

SOFT PLASTIC RECYCLING SCHEME VOLUNTARY PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

ACCREDITATION REPORT 01.01.20.-31.12.20





1 SCOPE OF SCHEME

The scope of the Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme includes the collection of post-consumer soft plastic packaging at designated retailers and drop off points. Soft plastic packaging consists of film made largely from HDPE (high density polyethelene), LDPE (low density polyethylene), PP (Polypropylene) and includes laminated plastics. Post-consumer flexible plastic includes bread bags, frozen food bags, toilet paper packaging, confectionery and biscuit wrap, chip bags, pasta and rice bags, courier envelopes, shopping bags, sanitary hygiene packaging, squeeze pouches and, in general terms, anything made of soft plastic which can be scrunched into a ball.

Currently, the Scheme does not include preconsumer/ post-manufacturing/ back-of-house soft plastic secondary or tertiary packaging. However, Scheme partner Future Post does process these materials and has made tonnages processed available for this report. systems, transportation and recycling of the plastic materials so that consumers can recycle their soft plastic packaging consumed at home, work or in public places. Since its accreditation in March 2018, the scope of the Scheme has changed to include paying New Zealand processors for every tonne of soft plastic material that they recycle.

Scheme members include plastic bag manufacturers, brand owners that use soft plastic packaging, retailers, and other organisations that want to get involved.

The Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme is one of three product stewardship Schemes operating under The Packaging Forum umbrella. The Scheme differs from other Packaging Forum Schemes in that it fully funds and operates the collection and processing of post-consumer soft plastics, allowing New Zealanders the opportunity to recycle their soft plastic materials. The Scheme has grown in popularity, and is consistently well received by the New Zealand public, councils and industry alike.

The Scheme includes the funding of collection

1.1 Reporting period

The Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme achieved accreditation on 22 March 2018. This report provides data for the period **1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020**. It is to be noted that during this period there was a national lockdown (level 4 or 3) due to COVID-19 from 25 March to 13 May, and an additional Auckland level 3 lockdown during August. There were no collections or processing during the March-May lockdown, and collections were curtailed during the August-September restrictions.

1.2. Scheme governance

The Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme operates under the governance of The Packaging Forum (PF) with its governing board appointed from the PF's voluntary product stewardship Schemes. The PF governing board is responsible for overall governance of all Schemes. Financial governance is provided by the PF's Finance & Risk Committee.

The Soft Plastic Steering Committee has its own committee which comprises representatives from its levy paying membership. The Steering Committee provides guidance to the Scheme Manager with regards to the operational management of the soft plastics collection service, and approves the Scheme's budget. The Steering Committee has met monthly during the past 12 months.

The Scheme Manager reports to the Chair and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Scheme.

SOFT PLASTIC RECYCLING SCHEME STEERING COMMITTEE

MALCOLM EVERTS SP Chair Marketing & Sustainability Manager Cottonsoft

PHIL VAN HOUTS

Amcor Flexibles Asia Pacific - ANZ Safety, Quality & Sustainability

JOSH DEVOE Food & Events Manager

Westpac

MICHAEL ANDERSON

Group Sustainability Manager Goodman Fielder

KERI-ANNE MARTIN

National SHE Manager **Nestle**

LOU SHERMAN

Senior Packaging Technologist Asaleo Care

SUZANNE COWLING

Innovation Manager ANZ Jacobs Douwe Egberts NZ

STEFFAN PEDERSEN

National Sales Manager Cas-Pak Products NZ

CHARLOTTE HAYCOCK

Senior Advisor-Sustainability & Government Countdown



2 REVIEW OF THE SCHEME

The Scheme is 100% funded by industry, and meets the expectations outlined in General Guidelines for Product Stewardship Schemes for Priority Products Notice 2020 in that it:

- Delivers continuous improvement in minimising waste and harm, and maximising benefit from the priority product at end of life
- Invests in initiatives to improve circular resource use and new markets for the priority product by paying processors for the cost of recycling the materials
- Internalises the end-of-life costs with the cost of collection, management and processing of the products covered by the Scheme
- Is free at the point of use

Jerome Wenzlick, Founder of Future Post discusses soft plastic recycling with Phil Goff, Mayor of Auckland. February 2020 Provides a transparent chain of custody for collected and processed materials with collection and processing data reported in this Annual Report.

