



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 December 2022

PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

Planning well underway with Milestone 1 completed Milestone 2 progressing well

The Minister for the Environment, Hon David Parker, announced at an event in Auckland on 23 September that The Packaging Forum (the Forum) and the NZ Food & Grocery Council (NZFGC) will lead the co-design of a regulated Plastic Packaging Product Stewardship Scheme (PPPS), with funding from both the Waste Minimisation Fund as well as the Forum and NZFGC.

Mr Tony Nowell, Independent Chair of the project, has provided an update on the Scheme design's progress, as well as announcing members for both the project Steering and Governance Groups.

"Currently the project has seven milestones, with the project intended to be completed by mid-2024. The milestones cover the initial set up of the project (Stage gate Process) to current state reports to defining the problem, scheme options for New Zealand, and the final report and recommendation to be presented to the Ministry for the Environment," says Mr Nowell. "So far, the team has completed Milestone One and is progressing well with Milestone Two.

"I have been working with the project team – led by Rob Langford, CEO of The Packaging Forum – and the Ministry for the Environment, to agree to the appointment of members for the Governance Group and a Steering Group for this project.

"The Steering Group comprises representatives from plastic manufacturers, plastic packaging users, retailers, local authorities, mana whenua, product stewardship groups and recyclers, with the remit to lead the design process, take decisions and make final recommendations to the Ministry and the Minister."

Appointed PPPS Steering Group representatives:

Representing	Name	Organisation
Community / NGOs	Camden Howitt	Co-Founder Sustainable Coastlines / Founder Whale Shark Creative
Community	Sue Coutts	Zero Waste Network
Youth / Māori	L'Rey Karaitiana	Auckland University
Brand Owners/NZFGC	Mike Pretty	Chair NZFGC/ Chair Kraft Heinz Watties
Brand Owners/ Entrepreneurs	Luke Cooper	Founder Tom & Luke
Supermarkets	Meredith Gee	Countdown
General Merchandise Retailing	David Benattar	The Warehouse Group
Producer/ Processor	Kerrin Thomson	PACT Group
Waste & Recycling	Barney Irvine	The Waste Industry Forum
Local Government	Parul Sood	Auckland Council
Plastic sector	Rachel Barker	Plastics NZ
Retail sector	Aimie Hines	Retail NZ
Government - Observer	Annabelle Ellis	Ministry for the Environment

Mr Nowell says the project team has also appointed a Governance Group comprising experienced Board Directors whose role is to oversee project progress, provide regulatory and fiduciary oversight, scrutinise reporting, and review risks.

Mr Nowell has announced the following have been appointed to the PPPS Governance Group:

Mark Hamilton
Leon Clement
June McCabe
Shaun Lewis
Richard Manaton
Sue Dobbie
Rachel Reese

“This project is of immense importance to New Zealand, and I would like to thank the Steering Group and Governance Group for providing their leadership,” says Mr Nowell.

The PPPS project will also be supported by subject-matter experts who will form part of a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). These members will be announced in early 2023.

“We are also pleased to launch a dedicated website for the project <https://ppps.org.nz/> which provides information about the project and the co-design process and is where we will share news about how the co-design process is progressing,” says Mr Nowell.

“We strongly encourage members of the public, industry, and stakeholders to provide feedback through the site to ensure the wide range of opportunities and concerns are considered.”

This week the Steering Group has approved the Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek research consultants to conduct the first tranches of detailed data and information gathering. The RFP will be placed on the GETS portal, however, interested parties should contact rob@packagingforum.org.nz

For more information on the PPPS and the project team please visit www.ppps.org.nz

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For more information please contact:

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About The Packaging Forum

The Packaging Forum is a member-based organisation representing the depth and breadth of the packaging industry from suppliers and importers of packaging, brand owners, retailers, resource recovery businesses and processors. Packaging Forum members have committed to having all packaging in New Zealand reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.

The Packaging Forum operates two voluntary product stewardship schemes: the **Glass Packaging Forum Scheme** and the **Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme**. The Packaging Forum also managed the **Public Place Recycling Scheme** between 2014 and 2021. www.packagingforum.org.nz

About the NZ Food and Grocery Council

The New Zealand Food & Grocery Council is an industry association that represents the manufacturers and suppliers behind New Zealand's food, beverage, and grocery brands. The sector generates more than \$40 billion sales in the New Zealand domestic retail food, beverage, and grocery products market, and \$34 billion in export revenue from exports to 195 countries – representing 65% of total merchandise exports and 46% of total goods and services exports. Our members directly or indirectly employ more than 493,000 people – one in five of the workforce. www.fgc.org.nz

About the Waste Minimisation Fund

Refer: [Waste Minimisation Fund](#)