

From: [Harry Livesey](#)
To: [Raewyn Bleakley](#); [Holly Cotter](#); [Lyn Mayes \(lynmayes@madworld.co.nz\)](#)
Cc: [Brittany Rymer](#); [Jenny Marshall](#); [Shaun Lewis](#); [Liz Butcher](#)
Subject: RE: Q&A from last week's webinar
Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 5:00:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.jpg](#)
[FGC Kerbside Recycling Questions post 24 Jan 2024 webinar.docx](#)

Kia ora Raewyn,

Apologies, it took us a while to get these back to you. A couple of them, eg ARL related, we think you were happy for FGC/PF to answer. Let us know if you want an MfE response for any of these.

Ngā mihi,

Harry Livesey

From: Raewyn Bleakley <raewyn.bleakley@fgc.org.nz>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:14 PM
To: Liz Butcher <Liz.Butcher@mfe.govt.nz>; Harry Livesey <Harry.Livesey@mfe.govt.nz>; Shaun Lewis <Shaun.Lewis@mfe.govt.nz>
Cc: Brittany Rymer <Brittany.Rymer@mfe.govt.nz>; Jenny Marshall <Jenny.Marshall@mfe.govt.nz>; Holly Cotter <holly.cotter@fgc.org.nz>; Lyn Mayes (lynmayes@madworld.co.nz) <lynmayes@madworld.co.nz>
Subject: Re: Q&A from last week's webinar

MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING

This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

Liz

Thanks very much for confirming you've got these and will work through them.

I imagine you've all had a busy few days so I really hope you have a well deserved relaxing and hopefully long weekend.

Ngā mihi

Raewyn Bleakley
Chief Executive

Perpetual Guardian House 99 Customhouse Quay Wellington | PO Box 25-420 Wellington 6146
New Zealand
Phone **+64 4 470 7725** | admin@fgc.org.nz | www.fgc.org.nz

This email together with any attachments may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender, you must not copy, distribute or keep this email. The sending of this email to any person other than the intended recipient is not a waiver of the confidentiality that attaches to it.

From: Liz Butcher <Liz.Butcher@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:35:54 PM
To: Raewyn Bleakley <raewyn.bleakley@fgc.org.nz>; Harry Livesey <Harry.Livesey@mfe.govt.nz>; Shaun Lewis <Shaun.Lewis@mfe.govt.nz>
Cc: Brittany Rymer <Brittany.Rymer@mfe.govt.nz>; Jenny Marshall <Jenny.Marshall@mfe.govt.nz>; Holly Cotter <holly.cotter@fgc.org.nz>; Lyn Mayes <lynmayes@madworld.co.nz> <lynmayes@madworld.co.nz>
Subject: RE: Q&A from last week's webinar

Kia ora Raewyn

Thank you for sending these through. I'm not sure that we have responded yet but just wanted to confirm that we can work through these and build on the existing response within the document.

We will reach out if we have questions.

Hope you have a nice weekend.

Liz

Liz Butcher (she/her)
Manager | Kaiwhakahaere
Kerbside Improvements and Food Waste Team
Waste Systems

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao
022 517 3314 | liz.butcher@mfe.govt.nz | mfe.govt.nz

Ministry staff work flexibly by default. For me, this means I am usually online between 8am and 5pm and work a mix of days from home and in the office.



From: Raewyn Bleakley <raewyn.bleakley@fgc.org.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:10 AM
To: Harry Livesey <Harry.Livesey@mfe.govt.nz>; Shaun Lewis <Shaun.Lewis@mfe.govt.nz>; Liz Butcher <Liz.Butcher@mfe.govt.nz>

Cc: Brittany Rymer <Brittany.Rymer@mfe.govt.nz>; Jenny Marshall <Jenny.Marshall@mfe.govt.nz>; Holly Cotter <holly.cotter@fgc.org.nz>; Lyn Mayes (lynmayes@madworld.co.nz) <lynmayes@madworld.co.nz>
Subject: Q&A from last week's webinar

MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING

This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

Kia ora katoa

Thanks again for making the webinar last week possible and the mahi you're doing in this important area.

