

TOGETHER WE CAN

Peter Skelton, WRAP UK
March 2019

wrap

THE UK
PLASTICS
PACT



Accelerating the move to a sustainable, resource-efficient economy: re-inventing how we design, re-thinking how we use, and re-defining what is possible through re-use and recycling.

- WRAP and our work
- The UK Plastics Pact
- What is happening as a result
- Future outlook

**A world in which
resources
are used
sustainably**

**WRAP is a
not-for-profit
organisation
working with
partners in 26
countries**



How we work....

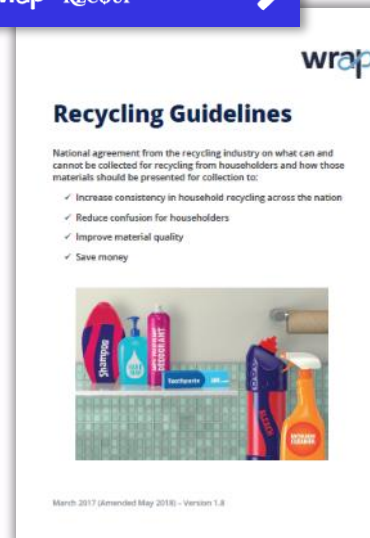
Our programmes;

- Food & drink
- Packaging
- Clothing
- Electrical products





Some of WRAP's work on plastic packaging...



www.recyclenow.com

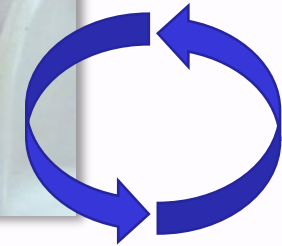
www.wrap.org.uk

Circular thinking in practice....

Previously



2018



- UK milk bottles contain 30% recycled content, 80+% are recycled.
- Bottle recycling in UK plants
- Designed to be circular.

What is good packaging ?

- Low weight
- Low carbon (less GHG)
- Recyclable
- Maximum shelf life
- Renewable source
- Recycled content
- Compostable
- Reusable



Tackling at a global and national level

- Global issue that requires global and national level action
- UK Plastics Pact is the first of a global network of national initiatives
- UK Plastics Pact is supporting Ellen MacArthur Foundation's global initiative – New Plastics Economy.