The Scheme represents approximately 75% of the post-consumer soft plastic packaging market. Members' levies fund collections from stores, quality checks, baling, transport to end markets, and pay an agreed rate per tonne to cover the processing costs. This is different from the traditional model where the processor pays the collector/recycler for the materials.

2.1 Membership

60% increase in membership to over 100 enabling growth in collections and processing

The Scheme now has 102 members, which is a 60% increase in membership from the previous year – all despite the challenging environment businesses faced during 2020 as a result of COVID-19.

Members pay a levy based on their company turnover, and an understanding of the volume of soft plastic materials they place on the New Zealand market.

The Scheme has defined the resin codes which are acceptable to processors. The thresholds for materials accepted by the Scheme have been updated during the report year, and is shown in section 3.1 below. The Scheme also notes that it has measured consumption using available industry market data, however targets will be improved through access to data on imported/distributed materials.

Participation Levels in Scheme

Based on AZTEC data and the brands identified in the Waste Not Consulting Branded Audit, the Scheme represents approximately 75% of the soft plastic packaging post-consumer market, as defined by the categories listed in Chart 3. The Scheme has continued to encourage the non-participant brands to join, and has made significant progress during the report period with an additional 38 companies joining the Scheme.

Chart 1. Membership

SOFT PLASTIC SCHEME MEMBERSHIP



Chart 2. Members by Category Type





FOOD BRAND **60%** DRINKS BRAND **2%** GROCERY BRAND **4%** MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTER **15%** FOOD RETAILER **7%** OTHER RETAILER **8%** SERVICE/TOURISM INDUSTRY **4%**

Chart 3. Scheme Member's Market Share

CATEGORY	% SHARE OF TOTAL BY MEMBERS	UNIT SALES BY MEMBER BRANDS
Bread bags	90%	125,232,282
Frozen food bags	90%	55,352,096
Confectionery	90%	66,330,358
Cereal	90%	57,311,107
Biscuit wrap	60%	60,857,938
Toilet roll/towels	80%	30,282,874
Pasta/rice bags	50%	41,054,747
Sanitary hygiene incl. kitchen towels	90%	25,041,570
Potato chips/ snack food	75%	114,500,754
Miscellaneous	30%	15,000,000
Total	70%	590,963,726





MEMBER COMPANIES

1 day Abe's Bagels All Good Amcor Flexibles Animals Like Us Asaleo Care Bluebird BNZ Breadcraft Cas-Pak Products NZ Ceres NZ **Chantal Organics** Clorox Coca Cola Amatil Coffee Supreme Cottonsoft Countdown Dole NZ Ecolean Epic Dairy - The Collective Farrah's Fonterra Foodstuffs Freightways Frucor Beverages Fruity Sacks FSL Foods George Weston Goodman Fielder Griffins Hally Labels Heinz Watties Hello Fresh Hubbards (Walter & Wild) Huckleberry

Inghams Jacobs Douwe Egberts Jenkins Freshpac Jersey Girl Organics Kathmandu Kelloggs Kimberly Clark L'affare Life Health Foods Loft Foods Little Beauties Lululemon McCain Mars NZ Meadow Mushrooms Mexicano Mitchell's Nutrition Mondelez (Cadbury) Mother Earth (Prolife Foods) Mrs Rogers Multivac My Food Bag Naturally Organic Nestle NZ Hothouse New Zealand Post NZ Sugar Oceania Healthcare **OF** Pack Only Organic Oob Organic **Oriental Cuisine** Pams Pitango PrimePac

Proper Crisps Pure Delish Radix Nutrition Sanitarium Sealed Air Serious Food Co. Sherbourne Packaging Simplot (Birdseye) Snell Packaging So Sweet Something to Crow About Stone Paper Stratex Group Sunrice - James Crisp Suntory Coffee TC Transcontinental Packaging (Coveris) T & G Global Tegel The Baron The Lactation Station Thermogard The Warehouse Tom & Luke Trevelyan Tropeaka Tui Products Unilever Watercare Services Westpac Woolworths Woop Wrigley Z Energy

2.2 Stakeholder Relationships

The Scheme has a major focus on communicating with the consumer as reported in Section 5. In April 2020, the Horizon Research poll found that 54% of respondents have heard that they can recycle their soft plastic bags and packaging at supermarkets and other stores, meaning around **1.94 million** adults are aware of the programme.