Since last week we've exported the questions and responses from Teams. Lyn has added some as she attended the stakeholder webinar you held as well. We've done some editing and now would like to invite you to review and build on what we have so we can use for the future and make available to our members.

Happy to discuss.

Many thanks.

Ngā mihi
Raewyn Bleakley
Chief Executive

Perpetual Guardian House 99 Customhouse Quay Wellington | PO Box 25-420 Wellington 6146
New Zealand
Phone +64 4 470 7725 | admin@fgc.org.nz | www.fgc.org.nz

This email together with any attachments may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient please delete the message and notify the sender, you must not copy, distribute or keep this email. The sending of this email to any person other than the intended recipient is not a waiver of the confidentiality that attaches to it.

Kerbside Standardisation Communications Campaign

SLIDE DECK

SLIDE 5

Aerosols –remove metal recyclers [Done]

Aluminium foil and trays. Some community recycling centres and metal recyclers accept clean foil for recycling [Done]

Lids

Add Packaging Forum scheme [Done]

SLIDE 6

Change Drinks cartons to read Food and Beverage Cartons and change Saveboard to Food & Beverage Carton collection sites [Done]

Q&A

Member	Question	Response provided	Further action
Phil Cumming, TWL	<p>Would be good to understand plans for plastics 1, 2 and 5 which are not accepted but aren't soft plastics either?</p> <p>Could be rigid PET sheets, tubes or other consumer packaged items not oversized / undersized or hazardous</p>	<p>The Household Recycling Leadership Forum could compile a list of non-standard items (including prevalence), investigate solutions, and make recommendations. Some maybe able to be accepted in kerbside recycling others may be problematic.</p> <p>Materials need to be able to be safely and effectively collected, sorted, and recycled.</p> <p>Mechanical sorting will often sort flat materials onto paper and cardboard lines. Tubes may be able to be mechanically sorted but recycling facilities would still need to know what they are and incorporate them into their AI databases or undertake manual training.</p> <p>Store based drop-off facilities may be an interim solution.</p>	Suggest we cover via PPPS webinar/ discussions for retail/ brands
Alicia Doherty, Kelloggs	Can we please get the link to the new website when it is live so we can review content being provided?	Recycle right at kerbside Ministry for the Environment	Action for MfE
Phil Cumming, TWL	Kerbside guidance says re: paper and card: ' <i>Does not include paper or cardboard that is plastic lined (such as receipts and boarding passes), foil lined or that has compostable elements (eg, coatings or linings) <u>that could contaminate the recycling</u></i>	<p>Note in MfE briefing at 12 noon, confirmed plastic lined fibre is not kerbside recyclable.</p> <p>MfE response: FGC and PF are working with APCO on ARL thresholds including allowable content of non-paper material in paper items</p>	FGC/PF - Briefing Paper on Plastic Lined Fibre

	<u>process.</u> ' Are there any plans in place to provide further guidance around this?		
Gillian Worth	if materials cannot be recycled via curbside but can be recycled through supermarket or lions, can the recycling label be put on that packaging?	Check with the recycling label provider (eg ARL or soft-plastic recycling scheme). The triangular plastic identification code (1 to 7) can always be placed on a plastic item - it identifies the plastic type not whether it is recyclable.	Capture ARL related questions
Sarah Yanez	Are there plans to create something similar to the "Recycle Mate" Australian recycling app?	<p>Raewyn - We have raised this option with MfE and are keen to explore this urgently as it will make labelling much easier</p> <p>MfE response: At this stage this is not something MfE are planning to develop. We note that it came be hard to get good uptake on an app based solution, which may make it less effective. Albeit it can provide more accurate information and be updated more easily than a physical label.</p>	
Jacqueline Nordsvan-Rhodes - Nestle	Will there be any guidance to brand owners who are using the ARL for on pack communication. When can we expect PREP to be updated and timeline to update existing labelling		Capture ARL related questions
John Dempsey, Unilever	The current ARL logo for Aerosols for Australia states to recycle. Are there designs available from APCO to create one to cover NZ to say "check locally" and what are the transitions timings to have labels updated?		Capture ARL related questions

