

# The Wrap Up

PROMOTING THE SOFT PLASTICS CIRCULAR ECONOMY  
RECYCLING.KIWI.NZ

## What's happening in the soft plastics recycling scheme?

### Collections in Auckland – Update

The resumption of the soft plastics scheme has been very positive, with around 6000 kilograms of soft plastic packaging collected during June following the re-start of collection services in the Auckland region.

**This amount of plastic is equivalent to around 1 million units of plastic packaging being made into plastic fence posts.**

Malcolm Everts, Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme Chair, says the re-start has been well received by Aucklanders, with positive feedback from participating stores:

“To streamline the process, we've changed the logistics so that bales of soft plastic are now sent every week to Future Post either from our store collection service provided by Abilities, or via Countdown's own distribution system. We're seeing volumes steadily increase as consumers identify their local participating store and start re-using the

service. We anticipate further uptake as a result of the media coverage during Plastic Free July and with the raised awareness of the ban on single use carrier bags.”

### Where to next?

We are as anticipated receiving requests for new collection points in Auckland, and questions about when collection services around the country will resume. This a strong indication of how popular the scheme is across the board, and we thank everyone for their patience and support since the operation re-started.

Once we have embedded the service in the Auckland region over the next few weeks, we are proposing expanding the collection service to additional Auckland stores, and into the Waikato from September. We are taking a phased approach to expansion to continually monitor the volumes we collect. We need to be constantly mindful that we manage, and balance, the supply of soft plastic raw materials with the growth in local processing operations throughout New Zealand.



## Where can you recycle in Auckland?

You can check out which stores are currently providing the service on our website [bit.ly/SP-store-locator](https://bit.ly/SP-store-locator) otherwise Google 'soft plastics stores'.

## New store

### NATURALLY ORGANIC, ALBANY

Called into meet the team at Naturally Organic in Albany. Customers were demanding a soft plastic bin and here it is...





An order of #allblackposts from Future Post heading to the Waikato for Milan Park Stud. Making the circular economy really happen, and using Love NZ soft plastics recycling for a great purpose.

“ A superb initiative and making a big difference for NZ (Plastic Free NZ) ”



We welcome all new members to the soft plastics recycling scheme

- Caspak
- Jacobs Douwe Egberts NZ
- Mondelez
- Naturally Organic
- Freightways, NZ Couriers
- Post Haste Couriers, Castle Parcel, Now Couriers
- Serious Foods
- Stone Paper Packaging



## A winning team: Future Post Innovation Award

Congratulations to Future Post who won the Agricultural Innovation Award at this year's Fieldays event in June. Since winning the prestigious award, Future Post has seen an increase in interest in their posts from all industry sectors - from the equine and viticulture sectors; from marine to dairy - this is exciting news, and we look forward to watching the Future Post story continue to grow.

To ensure a successful recycling scheme, and a true circular economy, we need to have sustained and increased demand for the products made from recycled plastic. If you're keen to find more information on the fence posts, and how you can purchase them, check out [facebook.com/futurepostnz](https://facebook.com/futurepostnz)

Future Post winning the award was a hit with kiwis who are fully embracing the idea of purchasing innovative products which have been produced from soft plastic raw materials!

This is great! I don't need fence posts but anything else more suitable to a regular home - I'll buy 🙏

Awesome innovative idea! It's a win win win!



## Getting involved

It's great to see that already there's some excellent examples of our members supporting these start-up processing businesses with integrated campaigns, and community projects.

As a group, we continue to work hard to find more ways in which to give soft plastic raw materials a second life and play an important part in driving New Zealand's circular economy but, ultimately, diverting as much soft plastic as possible away from landfill.

The soft plastics recycling scheme is 100% funded by industry. We are grateful to all our members who have remained loyal whilst we have restructured the service. We encourage all brands or manufacturers that use soft plastic packaging to join the scheme.

The funding from our members pays for the logistics and processing costs and, put simply, without funding we wouldn't be able to provide Kiwis with the opportunity to recycle their soft plastics — we know how popular the scheme is, but recycling and processing doesn't pay for itself!