Since 2016, the number of people who have heard of soft plastic recycling has risen from 22% to 54%. In 2018, 55% said they had heard of it. The 1% difference between 2018 and 2020 is not statistically significant, however reflects the temporary cessation of collections between January 2019 and May 2019 due to the unavailability of overseas processing markets. When collections restarted, they were at a reduced number of regions and with a reduced number of stores. In the regions where soft plastic collections are available, recognition is higher than the average of 54%:

- Auckland, 65% of respondents said they had heard of the programme and 60% said they have seen one of the soft plastic recycling bins in stores.
- Hamilton, 65% of respondents said they had heard of the programme and 65% said they have seen one of the soft plastic recycling bins in stores.
- Wellington, 62% of respondents said they had heard of the programme and 56% said they have seen one of the soft plastic recycling bins in stores.

By household type, awareness of is highest (65%) among extended families and single persons (60%). It is lowest among one-parent households with three or more children at home (26%). Among the most predominant household type, couples with no children at home, 54% are aware.



Stakeholder Relationships

The Scheme has presented to the Sustainable Business Network's *Developing a Circular Economy for Plastics* programme; supported the Food & Grocery Council's plastic resin data collection and worked with Plastics NZ and WasteMINZ. In December 2020, The Packaging Forum signed an agreement with the Australian Packaging Covenant (APCO) which integrates the New Zealand Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme within the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL).

To amplify awareness amongst stakeholders the soft plastics collection service has been promoted in *Local Government Magazine*, *Supermarket News* and *FMCG Magazine*, and via social media channels – including the Scheme's own facebook page. In addition, the Scheme receives and responds to numerous requests for information from schools and tertiary institutions. There are also many ongoing requests for information via the Scheme's facebook page as well. On an ongoing basis, the Scheme discusses processing opportunities with potential new market entrants, and is monitoring opportunities including pyrolysis, plastic to oil, extrusion, injection moulding, use in aggregates and waste to energy.

The Scheme has supply agreements with two New Zealand processors Future Post in Waiuku, and Second Life Plastics in Levin.

The Scheme works with councils in the regions where there is a collection service to promote the Scheme to the local community. There is considerable demand by councils and their communities for a soft plastic recycling collection service; however, there is a broad understanding that collections can only be re-instated if local processing capacity supports this.

The Scheme actively promotes the need for local and central government, as well as industry, to purchase products made from recycled soft plastic in order to create demand.



3 CURRENT WASTE GENERATION: MASS BALANCE

3.1. Methodology

The volume of bags by type has been calculated from information supplied by IRI New Zealand. The average weight per items is calculated from the audit conducted by Waste Not Consulting in September 2018.

On 1 July 2019, single use plastic carrier bags were banned in New Zealand. This has removed around 6,424 tonnes of soft plastic materials from the waste stream. Brand owners and retailers have also increased their efforts to reduce plastic consumption by encouraging an increase in reusable options for the likes of fresh produce.

The unit sales in 2020 have been impacted by COVID-19. However, an increased demand for products due to stockpiling, and a corresponding increase in consumption, the average weight per bag has **reduced by 5%** since 2019. This is largely a result of lightweighting by manufacturers to reduce plastic resin consumption.

AN ESTIMATED 789 MILLION BAGS WERE CONSUMED IN THE YEAR TO AUGUST 2020 OR 4,976 TONNES OF SOFT PLASTIC PACKAGING PER ANNUM. THIS EQUATES TO AROUND 1KG OF SOFT PLASTIC PACKAGING CONSUMED PER ANNUM, PER NEW ZEALANDER.

Chart 4. Estimated volume of soft plastic bags by category

BAG TYPE	UNIT SALES	AVE WEIGHT IN GRAMS	TOTAL TONNES
Bread bags	139,146,980	8.1	1127
Frozen food bags	61,502,329	8.7	535
Confectionery	73,700,398	2.2	162
Cereal	63,679,008	10.7	681
Biscuit wrap	101,429,896	3.9	396
Toilet roll	37,853,593	9.6	363
Pasta/rice bags	82,109,493	6.5	534
Sanitary hygiene incl. kitchen towels	27,823,967	9.6	267
Potato chips/ snack food	152,667,672	4.0	611
Miscellaneous	50,000,000	6.0	300
Total	789,913,336	6.3	4976

The Scheme has supported the Food & Grocery Council's member survey of consumption by plastic resin type. The data from this survey will support the Scheme in improving the robustness of the consumption data for the range of soft plastic materials. The FGC survey also includes secondary and tertiary packaging, including shrink wrap, so will provide a dataset which will assist the Scheme as it transitions towards meeting all the criteria for a priority product.