Lyn Mayes, NZFGC/Packaging Forum	Just a note too to check in with AMR - metal recyclers don't collect aerosols but will take all other metal packaging including foil and foil trays,	MfE will check in with AMR but are aware of a number of metal recyclers throughout the country that do accept household aerosols. Our best advice at present is call and check whether your local metal recycler takes them. The MfE look up tool suggests checking with you local council and metal recyclers How to recycle items not accepted at kerbside Ministry for the Environment For metal recyclers it links to Find a Member - Metal Recyclers (nzamr.org.nz)	Does MfE have a link to the resource facilities which will collect aerosols? Verify with AMR what metal packaging they will accept and update presentation.
Mike Pretty, Kraft Heinz Watties	Can you please remind us why untethered tin can ends are no longer being collected and recycled, noting that they contribute to over 25% of the total tin weight?	They can be put inside the tin if the tin is then squeezed closed. Loose they fall through machinery, get stuck and slice up conveyor belts	This seems to be new explanation (stuck in machinery) PF/FGC to clarify with MRF operators.
	Why does the tin video not mention untethered lids? Surely the lack of inclusion is misleading? And clarity around aerosols....	The videos had to be exactly 30 seconds in length, so we had to prioritise the key messages. Each video links to a website page where more detailed information is available for households eg Tins and cans Ministry for the Environment	
Sama Hall	Hi, we're a manufacturing company looking at transitioning some of our products to 400micron mono PET thermoformed trays. The top web can be recycled part of the soft plastics scheme but Future Post rejected our 400micron tray claiming it was rigid. Waste Management's sorting team rejected it claiming it's soft plastic (they sort kerbside collection in Canterbury where our Head Office is based). Will there be clarity on what the minimum micron PET will be that is accepted in kerbside?	At present there is no minimum micron. All plastic #1 containers and bottles are included in the standard materials list. It is our expectation that thin PET trays such as in-pack biscuit trays will be accepted in kerbside recycling. MfE is supporting projects to increase onshore processing of PET including thin PET. Given this MfE has not asked households to differentiate between different thicknesses of PET. However, until more processing options are in place some recyclers may regard thin PET as of low desirability.	Follow up question for PACT?

		Further discussion on this issue could be something that, once established, the Household Recycling Leadership Forum could investigate and in conjunction with any relevant work by APCO on thresholds for the Australasian Recycling Label.	
Steph Stuart	One area that could be clearer is 'rinse' vs 'totally clean' in the messaging. eg Does a peanut butter jar need to be totally clean? A rinse won't do the same job.	We worked with the recycling sector and showed them the same item in various stages of cleanliness. the sector agreed that rinsed roughly is what was needed and they didn't need to be squeaky clean. We have included information on our website pages on rinsing and what is required. https://www.facebook.com/reel/680207340713583	MfE preparing video on how to rinse and recycle to save water
	<p>-Is a pizza box 'clean' if the food scraps have been removed but it is stained with grease?</p> <p>-Do items need to be dried to decrease risk of contamination with mould?</p>	<p>We worked with the recycling sector and showed them pizza boxes in various states eg with food with heavy grease light grease etc, they said that no food but grease was fine. We also did an audit to see how many pizza boxes were found with food inside heavy grease etc...</p> <p>Dry is better but rinsing items should remove most of what would go mouldy. Paper and cardboard should be dry as these will go mouldy if wet and then have no value.</p>	This aligns with research conducted by the Packaging Forum in 2015 with pizza box companies, councils and recyclers which developed artwork "Empty, now I can be recycled"!
Kristen Capaccio	There was no mention of the organic food waste collection. Can you comment on how this will work?	Standard materials also apply to council run food scraps and food and garden waste collections. These collections can only accept food scraps and garden waste. Food scraps Ministry for the Environment	MfE to follow up

