVAL

Fresh Fish Trays: In 2021 together with one of our suppliers we reduced the tray footprint of 14 of our fresh fish lines by circa 20% and in total this reduces our plastic output by approx. 30 tonnes every year.

Apple Trays: Our sixpack organic apples permanently moved from a cardboard tray with plastic flow wrap and paper label to 100% recyclable FSC certified cardboard packaging - removing approx. 4.5 tonnes of plastic per year.

Steak Trays: We also developed an infographic for consumers on how to recycle the new packaging. Placed directly under the steak so consumers see the 'how-to' immediately once the steak is taken out.

Lidl Ireland GmbH continued

Fresh Orange Juice: We started offering a reusable glass bottle for our fresh orange juice machines in store next to the current PET bottle. The customers pay the same price for the orange juice in both bottles; however, the glass bottle has a bigger filling volume than the current PET bottles, therefore getting more juice for their money and incentivising the use and reuse the new bottles. In the first 6 months since they have been introduced about 20,000 refills have been sold. That's 40,000 orange juice bottles a year. This number is expected to increase with the number of reusable bottles in circulation.

Bakery: The inner blue LDPE bags for bread delivered to our bakery was removed by our supplier – removing 30 tonnes of coloured plastic annually from our sites.

Herbs: Previously, our seasonal herb trios were 3 plastic pots with different herbs contained in an aluminium bucket wrapped in a plastic sleeve with a paper label. In December 2021 we worked with our supplier to grow all three herbs in one pot wrapped in a recyclable and direct printed paper sleeve – this move will save almost 250kg of plastic every season with additional savings in aluminium and paper labels.

Our fresh cut herbs moved from a rigid PET clamshell with a paper label to direct printed flow-wrap in 2021, reducing the total packaging weight by over 80%.

2022 PLANS

New Focus – Packaging Database: Over the last 12 months we developed an in-depth packaging database, together with an external provider which, going forward, will enable us to give clear and detailed information on our packaging footprint, track our continuous improvements and will provide valuable insights into identifying high-impact projects. This information will enable us to focus our efforts on products and projects that have a substantial influence on our plastic footprint. This data is currently being used to inform our short-term, mid-term and long-term packaging strategy.

Optimisations: We have aligned several optimisations and trials that will go live in 2022. Our focus area for 2022 will be removing mixed materials, reducing packaging weights and increasing recycled material inclusion. We will focus on high volume items across our range to maximise our impact.



National Plastic Packaging

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We involve every person in our company in our drive to reduce the impact we have on the environment. Through promoting awareness, and encouraging our people to continually reduce waste.

- Reusable coffee cups have been supplied to staff and customers.
- Reusable water bottles have been supplied to staff and customers.

We do not sell or use any item that is subject to a ban/reduction target under the SUP Legislation.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste

National Plastic Packaging continued

2022 PLANS

We will continue to supply our staff with reusable items.

We also work with our customers to reduce their plastic usage and lightweight their packaging. Below are some of the projects we worked on in 2021.

Customer A: We successfully reduced thickness of the shrinkfilm by 17% (60 – 50mu) – annual tonnage thereby decreased by 12 tonnes.

Customer B: We successfully reduced thickness of the shrinkfilm by 9% (110 – 100mu) – annual tonnage thereby decreased by 22.5 tonnes.

We launched Cryovac BDF Film for packaging cheese. BDF is a Ultra-thin overwrap film that is 3 times thinner than thermoformable materials. It results in 75% packaging weight reduction compared to thermoforming film.

In 2021, six of our customers moved to our lower micron stretch film at 5 micron which has resulted in an annual reduction of 40 tonnes.



Nestlé Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2021 we continued work on our “Negative List” for hard to recycle plastic items and continued to phase out their use across all of our packaging.

SMARTIES became the first global confectionery brand to transition to recyclable paper packaging across the whole range, which led to the removal of 250 million non-recyclable plastic packs from the market globally.

SMA Nutrition and Nestlé Health Science introduced bio-based plastic lids and scoops made from sugar cane, certified as plant-based plastic packaging which are widely recyclable while retaining the same properties and functionalities as conventional plastic ones.

Nestlé Cereals announced packaging reductions across Shreddies, Cheerios and Shredded Wheat. These ranges are now using between 13-15% less packaging which will save an estimated 618 tonnes of plastic and cardboard each year.

Nestlé Confectionery reduced sharing bag packaging by an average of 15% by introducing narrower pouches, resulting in the removal of at least 83 tonnes of virgin plastic from the supply chain each year.

We delisted the use of single use plastic straws in Nestlé Professional Nespresso machines which were replaced with a reusable component.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we will continue to explore further packaging innovations.

Nomad Foods **Nomad Foods**

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We reduced the thickness of film in our potato range by 10 micron. This required multiple trials to prove that this change didn't impact damages or food waste. This has removed approximately 14% of the packaging weight which is 2 tonnes of plastic annually.

When moving our veg bags to recyclable packaging we also reduced the headspace in our bags by approximately 16%. This removed 1 tonne of packaging per annum.

We have optimised the Pizza Film we have and reduced the micron of the film without impacting food waste or damages to the products. Removing 14 tonnes.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we are working on reducing our use of packaging further.



Spectrum Brands

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

→ Removed outer polybags from more than 80% of EMEA products.

→ Equates to a reduction of 245 tonnes of Polyethylene.

2022 PLANS

The following has already been implemented for 2022 personal care launches:

→ Removed single use plastics.

→ Removed all internal polybags replacing these with 14g of tissue paper where required.

→ Removed plastic plug projectors.



Stonehouse Marketing

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We have moved our Homestead Luxury Toilet tissue and Homestead Kitchen towel retail packs from plastic to paper.

This has led to a reduction of 4 tonnes over a 12 month period.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 1: Prioritise the Prevention of Plastic Packaging Waste

SUNTORY Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In May 2020 Ribena cartons were the first major Juice drink brand to launch a paper straw to understand consumer reaction and gather feedback. Building on that trial the full roll out of the paper straw across our entire carton portfolio started in February 2021, supported by communications to encourage consumers to embrace this positive change for the benefit of the environment.

This removal of plastic straws represents a 16 tonne annual reduction.

2022 PLANS

We are working with suppliers to convert the plastic wrapper which holds the new paper straw to paper as a key next step.



Tesco Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are some key deliverables of plastic removal achieved in 2021:

- The pack format changed on sugar lines moving from plastic bags to paper bags for three SKU's. This made the bags 100% recyclable. All paper used for these products is sustainably sourced with the FSC logo appearing on the back of pack.
- We reduced the amount of paper used in Tesco 2.5kg new season potato bag by 30% and removed almost 50,000 non-recyclable 1kg new season plastic bags from the waste system annually. The 1Kg new season potatoes are now fully recyclable while we also reduced the amount of paper used in the 2.5kg potato packaging.
- We removed plastic from the 2-litre milk bottle by reducing the weight of the bottle. This gave us a 7.7% reduction in plastic which equated to 26 tonne plastic saving. We also removed plastic from the 3-litre bottles by reducing the weight of the bottle. This gave a 4% plastic reduction equating to 13.5 tonne plastic saving.
- We also worked with suppliers to source only sustainable paper and board for own label primary, secondary and tertiary packaging.
- Wet wipes and sanitary items – We are the first retailer in the Irish market to remove plastic from baby wipes. We stopped using plastic in our own-label baby wipes two years ago and since then we have been working closely with branded suppliers on a solution to remove plastic from all baby wipes. This change means the entire baby wipe range available to purchase in Tesco stores and online will now be plastic-free cloth based. This move is significant as Tesco sells more than 4 million packs or 228 million individual baby wipes each year.