In the report period, the Scheme has also broadened the range of soft plastic packaging accepted and this will increase the total tonnes for the category. For example, the Scheme now accepts clean cling film (PE); food pouches, garden and other household bags. Consumption data for this range of packaging will be assessed in 2021.

Acceptable Plastic Resins

During the report year, the Scheme has worked with Future Post and packaging manufacturers to verify the materials which are acceptable for processing, and to determine the thresholds for compliance. The material thresholds are now integrated within APCO's ARL.

Chart 5. Materials Thresholds Table

The Scheme currently accepts materials which are plastics resin code 2, 4, 5 with acceptance of resin codes 1 and 7 in a blended mix with the primary plastic. Secondary materials must be less than 30% in total across all secondary material types, and primary materials (HDPE; LDPE; PP) must be a minimum of 70% by weight.

The range of acceptable plastics is governed by what can be processed at present. However, the Scheme is aware of new projects which will accept a broader range of resins (typically still excluding PVC, Extended Polystyrene and compostables).

				SEC	ON	IDA	RY	MA	TER	IAL	S %	5	
FLEXIBLE LAMINATE		PET	HDPE	PVC	PVDC	LDPE	PP/BOPP	Sd	ΝΔΤΟΝ	EVOH	COMPOSTABLE PLASTIC	PAPER/LABELS	FOIL
	PET												
۲ ۳	HDPE	30							30	30		30	30
Σ	PVC												
DG	LDPE	30							30	30		30	30
ARY	PP	30							30	30		30	30
PRIMARY POLYMER	PS												
d d	NYLON												
	COMPOSTABLE												

LEGEND

not accepted for recycling	not recyclable	no
secondary polymer	recyclable in a blended mix	ves
primary polymer	recyclable	yes
COLOUR LIMITS	FUTURE POST CLASSIFICATION	ACCEPTED



3.2. Collection & Processing

The Scheme provides a continuous supply of materials for processing. The soft plastic bag which is recycled today will be a fence post in a matter of weeks.

The measurement of tonnes collected is measured by collection records, and tonnes received by end processors.

The measurement of demand from recyclers is measured by tonnages requested by processors to meet their production needs.

Throughout 2020 Future Post's processing capacity has increased with additional shifts, and with increased demand for their products from government departments and industry.

The impact of COVID-19 meant a delay in the Scheme's expansion programme, disrupted collections during lockdown periods and affected the service whilst the country and subsequent regions were in Levels, 2, 3 and 4. This has meant that the targeted tonnes of 289 tonnes was not met. The Scheme asked members for soft plastic materials from their postindustrial / back-of-house to provide feedstock to Future Post when consumer collections were limited.

The chart below shows the close correlation between what is collected and processed.

Chart 6: Scheme Collections and Processing



Total processed	624 tonnes	77 tonnes
pre consumner / back of house	456 tonnes	NA
post consumer soft plastic	168 tonnes	77 tonnes
ТҮРЕ	2020	2019

Future Post has further developed its programme for back-of-house / post-industrial soft plastic packaging. We include this as a separate line in this report.



4 OBJECTIVES + TARGETS

The changes to the Scheme following the impact of the China Sword policy, and the lack of processing for mixed plastics globally, required the Scheme to reset in 2019. The initial focus on collecting as much soft plastic materials as possible and exporting them overseas for processing is no longer viable.

In 2020 the Scheme revised its objectives in its Annual Report to the Ministry for the Environment. The new objectives address working with Scheme members to reduce plastic consumption; working with processing partners to support their growth through paying processing fees; and, on only collecting the volume of plastic which can be processed in New Zealand or in near shore markets. The following table outlines the objectives and targets set for the Scheme, and reports on performance. In 2020 the Scheme has **met** or **exceeded** the key performance indicators.