**THE UK
PLASTICS
PACT**

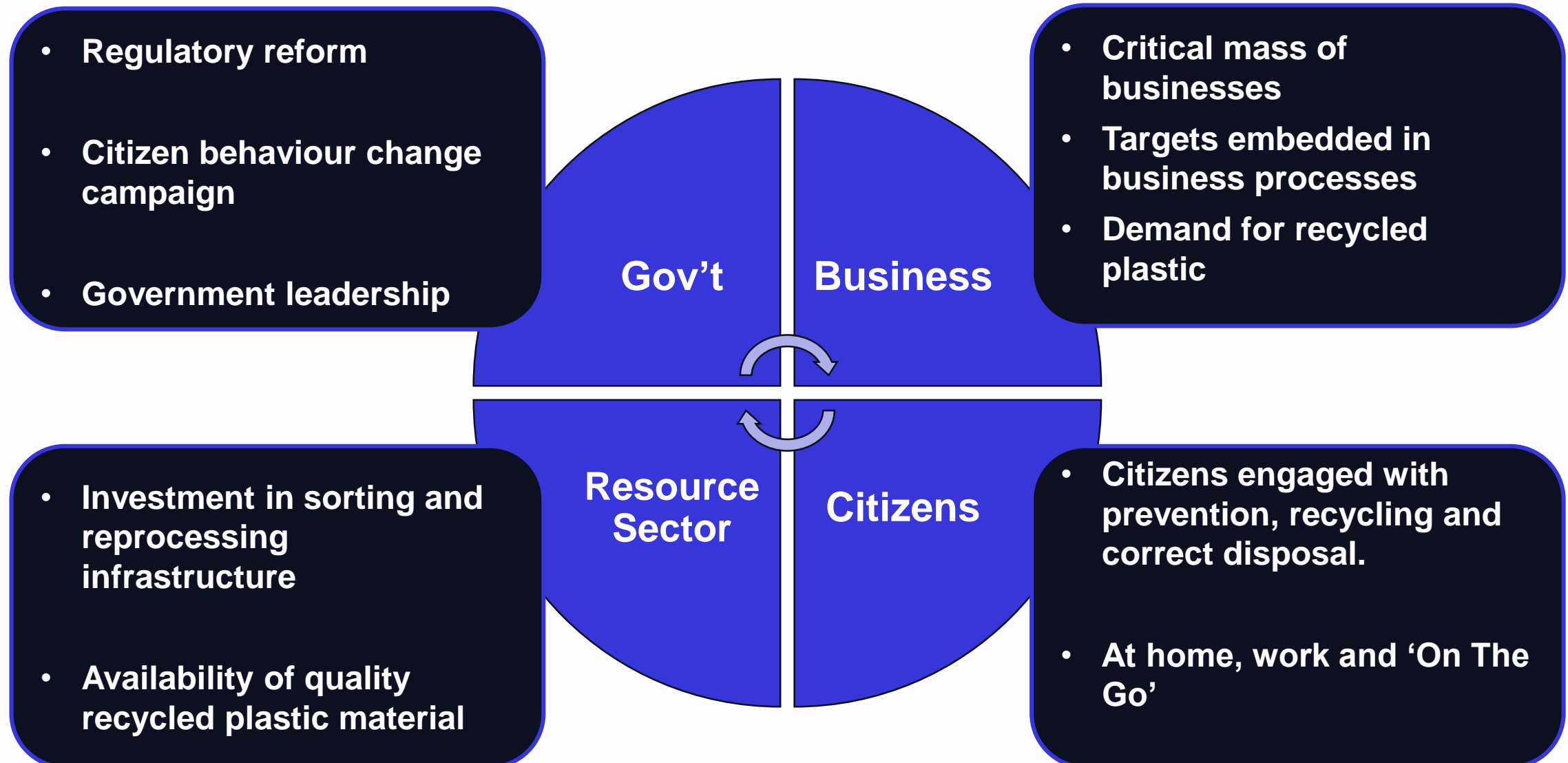


**A world where
plastic is valued
and doesn't
pollute the
environment**

The UK Plastics Pact targets; by 2025

- ☐ Take actions to eliminate problematic or unnecessary single-use packaging items through redesign, innovation or alternative delivery models
- ☐ 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable
- ☐ 70% of plastic packaging effectively recycled or composted
- ☐ 30% average recycled content across all plastic packaging

A role for everyone

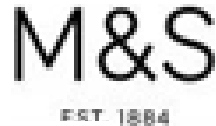


THE UK
PLASTICS
PACT



70+ businesses across the value chain +
33 supporter organisations

Members are responsible for approx. 85% of the
plastic packaging on products sold through UK
supermarkets