We have set challenging targets to deliver a step-change in how much packaging waste we generate. In 2019, we launched our Packaging Commitments to 2025, which included:

- All packaging on Tesco own-label products will be fully recyclable by 2025.
- Packaging weight on all own-label products will be halved.

Tesco Ireland continued

- End the use of hard to recycle materials (Polystyrene PVDC & PVC) from own-label product packaging.
- Remove single-use plastic cutlery from food-to-go offerings and remove single-use plastic straws from own-label products.
- All paper and board used will be 100% sustainable by 2025.
- We will halve packaging by weight by 2025.
- We have also committed to including recycling information on all own-label packaging to help our customers understand what can and cannot be recycled.

2022 PLANS

In 2022, our packaging plans will continue to be based on our 4R approach – Reduce, Remove, Recycle, Reuse.

We remain committed to transforming the impact of packaging on the environment and delivering closed-loop packaging solutions. It is important that we continue to work to deliver our target of removing where we can, reducing where we can't, engaging with reuse where it makes sense and ensuring our customers can easily recycle all that is left.

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.

In 2022, 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.

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets



ABP Food Group

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- The waste hierarchy is implemented at every site to identify key waste outputs. Waste segregation is also used throughout our processes which helps us to increase both recycling and recovery of materials.
- ABP worked last year to introduce reusable trays for one main supplier – working to remove single use cardboard boxes that would be wasted by the customer. This project will eliminate approx. 812 tonnes of cardboard packaging annually.
- We also removed cardboard sleeves for a product resulting in eliminating approx. 60 tonnes of cardboard packaging annually.

2022 PLANS

- Waste audits are continuously carried out on sites to ensure that all waste streams are captured. These will be completed again throughout 2022, as to maximise the recycling rates on our sites.
- We will also continue to work with our suppliers, encouraging packaging reductions and reuse options where possible for delivery of our goods.
- We are reviewing reusable trays for more of customers instead of boxes.
- We are also investigating removal of cardboard sleeves and lids on some of our products to get further cardboard savings.



Aldi Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All flexible film and card is baled at the back of house in all Aldi stores, backhauled to Aldi's RDCs and then sent for recycling.

- Aldi's Eco-Loop shopping bags are made from 100% recycled content, 80% being from Aldi stores.
- Aldi's Head Office has segregated bins in all canteens (General, Recycling and Compostable).
- Aldi uses its internal communications application, MyALDI, to give tips on how to recycle correctly and reduce waste. The app is also used to keep colleagues up to date on plastic and packaging projects taking place in the business.
- With more than 4,500 employees in Ireland, Aldi have a number of programmes to ensure staff are aware of Aldi's approach to sustainable energy, reducing energy use and carbon dioxide emissions, the Colleague Engagement Programme is an initiative that provides colleagues with communications, guidance and training on the simple actions they can take to reduce energy and waste in day-to-day activities in order to reduce their environmental impact.
- Aldi bale all plastic for recycling which is then collected by our waste providers.

2022 PLANS

- Aldi's Buying Teams are working with suppliers and packaging consultants to communicate improved, more accurate guidelines on the back of packaging about recycling.
- Aldi will continue to educate its colleagues on how to recycle and how to reduce their plastic use in their day to day lives.

In 2022, Aldi will work towards its plastic and packaging targets.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets



Aramark Northern Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

As a contract services company, Aramark delivers catering, retail, hospitality and facility management services within client locations across lots of sectors. Often we do not manage the waste related to the location; this is managed by our client, however we do try and influence same. Two great examples are as follows :

Aramark Northern Europe has been working in partnership with SAP to deliver sustainability initiatives since January 2020 and has implemented a five-year strategy with the aim of reducing our environmental footprint by 40%. SAP has two primary locations – one in Dublin that can cater for 1,600 people daily across four buildings, and another location based in Galway that can serve up to 800 people daily across three buildings.

Our waste partner is Thornton's – they conducted a third party audit on behalf of Aramark in 2020 at client locations we manage including Irish Life, Fernbank, Capital Dock. The audit concluded that zero waste ended up in a landfill.

At least 75% of our disposable packaging is recyclable.

2022 PLANS

We are committed to improving operational efficiencies among our higher greenhouse gas emitters and aim to improve waste prevention, segregation, and recycling.

Our Be Well. Do Well.™ Sustainability plan lays out clear goals to operate efficiently, reduce our waste impacts and mitigate our environmental footprint.

In the sites where we manage the waste, our 2025 goals are:

- Zero Waste to Landfill.
- Increase recycling rate to 65% minimum standard.



Blenders Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Worked with the 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.

Recycling logos are on many packs to help customers to maximise recycling opportunity.

Blenders recycle an impressive 90% of plastic packaging on site.

2022 PLANS

Continue working with staff to ensure that where plastic waste is unavoidable that it is correctly segregated.

Working with a trusted waste partner to ensure that the maximum tonnage of plastic is recovered and for recycling.



Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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

For the past 2 years we have been working closely with the wider beverage sector via the Irish Beverage Council, to help the Government design the regulations for Ireland's Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) which will become operational in late 2022/early 2023.

Our commitment to building a world-class scheme will continue into 2022 and we are delighted to have one of our directors represented on the Board of DRS Ireland, meaning the business will have an integral role in the development of the scheme.

We continued to empower our employees to become Team Green Environmental Champions and actively encourage our people to sign the Team Green pledge and committing to recycling just one more bottle each week to help achieve future targets. To support this, we have further improved our recycling infrastructure across our office sites.

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), in 2021, 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.

In October 2021, through our volunteering programme, WeVolunteer, more than 100 employees took to beaches across the island to play their part in the annual Big Clean-Up, collecting 86 bags of litter, weighing more than ½ tonne, and further demonstrating the leadership role that Coca-Cola can play in tackling marine litter.

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.

2022 PLANS

In late 2022, 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.

Coca-Cola will invest in a communication campaign as part of its global partnership on The Ocean Clean-up project. This partnership aims to expedite the deployment of Interceptors across fifteen rivers worldwide by the end of 2022 to help stem the tide of marine waste by intercepting plastic debris from rivers around the world.

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 in 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 Tesco to help shoppers make informed choices about the sustainability of their beverage packaging.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets



Dairygold Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Dairygold have brought on board a new waste contractor in 2020 to help meet our target of Zero Waste to Landfill and achieving 50% recyclability rate by 2025. Our employees have been educated on the new system change where all our bins on site are streamlined into three primary categories:

- General Waste (going to energy recovery facility)
- Dry Mixed Recycling
- Compostable Waste

All Dairygold Glenor packaging have a recycling waste label indicating what the primary, secondary and tertiary materials are allowing for better recycling at customer end.

2022 PLANS

The aim is to further reduce our general waste by increasing our recycling rate in 2022 to 45%.



Dawn Farm Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Project 1:

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

Project 2:

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

PROJECT 1 & 2 2021 PROGRESS:

- 276% increase in mixed dry recycling.
- 41% increase in clear plastic being recycled.
- 28% increase in mixed plastic being recycled.
- 87% increase in HDPE being recycled.