OBJECTIVE	PARAMETER	2025 TARGET	2019 PERFORMANCE	2020 TARGET	2020 ACTUAL
Increase in tonnes of soft plastics processed in New Zealand or in near shore markets	Focus on processing of soft plastics rather than collection volumes	500 T	77 T	150 T	168 T
Increase the accessibility of the scheme to New Zealanders	Increase number of regions offering collection facilities	70%	50%	55%	60%1
Improve quality of collected materials	Increase education and awareness to reduce contamination	Below 8%	not measured	Below 8%	7.1%²
Increased engagement in minimising plastic consumption to close the gap between consumption and recycling	Report on tonnes of soft plastic packaging consumed	ТВС	4,684 T	N/A	4,976³ T
Stakeholder support	# members	80	63	65	102
	Quarterly e-news sent	200	88	120	139
	to stakeholders	All		2	64
	# councils promoting the scheme				

1 Population based on Census Data 2019

2 Waste Not Consulting Audit March 2020

3 Increased consumption in 2020 compared to 2019 due to COVID lockdown "stockpiling"

4 Auckland, Hamilton, New Plymouth, Taupo, Hutt, Rotorua

5 **PROMOTION OF THE** SCHEME

OVER 1.45 MILLION PEOPLE REACHED WITH MESSAGES ABOUT THE SCHEME

Media Evaluation

Independent media evaluation was carried out by Impact Media Evaluation for the period July 2018-June 2019.

The Scheme was specifically mentioned in 55 items compared to 96 in 2018/2019. In the previous year there had been higher coverage due to the cessation of collections. The lower coverage also reflects the national COVID-19 lockdown period.

In the report year, the coverage was entirely neutral or positive.

The total coverage or reach was in excess of 1.45 million. This is based on circulation where known.

The Impact Media Report notes that "Soft plastic recycling coverage has an even grouping of messages. What is noticeable is the strength of the newly measured 'on shore processing message' both in terms of the context of difficulties now of processing abroad, and the spotlight on initiatives in New Zealand processing by Future Post and Second Life Plastics"

Chart 7. Volume of Soft Plastic Recycling messages by items





E-newsletters - The Wrap Up

The Wrap Up is a bi-monthly newsletter for Scheme members, and other stakeholders. It is posted on the website and shared with news media.

Social Media

The Soft Plastic Recycling facebook page increased the number of likes by 19% to 7,847 at the end of December 2020, and 9,052 people following the page. It operates as our major communication channel with New Zealanders that use or have used the Scheme. 86% of users are female, and 58% of users are in the 18-44 age group. People from Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Hamilton are most interested in the Scheme.





Top Locations

People who like your Page are in these locations. These numbers are estimates.

CITIES	COUNTRIES
Auckland, New Zealand	2.9K
Wellington, New Zealand	991
Christchurch, New Zealand	908
Hamilton, New Zealand	405
Tauranga, New Zealand	324
Dunedin, New Zealand	225
New Plymouth, New Zealand	187
Whangarei, New Zealand	121
Nelson, New Zealand	120
Palmerston North, New Zealand	116

Scheme posts during 2020

Posts about soft plastics reached 212,300 people during 2020 and over 23,000 people engaged in the discussion.