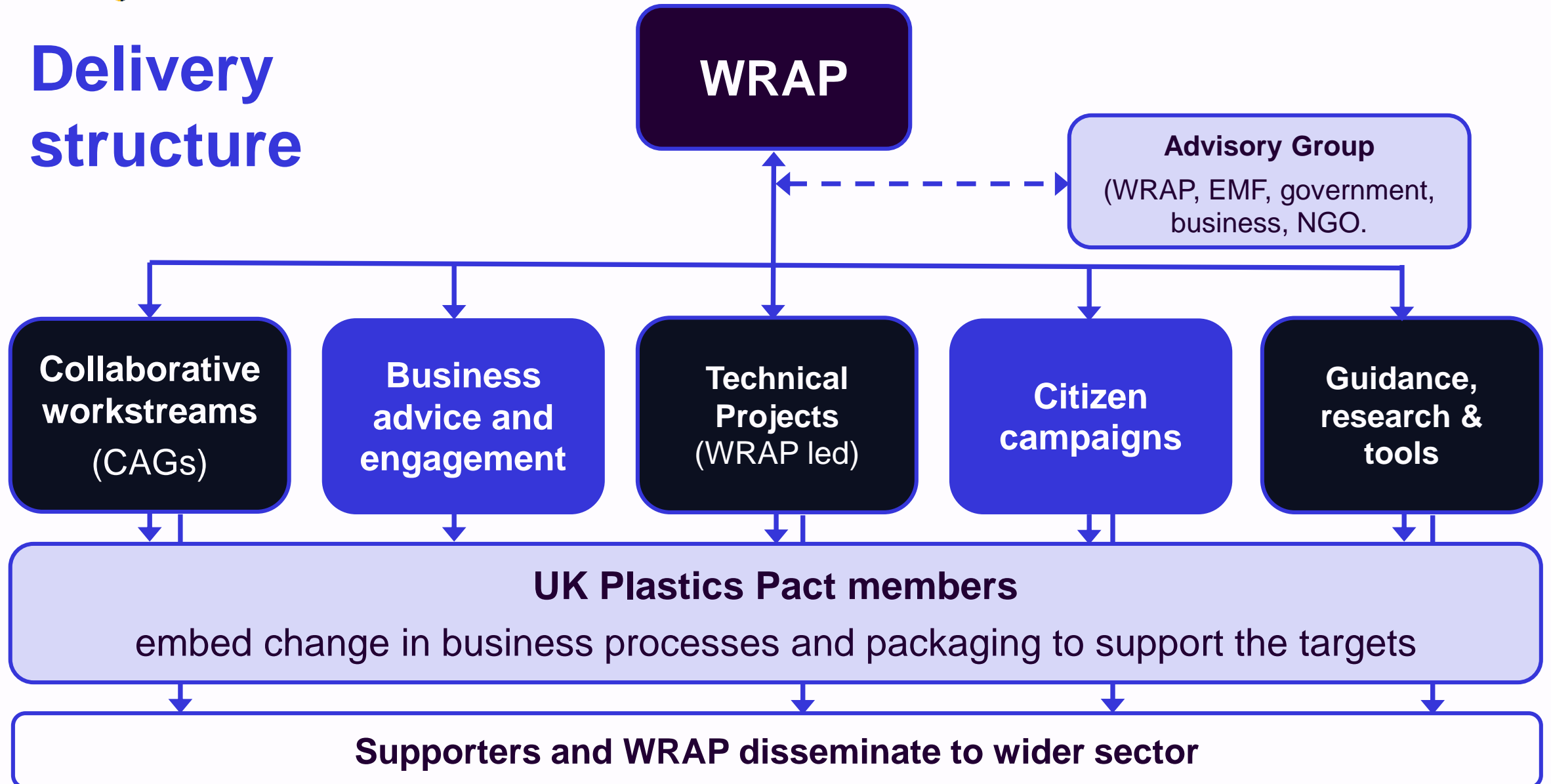


Scope

- **Plastic packaging focus**
- **Plus single-use non-recyclable items**
- **All plastic packaging** placed onto the UK market
- **All polymers and formats**
- **Whole plastics value chain**