PROJECT 3:

Environmental Champions were introduced to Dawn Farm Foods. These Environmental Champions 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.

PROJECT 4:

An onsite Environmental Awareness Day is carried out annually (excluding pandemic years) 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.

Dawn Farm Foods continued

51 tonnes of plastic recycled by the business in 2021 Vs. 31 tonnes in 2020.

2022 PLANS

All above initiatives are carried out annually.



Irish Country Meats

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Through detailed waste segregation, 98% of waste generated is diverted to recycling channels.

Ongoing awareness training is being delivered to staff.

ICM are long-standing Members of Repak, supporting the development of Ireland's recycling infrastructure.

2022 PLANS

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

- 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.



Jacobs Douwe Egberts

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In July 2021 JDE, Nestle and Nespresso jointly launched Podback, a scheme with the aim to recycle every single coffee pod on the market. The scheme is growing steadily in the UK and will be reporting the volume of coffee pods recycled in early 2022.

2022 PLANS

JDE will continue to support Podback and plan to support expanding the scheme to Ireland in the near future.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets



Kearney's Home Bakery

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We are Members of Origin Green so we track our recycling each week and analyse at the end of each year with a view to reducing same.



Lidl Ireland GmbH

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Lidl Ireland Commitment: By 2025, we have committed that 100% of our own-brand packaging will be recyclable, reusable, or renewable.

Examples of specific projects that have been implemented aligned with the Repak goals are:

Shopping Bags: At the start of 2021, we launched our new plastic bags strategy introducing sturdy, reusable carrier bags made from 100% recycled plastics and removing our current line of 'bags for life' from sale. With this move, we are removing 6.3 million 'Bags for Life' annually from circulation. The new heavy-duty reusable carrier bags are made from 100% recycled plastic which has been collected from our own Lidl stores. We also encouraged our young shoppers to design the new bags in a competition by drawing what one of the R's of Sustainability means to them. We are currently exploring ways to further incentivise the reuse of our shopping bags.

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 2021 we were able to send approximately 875 tonnes of plastic from our stores and warehouses for recycling. With the customer recycling stations we installed 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.

Deposit Return Scheme (Drs): In 2021 Lidl was the first retailer in Ireland to trial in store reverse vending machines for the deposit return scheme in order to encourage customers to participate and help with the collection of high value materials for recycling i.e. PET bottles and Aluminium cans. We are working collaboratively with the Government and other stakeholders to adhere to upcoming legislation when these machines are rolled out to all stores. Through this collaboration we will ensure that the deposit return scheme will support the Irish recycling infrastructure. So far, we have collected 180,000 units from customers in our machines. This equates to roughly 100,000 aluminium cans and 80,000 PET bottles which are all segregated and compacted on site in our store.

Sustainability Focus Event for Our Suppliers: In August 2021 Lidl hosted our first Lidl Sustainability Focus Event for our key suppliers, an industry first. At the event we awarded suppliers who championed packaging innovations and packaging reductions & presented ways in which suppliers can work with Lidl to improve their packaging footprint.

Lidl Ireland GmbH continued

Packaging Optimisation Initiative – Workshops: In 2021, 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. By conducting trainings, creating guidelines for recyclable packaging, and working directly with our suppliers, we have targeted packaging with unrecyclable plastics and composites, and these have been identified and replaced with easier to recycle alternatives. The created guidelines contain specific information for the most relevant packaging formats giving preferences on used materials, their treatment, and properties. The guidelines outline what is 'preferred', what is 'accepted' for certain exemptions and what 'must not' be used in Lidl's own-brand packaging going forward.

Packaging Guidance Document: In the beginning of 2021, a detailed packaging guidance document for the design of packaging with the end of life in mind has been distributed to all of our national and international suppliers. This guidance aims to inform suppliers of the specific requirements for the most common packaging solutions to assure maximum recyclability.

Tender Process: A new tender process has been rolled out in 2021, informing all potential, new and current suppliers about the packaging preferences and guidelines, making the education and implementation of best practice sustainable packaging solutions a substantial part of existing and new product development.

Lidl's Packaging Responsibility Label: Is continuously being applied to optimised packaging items. In 2020 the label for Lidl's own-branded products was created to highlight and inform customers when a products packaging has been improved. This label applies when:

- The packaging contains at least 30% recycled materials.
- The packaging has been changed to a more sustainable alternative material.
- The packaging weight has been reduced by at least 10%.
- The Packaging has been made recyclable.

Memberships: Lidl are also Members of the Waste Action Group which was established to assist in the drafting of the Waste Action Plan for the Circular Economy. The group is chaired by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC).

2022 PLANS

New Focus: Our new, improved packaging database will be used to communicate our status and progress. We will also be working with our buyers to provide them with packaging insights specific to their products and enable them to collaborate with our suppliers to find packaging optimisation projects in line with our goals. We plan to communicate updates on our packaging progress in our customer leaflet and sustainability reports.

New to Market: We will also be evaluating further removal of packaging components and new to market packaging solutions by running trials linked with communication campaigns 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.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets



National Plastic Packaging

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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.

2022 PLANS

We will be running campaigns throughout the year educating our customers on different types of packaging and their recyclability.



Nestlé Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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 2021, we took part in a number of cross-industry initiatives exploring the expansion of recycling for flexible packaging to boost the recyclability of materials that are currently hard to recycle.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we will continue to accelerate plans to boost the recyclability and recycling of our product packaging, including the expansion of programmes for materials that are currently challenging to recycle.

Nomad Foods

Nomad Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

As a business we have been running '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. Other myths have also been discussed eg: Paper vs Plastic packaging.

2022 PLANS

- Continuation of learning vitamins to educate colleagues on packaging recyclability.
- Focus on consumer education by updating recycling logos.



Oliver Carty

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Business made capital investment in new equipment. A new thermoform machine was purchased, which helped for business to be more efficient, better at the changeovers. New investment allows us to reduce the packaging usage across the board, because we are producing product to the spec in first attempt.

We changed the mentality and habits across the business, and we are separating dry empty clear plastics and sending them to be recycled.

2022 PLANS

Continue to grow packaging recycled on site during 2022.



Ryston Industries

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We manufacture refuse sacks using over 90% recycled plastics. As such we are a vital outlet for regrind material and a major contributor to the circular economy.

We have a recycling machine with a capacity of 200kg per hour. We use this to recycle incoming plastic waste as well as our own process waste. All the output from our recycling machine is included in our refuse sacks. We have no internal waste.



Spectrum Brands

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Removed PVC, black plastics and EPS from 108 SKUs and all NPD moving forward.
- Equates to 109 tonnes of non-recyclable material.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 2: Support Ireland to Deliver the Plastic Packaging Recycling Targets

SUNTORY Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All of our drinks' containers are recyclable and we encourage consumers to recycle with on-pack messages. We recognise that consumers are not always aware of which materials can and can't be recycled (which is often dependent on local collections). SBF Ireland has committed to ensuring the new OPRL recycling instructions are updated across the portfolio by the end of 2022.

Suntory Beverage and Food GB & Ireland use brand communications, to encourage consumers to recycle more and litter less. In 2021 Lucozade's TV advertisement included a recycling bin shot and ended with the call to action to 'Recycle!'. We spent an additional €1.5 million with a +57% adult media coverage with these ads.