	t Insights			• • • •	st Insights			← Pos	st Insights		
	Rhema Radio's Diane interviewed the soft pl 14 July	Reacn Engagements	2.4K 111	20	27 April	Engagements	247	20	27 April	Engagements	247
				HOST HCYCLED	Love NZ Soft Plastics	Reach	1		Love NZ Soft Plastics	Reach	1
First M	We look forward	Reach	2.7K		Recycling's cover photo 23 April	Engagements	174		Recycling's cover photo	Engagements	174
THE	to welcoming back cu 1 July	Engagements	193	The second second				2 2 10 ¹⁰ (m	23 April		
					It's been a roller coaster 12 months bu	Reach	15.6K		It's been a roller	Reach	15.6K
	Soft Plastic Recycling	Reach	22.9K	485. -235.	23 April	Engagements	1.2K		coaster 12 months bu 23 April	Engagements	1.2K
SCICLE SUCASTIC	will return to the Bay o 1 July	Engagements	1.7K	- 200 - 7 San			namena (na namena (namena) namena (namena) nam	23 April			
1 and 1					While we are taking a	Reach	8.4K		While we are taking a	Reach	8.4K
	Supermarket News provide an update on t 29 June	Reach	5.3K		pause in collections, 9 April	Engagements	772		pause in collections, 9 April	Engagements	772
		Engagements	727								
Contraction of the second					SOFT PLASTIC	Reach	11.8K		SOFT PLASTIC COLLECTIONS TO ST 25 March	Reach	11.8K
	Soft Plastic Recycling Bins are back today at 1 June	Reach	25.9K	Ţ	COLLECTIONS TO ST 25 March	Engagements	712			Engagements	712
+2		Engagements	2.6K								
	- ounc			CO-TA	Check out our new soft	Reach	2.7K		Check out our new soft	Reach	2.7K
	Kendall Hutt reporter	Reach	3.2K	PLASTIC	plastics website 11 March	Engagements	324	PLASTIC	plastics website 11 March	Engagements	324
PET PLASTIC	with Stuff continues h 8 May	Engagements	465					Constant State			
	o may				https://www.rnz.co .nz/news/national/41	Reach	4K		https://www.rnz.co	Reach	4K
	Bryan Crump interviews Lyn Mayes	Reach	2.1K	12	8 March	Engagements	525	APE	.nz/news/national/41 8 March	Engagements	525
RMZ		- Engagements	83								
IGHTS Ith Oryan Grunp	8 May				A very appropriate competition Future Fe	Reach	2K	-	A very appropriate	Reach	2K
and the second second	SOFT PLASTIC	Reach	21.1K	44	7 March	Engagements	97		competition Future Fe 7 March	Engagements	97
	COLLECTIONS RETUR	Engagements	2.3K	accurate, to approximate a							
1	8 May	-			Great news for Northland residents	Reach	38K		Great news for	Reach	38K
3	Great to see today's	Reach	2.5K	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	6 March	Engagements	5.3K	STICLE STICLE	Northland residents 6 March	Engagements	5.3K
	Inteau to see today's		2.00	10 M 10				States States			

Website

The soft plastic website provides up-to-date information about collection locations, and what can be recycled through the programme. The recycling.kiwi website is a stand-alone soft plastic website which, in 2020, reflected its importance as an information source to consumers. The website provides an important interface with New Zealanders. In 2020, there were 74,990 users of the website and 130,855 page views. 71% users are female and 52% are from Auckland, 14% from Wellington and 7% from Christchurch.

Sessions	Users	Pageviews
All Users	All Users	All Users
74,990	56,983	130,855
NZ Traffic	NZ Traffic	NZ Traffic
66,985	50,070	119,021



People can check out which stores are currently providing the service on our website: **bit.ly/SP-store-locator**, otherwise search "soft plastics

otherwise search "soft plastic: stores" online.

6 FACTORS AFFECTING THE SCHEME

In August 2020, the Minister for the Environment declared plastic packaging as a priority product. The Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme was accredited for a period of seven years as a voluntary product stewardship scheme in March 2018.

This report shows that the Scheme has met or exceeded its 2020 targets despite the impact of COVID on operations during the year.

The 60% increase in membership is evidence that the scheme has industry support.

The principal limiting factor remains that there are currently only two processors in the North Island which are able to process post-consumer soft plastics. Whilst Future Post has increased its processing capacity and continues to do so, further expansion of the Scheme requires processing capacity in the South Island. To date we are not aware of any investment from the Government's Waste Minimisation Fund in projects to increase the onshore recycling of soft plastics.

There has been investment in processing capacity for rigid plastics (PET, HDPE and PP) but none allocated to support recycling of soft plastics. There needs to be multiple "Future Posts" to create capacity, reduce reliance on one plant, and reduce transport costs. The Scheme is committed to creating regional circular economy solutions to reduce transport carbon footprint.

7 LOOKING FORWARD

In 2021, the Scheme will continue to increase the availability of store collections and expand into new regions. Collections will recommence in the South Island starting with Christchurch. This will be achieved through partnerships with member companies to backhaul the soft plastics from Christchurch to Auckland. The Scheme will also work on transitioning from 'voluntary' towards the 'priority product' requirements. This includes building a service for pre-consumer/post industrial soft plastics; improving the consumption data through work with GS1 and continuing to seek and support new infrastructure projects.

The Scheme will continue to monitor developments in Australia as they implement their own soft plastic recycling scheme and conduct trials for a kerbside collection of soft plastics.