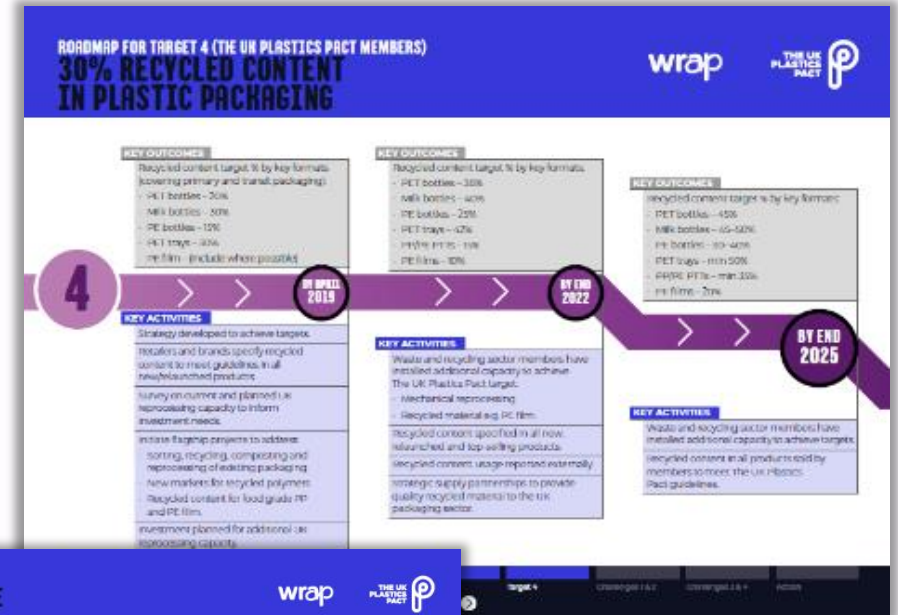


Delivery structure



Roadmap for delivery

A ROADMAP TO 2025 — THE UK PLASTICS PACT >>



New Guidance published

RIGID PLASTIC PACKAGING

DESIGN TIPS FOR RECYCLING

THE UK PLASTICS PACT

wrap RECOUP

SLEEVES WITH MORE THAN 60% SURFACE AREA COVERAGE

WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM?

Full sleeves, or sleeves that cover more than 60% of the container can lead to an error in the identification of the material used for the container itself and can also cause quality issues. If the bottle and the sleeve are different polymers, then it can result in it being mis-read by sorting equipment, leading to it either contaminating another plastics stream or being rejected for disposal. If the sleeve is the same polymer as the bottle it may cause issues with the quality of the recycle, particularly if the sleeve is coloured.

In addition to this, the greater the proportion of non-recyclable components, the greater the 'yield loss' to the reprocessor. Packaging design should aim to maximise the proportion of recyclable material.

WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES?

In bottles, it is preferred that the sleeve labels should cover no more than 40% of the surface area. If full sleeves are required, they should include sufficient clear areas so that automatic sorting equipment can more easily identify the polymer resin used to make the bottle.

In pots, tubs and trays (and other plastic packaging), a label should not cover more than 60% of the surface.

If card sleeves are used on pots, tubs and trays then they should be readily removable by the consumer, e.g. with a perforation line, so they can be easily recycled. Water soluble adhesives should be used to ensure they wash off easily in the process, should they enter the plastics recycling stream.



Understanding plastic packaging and the language we use to describe it


wrap

THE UK PLASTICS PACT



wrap

Composition of plastic waste collected via kerbside



wrap

Final Report

PlasticFlow 2025

Plastic Packaging Flow Data Report




wrap

Recycling Guidelines

National agreement from the recycling industry on what can and cannot be collected for recycling from householders and how those materials should be presented for collection to:

- ✓ Increase consistency in household recycling across the nation
- ✓ Reduce confusion for householders
- ✓ Improve material quality
- ✓ Save money



March 2017 (Amended May 2018) - Version 1.8

What is happening 10 months from launch

Start of life:

- ✓ Review of packaging
- ✓ Design for recycling
- ✓ Polymers rationalised
- ✓ Specifying recycled content
- ✓ New delivery models introduced
- ✓ Clear packaging strategy

End of life:

- ✓ Investment in recycling messages
- ✓ Investment in infrastructure
- ✓ Reuse & prevention messages



Tesco Preferred Materials

Version: 803
Date: 091018

Red: Materials that we will remove from our Own Brand packaging by the end of 2019

Amber: Materials that we will either investigate alternatives for, or use only where required

Green: Materials we will continue to use and use as replacements for the Red List

Red – Exit (poor for recycling and/or potentially harmful)	Amber - Hold (until infrastructure and/or scientific developments take place)	Green – Preferred (easily recycled, can have high recycled content)
PVC & Polystyrene	Home compostable E.g. Cellulose, Mater-bi & Natureflex	Sustainably sourced Wood, board, paper & Glassine
Oxy degradable materials	OPP - Oriented polypropylene	PET - Polyethylene terephthalate
Rigid Water soluble plastics	Black plastic	Glass
PLA – Polylactic acid	PP – Polypropylene [for certain food applications]	PP – Polypropylene [non food]
Industrial compostable	Complex laminates	HDPE & LDPE
Polycarbonate	PVdC (Not PVC)	PE – Polyethylene (preferred material for flexible film)
		Steel & Aluminium

1

TESCO

See : <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/uk-plastics-pact-progress-against-targets>

New (and old) ways of reducing plastic



Innovative business models



- Smart bottles with RFID and payment - track spend and reuse.
- System allows for personalization and trial
- Water on free vend.