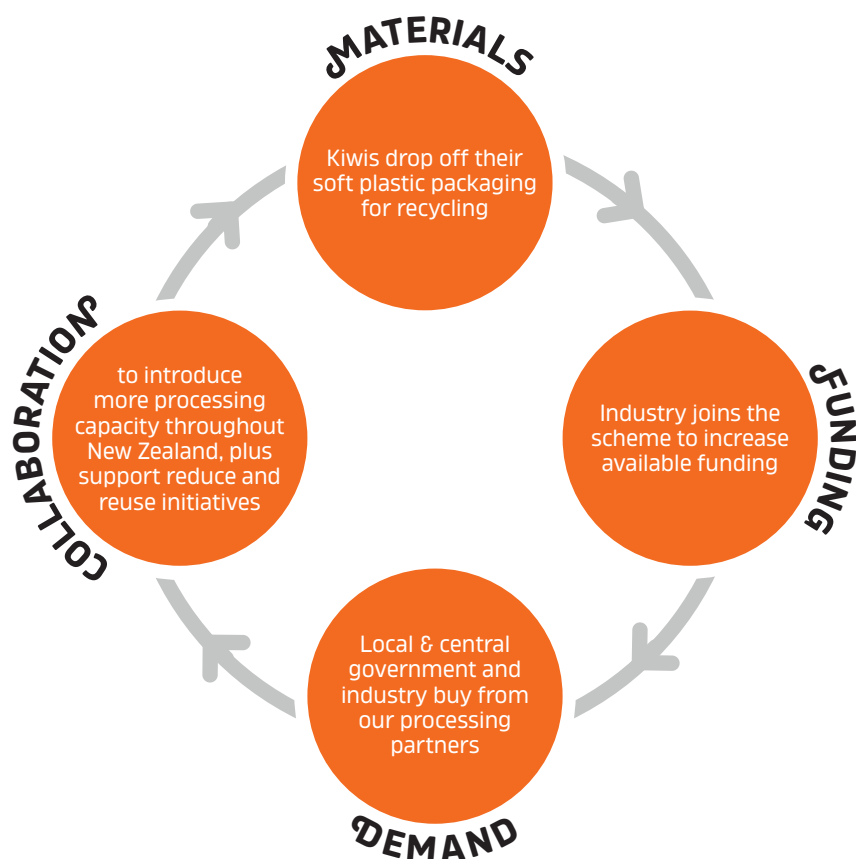
### Call to all councils, businesses and government departments



To create a sustainable, circular economy, we need to buy the products made from our waste. These products can be used in a myriad of ways – replacing old fencing on farms and in council and community parks and gardens. Unless we support the companies turning our waste into valuable commodities and products, our recycling efforts are in vain. There's not just Future Post turning our soft plastic raw materials into viable products, there's also Second Life Plastics in the lower North Island, that are producing some exceptional products – from fence posts, to cabling, garden edging, tuff buckets, and water slides.



## Success requires a combination of the following





Spot the #allblackposts in this new goat shed! Matamata Ag Centre is a family run agricultural business based in the heart of the Waikato.

And you can use the posts in urban areas too...

## New funding available for plastic processing projects

The Regional Growth Fund, in conjunction with the Ministry for Environment, is seeking investment-ready proposals of significant scale in regional locations which will process our plastic waste. Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones has announced a \$40 million allocation to support facilities where resource consents that allow waste processing are already in place, and where any construction of processing capacity could get underway before the end of 2020.

If you have a project which meets these criteria, check out [bit.ly/GrowRegionsFunding](https://bit.ly/GrowRegionsFunding)

“That's the best news!”



## IN THE MEDIA

**Lifespan of plastic bags soon to be up - 'people know we have to change'**

1 July saw single-use plastic bags being completely phased out in New Zealand – it is now illegal for retailers to hand out lightweight plastic carry bags, including thicker department store bags as well as the biodegradable and compostable options.

These include supermarket carry bags and bags for takeaway food and other retail checkouts.

[bit.ly/TVNZ-bag-lifespan](https://bit.ly/TVNZ-bag-lifespan)

**We had a massive, positive response to the resumption of the soft plastics recycling scheme... it is always a popular discussion point on facebook**

Are you one of our 7021 facebook followers?

If not, head on over and like the Love NZ Soft Plastics Recycling facebook page and keep up to date with everything happening in the soft plastics space as well as promoting your support!

[facebook.com/softplasticrecycling](https://facebook.com/softplasticrecycling)



 **Love NZ Soft Plastics Recycling**  
Community  Liked

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**6,109** Total likes | **7,021** Total follows