		<p>Food scraps collections are being progressively rolled out by Councils and are now available to about half of NZ's urban population.</p> <p>Plans to require all councils to provide a kerbside food scraps service in urban areas by 2030 were announced by the previous Government. These regulations have not been made yet and will be subject to further decisions this year.</p>	
Hosein Pouriman	<p>How about the lids of the glass jar instant coffees? They're quite chunky and heavy, but can't be secured inside their jars.</p>	<p>There is a balance between keeping messaging simple for the public and factoring in variations between different materials and products.</p> <p>The simple message of 'No lids' means glass lids are not accepted in kerbside recycling.</p> <p>However, as they are made of the same type of glass as the jar they probably could be. Once established, the Household Recycling Leadership Forum may like to provide recommendations on glass lids.</p>	Refer to Caps & Lids scheme design
Lyn Mayes	<p>Is a margarine tub or ice cream lid that is reattached to the container considered to be tethered?</p>	<p>No. Tethered means is not easily separated from the container and can be left open while still attached.</p> <p>Pop on lids can easily pop off during collection or sorting. If it does stay closed then the recycling facility cannot tell if the container still has contents inside it.</p>	
Benhamin McKee	<p>How is compliance going to be managed? Further campaigns ?</p>	<p>The kerbside standard materials gazette notice requires councils to accept the standard materials in their kerbside collections. From 1 Feb MfE's</p>	

		compliance team will be monitoring councils' kerbside collection communications materials for alignment with the standard materials. The standard materials gazette notice does not make any compliance requirements for the food and grocery sector.	
Goodnature	What is the threshold of plastic content authorised in paper packaging so it can be properly recycled?		Capture within fibre related questions
Corban	Will there be any update on the grace period to update ARL or recycling logos if needed?		Capture ARL related questions
Ben Ward, Inghams	Currently the NZ ARL website link displayed on our packaging doesn't work, We have raised this with APCO. Are there any plans for this page to be live and will this be consistent messaging with MFE comms.	Raewyn: I was speaking with APCO ARL team this week and they mentioned they were also updating the ARL landing page for 'check locally' information to redirect Kiwi consumers to recycling.kiwi.nz as well as introducing the new Standard materials for kerbside collections: guidance for territorial authorities	Capture ARL related questions
Tim, Syntech	Are there any plans for soft plastics to be driven by central government	Rob Langford: To be discussed within Leadership Group and managed through the PPPS process	Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme – private kerbside collection trials are in planning phase
Tim, Syntech	What are the options for disposing of compostable rigid products, would it only be for home composting?	Some composting sites may choose to take them via drop-off locations or if the collection is not a council run collection. Events can offer a closed collection loop where compostable products of a	

		known quality may be accepted. Otherwise home composting – but most home compost piles are not expected to reach temperatures that will adequately breakdown rigid products. compostables-packaging-position-statement.pdf (environment.govt.nz) Compostable-material-in-real-world-setting.pdf (scionresearch.com)	
Cameron Dellar	Can a PP or LDPE cap be included with soft plastics rather than sent to landfill?	Rob Langford: Technically yes but the soft plastic scheme pays a gate fee hence plan to have a separate caps and lids scheme where plastic and metals can be recycled at a higher level.	Refer to Caps & Lids scheme design
Brooke Sprott, Unilever	For paper/cardboard is a small amount of resin lining acceptable for kerbside recycling eg ice cream tub, laundry powder box		Capture within fibre related questions
Amavi Mey	Could caps be added to lids on the list of excluded materials please to avoid confusion		MfE to action
Cameron Dellar	Confusion is created when products sold across ANZ have different recycling instructions. What is NZ's approach to align with Aus. Yes, agree with this question. And building on this, are you communicating with APCO to update the PREP tool and ensure clarity/consistency in the ARL?	MfE and Australian counterparts engage on waste and recycling issues. Harmonisation across the two countries is an outcome sought. However, each must consider local circumstances including the infrastructure differences and legislative tools available. MfE is also staying connected to the work of FGC, the PF and APCO on New Zealand thresholds for the ARL.	Discuss with APCO/AFGC – industry alignment
Jason Foord	The rule of thumb is that between half and two thirds of all plastic waste generated by the food industry occurs before the final retail product gets to the end customer, does the Ministry have any plans to deal with this waste stream	Business to business recycling can be much more bespoke than household recycling as businesses may have specific wastes that they generate. But they do so regularly and they know what it is. For most materials commercial recycling processes a greater quantity of waste than household recycling.	

		For new ideas that do not already have solutions the Plastics Innovation Fund may be able to provide support Plastics Innovation Fund Ministry for the Environment	
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--