Suntory GB&I were also proud to support the Sept 2021 Wrap Recycling Week campaign #step it up this recycle week and overlaid brand communications using sporting ambassadors and influencers to encourage over 5 million people on social channels such as Instagram, TikTok and Twitter to recycle so that we can turn bottles back into bottles.

2022 PLANS

Lucozade Sport will drive awareness of the new 50% reduced sleeve and the addition of 100% recycled plastic (rPET) and will be investing in communications to drive awareness of the importance of recycling to continue driving circularity. Also, across all our brands we will continue advertising at our significant levels with a "Recycle!" message.



Tesco Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

By working in partnership with Green Generation, an anaerobic digestion (AD) plant in Kildare, and with Paltech, a start-up company based in Ireland, 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.

In February 2021, we were the first retailer in Ireland to create a recycling solution for soft plastics. Collection points were rolled out in stores from March 2021. Customers are now able to leave their soft plastic in store after their shop or bring it back on their next visit.

Our colleagues in stores are fully trained on the recycling process at back of store. They are trained on the importance of segregation and the process involved in the recycling and reuse of this plastic.

40 tonnes of plastic have been collected so far. The material is processed by Paltech into construction materials to be used in our store network for example on car-park barriers and signage. Waste plastic processed in this way has already been used to produce the in-store collection points.

Tesco Ireland continued

2022 PLANS

In 2022, 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 possible.
- Look for opportunities to reuse packaging.
- Ensuring all packaging is recyclable.

Packaging Commitments to 2025 as per above.

Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



ABP Food Group

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ABP completed a plastic transformation data collection for 2020/21 – this has proven to be an extremely valuable tool in understanding our packaging, identifying areas where improvements can be made. This will be a continuous exercise for the business.
- We have replaced PVdc with EVOH material in customer facing product for two of our customers where shelf life can be still achieved.

2022 PLANS

- ABP aims to progress with further trials in order to provide customers with fully recyclable packaging solutions.
- We hope to expand a further roll-out of PVdC free bags for possible customers where shelf life is not negatively affected.



Aldi Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

A large amount of packaging has moved from non-recyclable to recyclable plastic. Examples include:

- Trialling new 100% recyclable paper packaging on three 200g wholefood nut products, namely Brazil Nuts, Hazelnuts and Mixed Nuts, in over half of its Irish stores. Aldi was the first retailer in Ireland to introduce this type of packaging across its nut ranges.
- Aldi introduced fully recyclable wax paper across two of its own-label bread (Wholemeal Sliced Pan and White Family Pan), becoming the first supermarket in Ireland to do so. The switch sees 18 tonnes of non-recyclable plastic removed from stores each year.
- 95% of Aldi's own brand packaging is recyclable.
- 100% of problematic plastic packaging had been eliminated from stores by the end of 2020.
- Becoming the first retailer in Ireland to fully remove black plastic from core food ranges, removing 410 tonnes of difficult to recycle plastic from stores.
- Becoming the first retailer in Ireland to introduce 100% recyclable packaging to its own-brand fresh bread range, removing over 18 tonnes of plastic.

Aldi has also replaced over 930 tonnes of non-recyclable packaging materials with recyclable alternatives since 2019.

Aldi Ireland continued

2022 PLANS

Aldi's Buying Teams are working with suppliers and packaging consultants to communicate improved, more accurate guidelines on the back of packaging about recycling.

Aldi will continue to educate its colleagues on how to recycle and how to reduce their plastic use in their day to day lives.

In 2022, Aldi will work towards its plastic and packaging targets.



Aramark Northern Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

To make life simpler for our front-line teams and clients we are tailoring our front of house disposable packaging to items that can/will be recycled, be that plastic with recycled content, compostable, wood or paper board packaging.

All plastic items used are being reviewed and replaced with RPET or PLA.

2022 PLANS

Our Front of house packaging is under constant review as we look for more sustainable options. Any new products that are listed must be sustainable and easily recyclable.

Our biggest drive this year is to replace plastic and CPLA hot cup lids with paper lids and to ensure all our PET salad containers and cold cups are either RPET with 35% recycled content or PLA.



Blenders Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

The plastic caps on our squeeze bottles were multi polymer. Trials – including shelf-life verification were performed with a single polymer version which is fully recyclable.

2022 PLANS

- Move to fully recyclable single polymer squeeze lids in the first quarter of 2022.
- Continue to work with suppliers to find more recyclable options.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



Coca Cola HBC Ireland & N. Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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

As outlined above, in April 2021, we eliminated 'hard to recycle' plastic shrink wrap from our larger multi-packs through the introduction of Q-Flex Card Carton Packs, a move that eliminated a further 290 tonnes of plastic from our supply chain.

We have also ran industrial trials using R100 100% recycled plastic film for our multipack bottles across our Deep RiverRock portfolio. This will be fully implemented in early 2022.

We continue to assess 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.

290 tonnes of difficult to recycle plastics have been removed from the business versus 2019.

2022 PLANS

In Q2 2022 we will roll out our use of R100 100% recycled plastic film for our multipack bottles across our Deep RiverRock portfolio.

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



Dairygold Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All our primary plastic packaging is recyclable.

2022 PLANS

Continue to review packaging across our wider company group to evaluate reduction at source.



Dawn Farm Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Project 1:

Label elimination by printing labels directly onto packages known as our “print on pack project”.

2021 Progress: 2 tonne reduction in non-recyclable backing paper.

Project 2:

Converted from clear semi rigid packaging to blue flexi packaging, reducing the microns of plastic required to carry the product.

2021 Progress: Further trials carried out of converting from black base semi-rigid packaging to blue base flexi packaging and this will be launched in Q2 2022.

Project 3:

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.

2021 Progress: Trialled and approved recyclable tape, trials currently on going of cardboard boxes to ensure it holds chilled & frozen product.

2022 PLANS

Project 1:

“print on pack project” will be rolled out across more products in 2022 with the overall aim of removing all paper labels by the end of 2022.

Project 2:

Convert from clear semi rigid packaging to blue flexi packaging. This will result in a further 44-tonne (53%) reduction in plastic per annum by Q2 2022.

Project 3:

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.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



Irish Country Meats

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

50% of vac pack bags used are PVDC free thus improving their recyclability.

Carbon Black trays have been fully removed from production.

2022 PLANS

We will review our wider customer base to expand a further roll-out of PVdC free bags.

By the end of 2022, we will begin trials on card skin packs as an alternative to plastic skin packs.



Jacobs Douwe Egberts

2022 PLANS

JDE has a commitment to make all packaging recyclable or compostable by 2025.



Kearney's Home Baking

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We have started to move away from Black RPET Material to white and use lighter gauge trays.

2022 PLANS

We plan to eliminate all black RPET Material from our packaging in the next 3 years.



Lidl Ireland GmbH

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Lidl Ireland Commitment: We have committed that 100% of our own-brand packaging will be widely recyclable, reusable, or renewable by 2025.

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

Black Plastic Removal: In line with our international strategy in 2021 we successfully removed all black single use plastic packaging from our listed assortment. By implementing a “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.

Ready-Meal Range: In 2021 we changed over from undetectable cPET trays containing black carbon colouring to detectable mono cPET trays without added colouring, replacing approx. 67 tonnes of undetectable black plastic with fully detectable and recyclable plastic made from >50% recycled material. At the same time, we achieved a weight reduction by optimising the tray shapes, removing approx. 3.5 tonnes of plastic per year.