Innovative business models



- Partner with businesses to provide delivery, collection and washing service for cups
- Uses half the CO2e of disposable and ceramic cups, including PE lined, Styrofoam and compostable PLA.
- <https://cupclub.com>



What else needs to happen?



A powerful global network is emerging...



TOGETHER
WE CAN

Thank You

ukplasticspact@wrap.org.uk

www.wrap.org.uk

peter.skelton@wrap.org.uk

+44 (0)7930 476 601

wrap

**THE UK
PLASTICS
PACT**

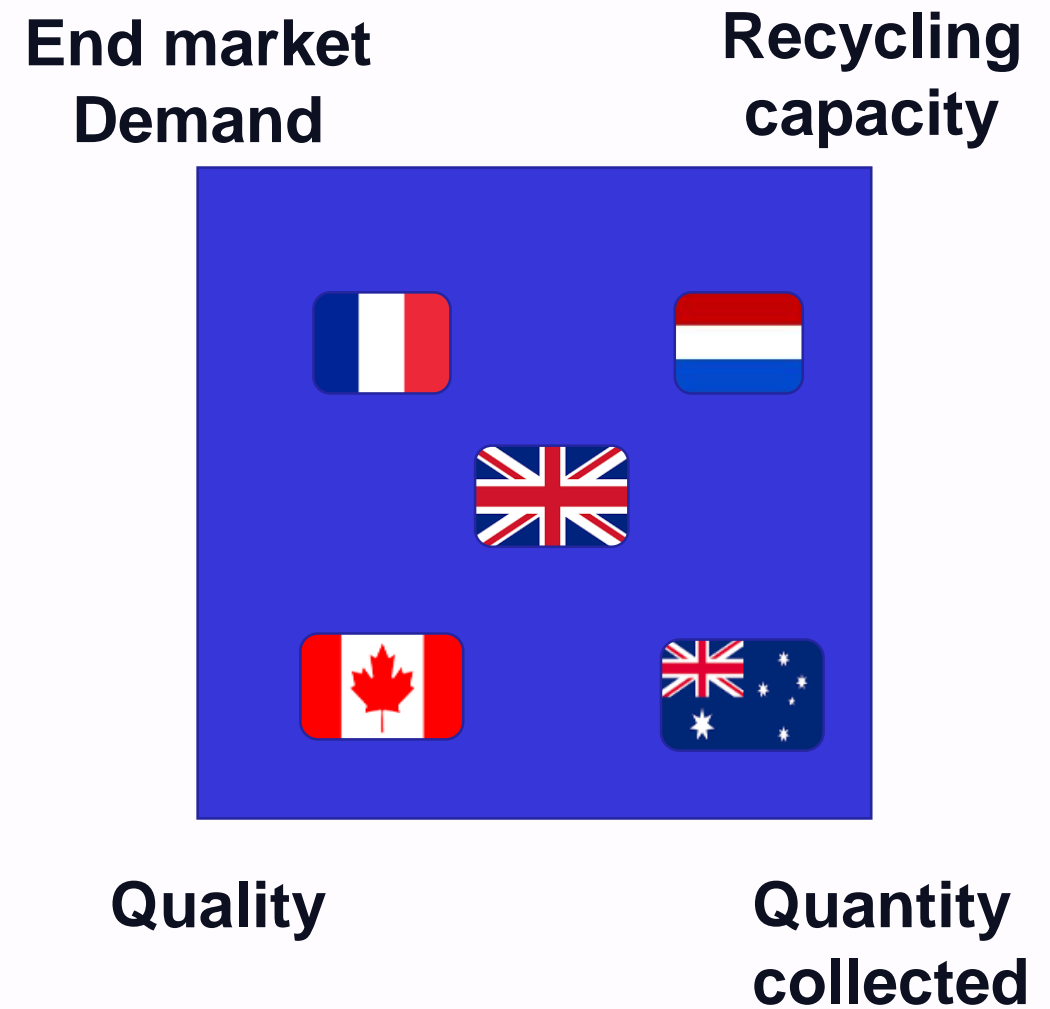
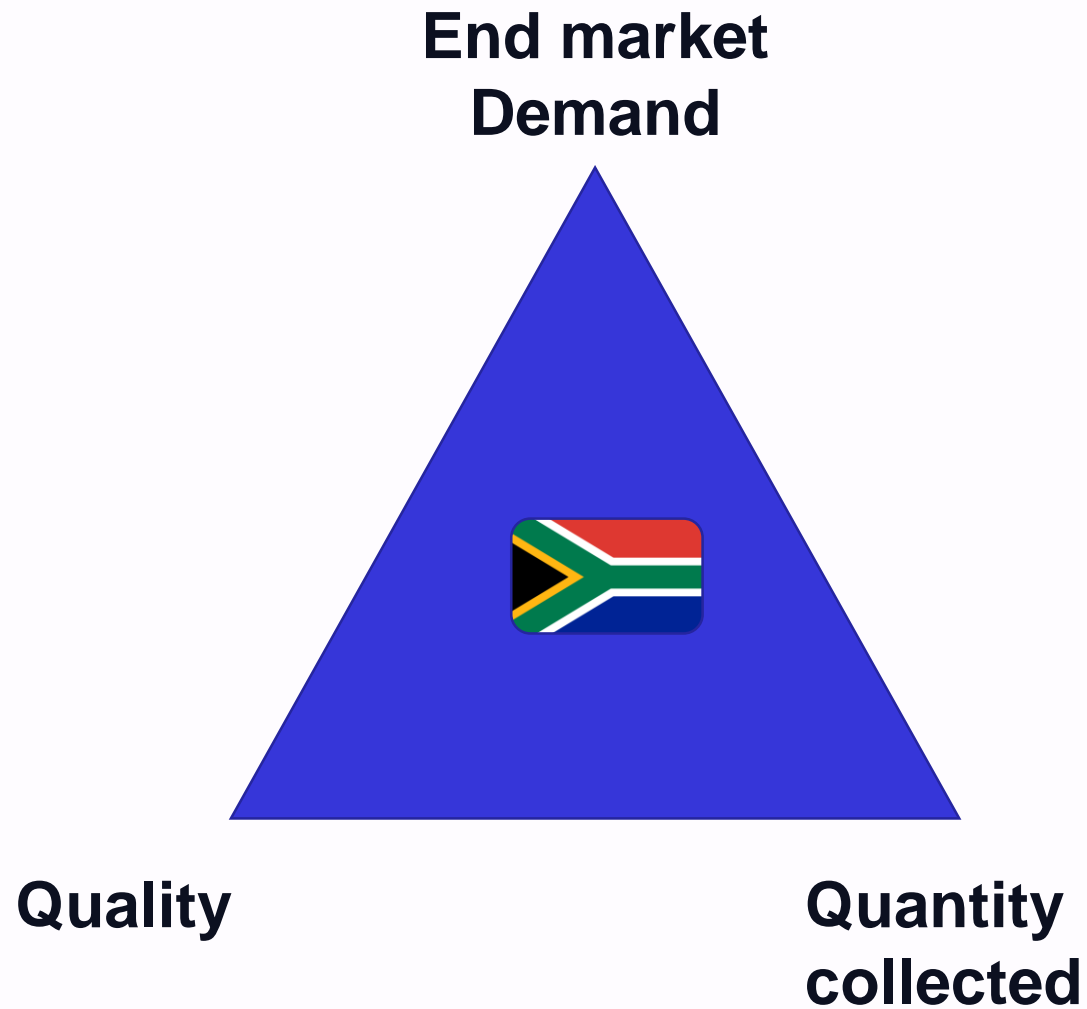




Comparison of targets

Target	EMF	UK	NL	Australia	France	GAEPW
Target to identify and tackle problematic/unnecessary plastic items/packaging	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
% of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable.	100%	100%	100% (not compostable)	100%	100% (not compostable)	N
% plastic packaging effectively recycled or composted	Y	70%	70%	70%	60% (2022)	N
% average recycled content across all plastic packaging	Y	30%	35%	30%	30%	N
Other targets		-	20% reduction	-		-

Challenges to growing recycling rate



Collaboration