Frozen Roulade Range: The undetectable black plastic tray of our frozen roulade range has moved to clear recyclable plastic that contains 50% recycled content. Replacing approx. 0.3 tonnes of unrecyclable plastic annually.

Duck: Our duck range moved from grey bases and trays to completely clear mono material PET trays incorporating a high percentage of recycled material.

Pastrami Range: Together with one of our suppliers we changed the base material of our pastrami range, making approx. 7.5 tonnes of plastic per year recyclable and increasing the recycled content at the same time.

Recyclable Plastic: We’re continuously working to remove difficult to recycle plastics and composites from our products which is in line with our goal of achieving 100% recyclability by 2025.

2022 PLANS

New Focus: Our packaging database allows us to identify products and product ranges that contain undesirable plastics and composites. We will continue to move to mono materials wherever solutions exist that are not detrimental to the packaging functions and the products shelf-life. We continue to look out for new solutions in the market and work together with our product suppliers as well as the packaging suppliers delivering to them.

Optimisations: We have aligned several packaging optimisations and trials focussed on recyclability that are to go live in 2022.

MONO PE, PP and PET: are our preferred materials when a plastic inclusion is necessary to fulfil packaging functions – we will continue to switch all of 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 to 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 to make sure that our packaging strategy aligns with the requirements and realities of the Irish waste infrastructure.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 3: Reduce Complexity in Plastic Packaging Supply Chain



National Plastic Packaging

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We launched Vac 95+, a side seal vacuum bag which is 100% recyclable. It has the same barrier properties as the classic PA/PE vacuum bags and keeps food fresh and maintains shelf life. The VAC 95+ is manufactured from a recyclable polypropylene structure.

We also 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.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we are launching NPP Universal Film. It is an extrusion coated heat seal lidding film specifically formulated and processed on a solvent-free coating line. The film's novel chemistry provides strong peelable seals on most commonly-used trays with no sharding.

The film grade is available in 18-micron, 23-micron and 36-micron base PET for lidding film applications. It can also be made with high-clarity anti-fog coating for better transparency, and high oxygen and moisture barrier coating to increase product shelf-life.

The film seals to all types of food packaging trays, including PP, paperboard and all PET variants. This enables manufacturers and brand owners to move away from using multiple film types for different product requirements and into a true mono layer lidding material suitable for all tray types. Using one lidding material for all tray types delivers cost-saving opportunities, improves operational efficiencies, and significantly reduces plastic usage and waste.

The Universal coating can be applied onto any film including those with post-consumer recycled (PCR) content.



Nestlé Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2021 we continued to simplify polymer usage across a range of products to drive ease of recycling. This included the introduction of mono-material pouches for items in our Confectionery, Purina and Nestlé Professional portfolios.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we will continue to explore innovations to eliminate non-recyclable components and simplify polymer usage.

Nomad Foods

Nomad Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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

By the end of 2021, 95.9% of our packaging was recyclable.

This percentage is based on annual sales volumes and doesn't account for secondary/tertiary packaging.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we are working towards 100% of packaging being recyclable. This is currently on track.



Oliver Carty

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Oliver Carty business as a main target in 2021 agreed, that black non-recyclable PVC/PE plastic usage must be reduced by the end of the second quarter in 2021 and completely gone from the business by the end of the year 2021. Black PVC/PE non-recyclable plastic to be changed with Clear recyclable Mono plastic.

Working with the customers inside Republic of Ireland and outside the target was successfully delivered.

SUNTORY Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

As a signatory to the UK Plastics Pact all of our plastic packaging will be 100% recyclable by 2025. Our UK production plant supplies all of our Irish product and therefore will share the same recyclability goal in Ireland.

We committed to removing the full sleeves on our ready to drink plastic bottles.

Following the successful launch of the redesigned Ribena bottle and reduced label in 2020; in Nov 2021 we launched a 50% reduced sleeve on all Lucozade Sport bottles. This re-design gives our bottles the optimum chance of being turned back into a bottle. Industry reaction has been very positive.

We have also driven awareness of the new look design with consumers announcing the arrival of our 'New Kit'.

As an interim step on Lucozade Energy we launched bold new designs with 60% transparent areas added to full sleeves to ensure easier sorting at recycling centres into the Clear PET stream to unlock bottle to bottle recycling.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 our final brand Lucozade Energy will launch a 50% reduced sleeve across 4 formats, impacting 5 manufacturing lines. This will be the culmination of SBFi's investment in ensuring our bottles are designed for circularity and in total will represent a £8 Million capital investment in new sleeves to bring the reduced sleeves to fruition.

Additionally, we continue to work on developing a tethered cap for Lucozade Sport which will include the removal or replacement of the silicone valve, a problematic contaminant during the sorting process and the last step in ensuring Lucozade Sport is 100% recyclable.



Tesco Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

At Tesco, we aim to ensure that our packaging will be fully recyclable by 2025. We aimed to remove hard to recycle materials from our packaging as part of this.

To do this, we have identified a list of preferred packaging materials to use in Tesco own-label product packaging (as outlined above) through which we will simplify polymer usage and remove non-recyclable components.

In 2021, we furthered our ambition in this space:

- Plastic has been reduced in our milk bottles.
- Sugar lines have moved from plastic to paper.
- In the summer, we made the packaging for our 1kg new season potatoes fully recyclable while reducing the amount of paper used in our 2.5kg potato packaging. The move will reduce the amount of paper used in Tesco's 2.5kg new season potatoes bag by 30% and remove almost 50,000 non-recyclable 1kg new season plastic bags from the waste system.

Tesco Ireland continued

Also, in 2021, a new 'Red, Amber & Green' packaging preferred materials list was launched, with the addition of more 'hard to recycle materials such as waxed paper, complex laminates using aluminium layers for decoration and hi-mid cones, to the 'red' list. We are committed to not accepting new products in packaging from our red list of materials. We recognise we have more to do and continue to work hard to meet these challenges.

We also held a remote supplier conference in October 2021, 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.

We communicated our branded supplier targets for packaging to suppliers in November 2021. We outlined that our key focus was recyclability and that all packaging that customers take home is recyclable at home or through a soft plastic recycling solution in the store.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we plan to continue developing our Red, Amber Green list of preferred materials and work in conjunction with our suppliers to reduce polymer used in packaging, making it more easily recyclable.



Waddington Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Waddington® Europe has teamed up with Shabra, Ireland's leading recycler and reprocessor of post-consumer waste (PCW), to purchase food-grade recycled PET (rPET) sourced from bottles, pots, tubs and trays to manufacture new rPET food packaging products at its Arklow production site. This will enable the company to expand its line of Eco Blend® products made with post-consumer recycled content sourced domestically in Ireland back into the Irish market.

2022 PLANS

Introduction of a mono-material tray as an alternative to difficult to recycle multilayer trays.

Objective 4: Incorporate Recycled Content to build a Circular Economy



ABP Food Group

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ABP continues to use a minimum of 40 - 60% (post-consumer) recycled content for all plastic rigid PET trays purchased for product.
- 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.

2022 PLANS

- 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's possible to make improvements and understand what impact recycled content has on our packaging performance for product.



Aldi Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Aldi's fresh meat trays contain 80% recycled PET (rPET).
- Aldi's Eco-Loop shopping bags are made from 100% recycled content, 80% being from Aldi stores.
- Aldi trialled reusable produce bags made from 100% recycled water bottles, encouraging customers to bring these or their own reusable bags for loose produce.
- Average recycled content in packaging stood at 15% at the end of 2021.
- Becoming the first retailer in Ireland to introduce 100% recycled PET water bottles to its own-label water range, a change which affects more than 30 million water bottles each year.

2022 PLANS

Aldi's Buying Teams are continuously working with suppliers towards our plastic and packaging targets.



Aramark Northern Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

A large percentage of our single use plastic is on water and cold drink bottles, fortunately both Coca Cola and Britvic have their own aggressive targets to make their bottles 100% RPET which in turns helps us.

2022 PLANS

We are working toward 100% of our packaging being recyclable or contain recycled content by 2025.

Ideally we would like to find a suitable replacement to Clingfilm but all the new options on the market that claim to be more sustainable don't work on hot dishes/food so that remains our biggest challenge.

All plastic cold cup, salad containers and lids that aren't RPET will be changed to RPET, PLA or paper board in the coming year.



Blenders Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Ongoing conversations with suppliers on how to safely increase the level of recycle. Food safety needs to be safeguarded.

2022 PLANS

This work will continue during 2022.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 4: Incorporate Recycled Content to build a Circular Economy



Coca Cola HBC Ireland & Northern Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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 1). To date, we have achieved 47% 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.

Through this integration of recycled content, in 2021 we are eliminating 2,945 tonnes of virgin plastic from the supply chain.

We also 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 be used again through effective recycling.

As a material, recycled PET excels in its sustainability credentials as it ensures that resources are kept 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 be used again through effective recycling. A recent industry study indicated that the production of rPET produced 79% 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% – alongside reducing energy consumption. The results demonstrate both a clear environmental and business incentive for companies.

2022 PLANS

We will explore the feasibility of increasing our recycled PET use in our 'on-the-go' packs to 100%, with a decision to be taken on by the end of Q3 this year. Should this gain approval, we will begin increasing our use in mid-2023 and recycled PET integration across the portfolio will grow beyond 60%.

We also 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.



Irish Country Meats

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

70-90% of the composition of all trays used for packing are from recycled materials and in turn are 100% recyclable.

Reusable crates are from 100% recycled material and fully recyclable.



Jacobs Douwe Egberts

2022 PLANS

JDE is continuing to review its use of recycled content and plans to introduce recycled material in the future.



Lidl Ireland GmbH

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Lidl Ireland Commitment: We have pledged that by 2025, 50% of the materials used in our own brand packaging will come from recycled materials.

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

Water: In 2021 we started the process of increasing the recycled content in our Irish water lines, with the goal of implementing at least 30% recycled content to all our lines by 2024. The bottles of our 1.5l Saskia water line are made with 100% post-consumer recycled content from Lidl's own recycling facilities. These are in use in multiple Lidl countries and come from our own sorting plants in Europe owned by the Schwarz group, our parent company.

Juices: In 2020 we increased the percentage of post-consumer recycled PET in our bottles for chilled Milbona and Solevita coffee drinks and smoothies to 50%, and to 55% in our ambient Solevita and VitaFit juices. The recycled content of our Italiamo Lemon juice bottles has been increased to 30% post-consumer recycled material.

Other Ranges: In PET bottles and trays, packaging without direct food contact and in frozen products, we have already reached a considerable amount of post-consumer recycled content while making sure the product is protected.

The Schwarz Group: Lidl's overarching group of companies has created an overarching strategy for packaging with the focus on reducing plastic and closing loops called REset Plastic. Part of this strategy is PreZero and GreenCycle who manage our own waste sorting and recycling facilities to ensure a closed loop on our packaging. In 2020, we added two new waste sorting plants to our existing plants. One in Zwolle, Netherlands and another one in Bremen, Germany. In 2021 The Schwarz group invested in a new sorting facility in Evergem, Belgium.

Pre-Zero Products: In 2021 we started selling products incorporating recycled material from Schwarz group owned companies. The plastic used in the products consists of 100% post-consumer recycled plastic, collected by Pre-Zero. The products include clothes hangers, storage boxes, folding boxes, buckets, laundry collectors, laundry tubs and laundry baskets.

Shopping Bags: In 2021 Lidl introduced new reusable heavy-duty shopping bags made from 100% recycled material taken from Lidl's own plastic waste.

Pastrami Range: as mentioned before, we changed the base material of our pastrami range, making it recyclable and increasing approx. 7.5 tonnes of plastic per year to 30% recycled content.

Cleaning Range: In 2021 we increased the recycled content in PET bottles in our W5 cleaning range between 80 and 100% rPET – removing the need for over 65 tonnes of virgin plastic annually.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 4: Incorporate Recycled Content to build a Circular Economy

Lidl Ireland GmbH continued

Ready-Meal Range: As mentioned before, we changed our ready meal to rCPET trays without added colouring, replacing approx. 67 tonnes of undetectable black plastic with fully detectable and recyclable plastic made from >50% recycled material. The usage of recycled material enables us to avoid >33.5 tonnes of virgin plastic every year and closes the loop on clear and coloured PET bottles and trays.

2022 PLANS

New Focus: Our new packaging database will enable us to pinpoint the highest hitting products made from materials that are viable for recycled content but do not currently contain it in our product range. We will focus on those high potential products and increase our overall recycled content inclusion. We will work on moving materials that are not viable for inclusion of recycled content over different solutions that allow an inclusion.



National Plastic Packaging

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We worked on a project with one of our customers to reduce the thickness of their packaging and incorporate recycled content into the blend. We reduced the thickness of their sacks by 10% and this resulted in an annual carbon footprint reduction of 55 tonne. On top of that there is now a minimum of 30% recycled content in the sacks. Currently we are trialling bags with 40% recyclable material.

One of our customers also transitioned from traditional pallet wrap to our innovative Fiber Film Pallet Wrap. This reduced their annual carbon footprint by an additional 8 tonne.

2022 PLANS

Our customers are equally invested in our journey, and we are working closely with them to bring innovative solutions to the fore. We are continuing to reduce the thickness of sacks across our customer base whilst also integrating recycled content.

We are trialling stretch hooding with 30% PCR across our customer base and are targeting approval and conversion to same by end Q2 2022. This will result in 536 tonne of stretch hooding with 30% PCR annually.

As part of our strategy we are also focused on reducing the amount of stretch film our customers use by moving them to a lower micron film without compromising on pallet stability.

In 2022 we will also be launching a 5mu stretch film with a minimum of 30% recycled content.



Nestlé Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2021 we supported the development of policy for a Deposit Return Scheme for beverage containers in Ireland through engagement with DECC ahead of the DRS launch in 2022.

2022 PLANS

In 2022 we will continue to explore innovations in this area to increase the use of plastic packaging containing recycled content.

Through our partnerships and initiatives to boost the collection of flexible packaging we hope to continue increasing the feedstock available for the recycling of flexibles.

Nomad Foods

Nomad Foods

2022 PLANS

We are trialling chemically recycled content with some products this year in food contact.



Ryston Industries

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Our contribution to the circular economy is to buy recycled material (mainly in Ireland) from various recyclers and make it into a saleable and useful product. We sell these products on the Irish market, which effectively closes the loop.

We increased our Irish Market sales from 2020 to 2021 by 300 tonnes. This is only a fraction of the potential increase available.



Shannon Vale Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All of our rPET and PP trays that we use are composed of up to 80% recycle content, (30% Post Consumer Waste and 50% from In-process waste). We used just over 99 tonnes of rPET and PP trays in 2021.



Stonehouse Marketing

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Replaced the plastic outer packaging with packaging made from 30% recycled material.

SUNTORY **Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland**

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We believe that recycled plastic is a valuable resource of which we want to use more. SBF Ireland led the soft drinks industry in creating the first ready-to-drink bottle from 100% recycled plastic for Ribena in 2007. We want to go even further. By 2030 we plan to have fully moved away from new virgin plastic derived from fossil fuel. Our ambition is to solely use 100% sustainable plastic that has either been previously used (i.e. recycled) or is bio-sourced (i.e. plant based). We also set out an interim target of 50% recycled plastic by 2025 and are well on the way to achieving this brand by brand.

SBF were also proud to announce the successful production of the world's first food-grade PET plastic bottles produced entirely from enzymatically recycled plastic. Our investment with Carbios aims to create a new process and supercharge an enzyme naturally occurring in compost heaps that normally breaks down leaf membranes of dead plants. By adapting this enzyme, Carbios has fine-tuned the technology and optimized this enzyme to break down any kind of PET plastic (regardless of colour or complexity) into its building blocks, which can then be turned back into like-new, virgin-quality plastic.

SBF has also successfully created a prototype PET bottle made from 100% plant-based materials, for the company's iconic Orangina brand in Europe. Suntory's prototype plant-based bottle is made by combining new technology from partner Anellotech, using plant-based paraxylene derived from wood chips. The fully recyclable prototype plant-based bottle is estimated to significantly lower carbon emissions compared to petroleum derived virgin bottle.

All Lucozade Sport 500ml bottles distributed at any Irish and UK race events with whom we partner were made from 100% recycled PET.

In 2021 we successfully added in +30% recycled content into all PE films manufactured at our Coleford plant with 50% recycled content in consumer facing multipack shrink.

2022 PLANS

In April 2022 Lucozade Sport will transition to 100% recycled content (rPET) in all its bottles, joining Ribena Squash, Ribena Ready to Drink and Ribena Sparkling bottles at 100% rPET.

On Lucozade Energy the brand will take its first step into using recycled materials transitioning to 30% recycled material from chemical recycling. Also in 2022 Lucozade Energy 500ml will transition to 100% rPET.

By the end of 2022 all 420ml & 500ml 'on the go' bottles will be made from 100% recycled materials.



Tesco Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We continue to prioritise environmental impact as a central aspect of our ever-changing innovation pipeline. Our preferred materials list already includes easily recycled materials and can be made from recycled content, including PET plastics, PP plastics for non-food applications, metal, glass, and sustainably sourced board and paper. We are using new technology working with Green Generation to adopt our own products into our closed-loop system by repurposing our increasingly wide range of recyclable packaging.

2022 PLANS

Topline objectives are to relaunch a new 'Red, Amber, Green' list and continue with the 4R strategy and as always, we will continue to work with our suppliers on this.



Waddington Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

30% minimum recycled content in our PET product.

2022 PLANS

Introduction of a mono-material tray as an alternative to difficult to recycle multilayer trays.

Objective 5: Ensure that our actions do not increase food waste



ABP Food Group

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ABP are signatories of Ireland's Food Waste Charter.
- ABP have an ambitious company target of 50% food waste reduction by 2030, aligned with the SDG target 12.3.
- ABP follows the "Target Measure Act" approach across all our sites in Ireland, UK and Poland to work towards improving measurements and reducing quantities of food waste.
- Any packaging changes made to improve recyclability are thoroughly tested to ensure at a minimum that shelf life is maintained, if not extended.
- We worked hard in 2021 to upgrade materials onsite where possible to higher value end destinations.

2022 PLANS

- For 2022 our plan is to further work or identify materials that can go to higher value destinations and reduce the amount of floor waste that is lost on our production sites.
- We also plan to raise awareness of the importance of food waste with our staff – we will run a recipe campaign to encourage staff to share ideas of using left over food.



Aldi Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Aldi is a Member of the Retail Action Group and have signed the Food Waste Charter committing to reduce Ireland's food waste by 50% by 2030.
- Before any of 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.
- However, this was only done across products where shelf life would not be affected, for example, crisp bags were not moved to PE packaging as a result of shelf life testing proving that moving to PE reduced the shelf life of the product due to the foil barrier being removed.

2022 PLANS

- 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.
- Aldi will continue to promote reduction of food waste to customers by including tips on reducing food waste in our weekly leaflets via the Stop Food Waste logo and website link.
- Food waste reduction tips are also shared with Aldi colleagues on their internal communications platform, MyALDI.



Aramark Northern Europe

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

As a foodservice operator, the food Aramark serves is generally café / cafeteria style and hence we try and avoid unnecessary packaging but rather service food direct from deli-counters and hot holding bain-marie units. So this question isn't so relevant to us.

2022 PLANS

As above limited opportunity – food made on site is generally used up and reformatted into alternate options. We have food waste of less than 5% in our catering business and this is measured using our Menu Management System "OPX".



Blenders Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Launched an initiative in the first half of 2021 to divert all edible surplus product from waste to a suitable local charitable partner. This was previously waste along with the associated packaging.

2022 PLANS

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

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 5: Ensure that our actions do not increase food waste



Coca Cola HBC Ireland & N. Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Our work to improve the sustainability of our packaging has been achieved without comprising on the quality or shelf-life of our products.

In 2021, we donated over ½ million bottles short-dated stock to the Simon Community's foodbank, FoodCloud and FareShare to eliminate food waste. Throughout this time, we redirected over that would have otherwise been destroyed.

In 2021, we also made a financial donation of over €20,000 to FoodCloud and FareShare.

2022 PLANS

We are committed to maintaining the integrity of our packaging throughout 2022 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.

We have also recently expanded this partnership with FoodCloud and FareShare and in March 2022 they became our corporate charity partner for the next 3 years.

As the largest charitable food redistribution projects in Ireland, Foodcloud contributes to Ireland's goal of a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030 as set out in Ireland's Food Waste Charter through their mission to ensure no good food goes to waste. In 2022 we have plans to support Foodcloud with their Food Sourcing Strategy, which aim to double the volume of food redistributed to 5100 tonnes per year.



Dairygold Ltd.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Our primary plastic packaging ensures the shelf life and product integrity is met as per customer specification.

2022 PLANS

Continue to maintain product integrity while looking to reduce primary packaging micron density at source.



Dawn Farm Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Project 1:

Donation of surplus food to FoodCloud.

2021 Progress: 15 tonnes of food waste avoided.

2022 PLANS

Project 1:

Continue to donate surplus food to FoodCloud.

Project 2:

Assess products producing high volumes of food waste and implement reduction strategies.



Irish Country Meats

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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.

2022 PLANS

We are engaged in packaging projects that are discussed internally with a multi-disciplined team from procurement, production and environment. 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

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

We have reduced our food waste from 2.81% to 2.2% during 2021.

2022 PLANS

We plan to reduce food waste to 2%.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 5: Ensure that our actions do not increase food waste



Lidl Ireland GmbH

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

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 2021 we redistributed almost 650,000 meals through our food distribution partner FoodCloud and we surpassed the 3 million total meals redistributed milestone in the lifetime of our partnership. These meals equate to an estimated CO₂ saving of 862 tonnes and 260 tonnes of food.
- In 2021, we introduced a new technology for our stores with FoodCloud called 'Foodiverse' which increases the functionality with the aim of increasing donations from stores.
- 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 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.

2022 PLANS

- In 2022 we plan to continue our partnership with FoodCloud to continue to redistribute meals to community and charity groups across Ireland.
- We continue to communicate the importance of food waste to our customers. This year we will communicate through our 'Lidl Steps to a Better Tomorrow' campaign and platform where we encourage customers to take Lidl steps with us in their daily lives.
- We will continue our operational food waste initiatives with a view to trialling new programmes this year.



National Plastic Packaging

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Cryovac Shrink Bags are designed for recycling, thinner and lighter than commonly used thermoformed materials and pouches. They can reduce use of plastic material by up to 60% vs. thermoformed materials and reduce carbon footprint by 60% thanks to lower sealing temperature and less food waste vs. thermoformed materials.

2022 PLANS

Plastic plays an important role in the reduction of food waste, our aim is to introduce new materials to replace existing non-recyclable material without compromising the shelf life.



Nestlé Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2021 Nestlé Cereals joined Too Good to Go's "Look, Smell, Taste, Don't Waste" campaign to tackle date label confusion and drive understanding around Best Before labels. The initiative encourages consumers to use their senses instead of purely following BBE dates and all Nestlé Cereals now feature the campaign messaging on box to remind consumers that not all food past its BBE date needs to be thrown away.

Nomad Foods

Nomad Foods

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

All packaging changes have been tested to ensure that shelf life isn't impacted.

We are part of the 10:20:30 project on reducing food waste.

2022 PLANS

We will continue to ensure that shelf life isn't impacted along with our Membership to 10:20:30.

SUNTORY

Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

At SBF GB&I we take reducing all our waste streams seriously and we are a zero to landfill site. In 2017 SBFi signed up to work with FoodCloud whilst in the UK in 2018 we signed up to work with Champions 12.3 and WRAP's Food Waste Reduction Roadmap – to reduce food waste from owned manufacturing operations by 50% by 2030.

This target is aligned to Ireland's Food Waste Charter.

Our data is in the process of being publicly reported and will be on our corporate website imminently.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 5: Ensure that our actions do not increase food waste

Suntory Food & Beverage Ireland continued

We measured our food waste for the 2020 calendar year at our Coleford factory site in Gloucestershire, UK. The source of our food waste data from Coleford, is mainly as a result of bottles falling over during the production process and spilling contents, underfilled bottles which are rejected as part of our quality control process, and products which do not meet our usual high-quality standards and so are not suitable for sale.

- Total food production was 412,813 tonnes for this period. Food waste was 5641 tonnes, which is 1.4% of total production and a significant 13% reduction from 6500 tonnes in 2019 though is an increase of 0.1% against the 2018 baseline of 1.3%. Note that our SBF 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, our food waste figure is zero tonnes.
- Due to COVID related forecast changes, our supply chain worked with suppliers to freeze compound saving 47.5 tonnes.
- SBF GB&I are signatories to Champions 12.3 and WRAP's Food Waste Reduction Roadmap – their target of reducing food waste from owned manufacturing operations by 50% by 2030 is aligned to Ireland's Food Waste Charter.

2022 PLANS

Ways we are working to reduce our food waste:

We are undertaking a number of projects and working with industry experts, as well as our on-site experts, on ways to reduce our waste:

- Surplus product is given to local charities via FoodCloud in Ireland, who have been a partner since 2017.
- We ensure daily management of stock solutions to continuously monitor our 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.
- Our Coleford factory operates under the ISO 9001 (Quality), 14001 (Environmental) and ISO 2200 (Food Safety) standards. The prerequisites of all three standards are the correct management and reduction of all wastes.
- The Coleford plant supplies all of Ireland's product is zero to landfill and we recycle all our waste streams, including cardboard, poly, bottles and paper.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic we donated to the local services - fire, ambulance, police, hospitals, GP surgeries and nursing homes.



Tesco Ireland

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Packaging and food waste are two important parts of our sustainability strategy to tackle the most pressing environmental and societal issues in Ireland and globally.

We are conscious that we want to reduce the amount of food waste that we generate as a business and support our suppliers and customers in reducing the amount of food they waste too. But, alongside that, we want to ensure that we never use more packaging than is needed, and what we do use is from sustainable sources and goes on to be reused or recycled.

Making informed decisions on both agendas that do not have unintentional knock-on effects is very important to us.

Throughout 2021, we focused on reducing food waste in our business by minimising surplus through better ordering and availability and maximising surplus donations. In addition to our work with FoodCloud, we launched a new initiative with a volunteer organisation, OLIO, in nine of our stores. OLIO use their network of volunteers, called Food Waste Heroes, to pick up the surplus food from our stores and share it with individuals and families who need it in the local communities.

Through these redistribution programmes, to date we have donated over 15 million meals to more than 380 causes.

We're clear that we have a shared responsibility to tackle food waste wherever it occurs. Our approach is based on a simple principle: we must understand where food is wasted from farm to fork and in what quantities, before we can act together to tackle it. A major part of our work to reduce food waste has involved working in partnership with our suppliers.

At a global level, Tesco chairs a coalition of leaders from Government, businesses, international organisations, research institutions, and civil society called Champions 12.3. This group is dedicated to accelerating progress towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal Target 12.3 to halve food waste by 2030.

At Tesco Ireland, we're working in partnership with fifteen of our largest Irish fresh food suppliers on the Champions 12.3 initiative to support them to share the amount of food waste in their operations and use this insight to take action farm to fork. Led by Tesco Ireland, these Irish food suppliers have committed to publicly target, measure and act to tackle the issue of food waste at their manufacturing sites and to working collaboratively to adopt the UN's SDG12.3.

We manage our food waste from stores, by backhauling it to a single point before sending it to anaerobic digestion with Irish company Green Generation. This process change means less trucks on the road collecting bins from stores, and an annual reduction of 250 tonnes of CO₂. As part of this partnership, we have also become the first Irish retailer to purchase renewable gas made from our own surplus food to power stores. Green Generation process any food surplus - which is not donated to our surplus food charity partner FoodCloud, or given free of charge to colleagues - and the outputs are fed into the gas network. We then purchase the renewable gas outputs via Naturgy, taking a circular economy approach to minimising our carbon footprint.

Appendix: Member Achievements & Plans

Objective 5: Ensure that our actions do not increase food waste

Tesco Ireland continued

2022 PLANS

Our ambition is to halve food waste, from farm to fork by 2030, aligned to Sustainable Development Goal 12.3. We are conscious that we want to reduce the amount of food waste that we generate as a business and support our suppliers and customers in reducing the amount of food they waste too. Alongside that, we want to ensure that we never use more packaging than is needed, and what we do use is from sustainable sources and goes on to be reused or recycled.

We plan to roll out OLIO, a neighbourhood food collection app to more of our stores in 2022, increasing the redistribution of edible surplus.

We are working closely with our partners to ensure that, while reducing our plastic use, that all the plastic we are using is detectable, reusable and that our products are constructed using as much recycled material as possible, without compromising packaging quality or impacting on food waste.



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