Welcome to the 2018 edition of the RECOUP Brochure

With the necessity for today’s businesses, consumers and governments to take much greater environmental responsibility, more ambitious proposals and strategies around resources and recycling should not be a surprise to anyone.

It is time for change, and that is exactly what is happening.

The direction is absolutely right with a fundamental shift toward better long term use of resources and the development of circular economy models, but it is imperative that the practical business case for maintaining and increasing plastics recycling is robust. Plastic is often used because it is the best material for the job. We must consider full material and product lifecycles and avoid mis-guided commitments which may well look positive in the short term, but not be the best overall environmental option.

The priority is for all plastic to be controlled at end of life to avoid any leakage into the environment, and then re-use and recycle as much as possible to embrace circular thinking. More can be done by the plastic supply and recycling chain to show a co-ordinated and pro-active industry who are working beyond their legal obligations to really address environmental issues and improve plastic resource use. This is critically important while extended responsibility discussions continue, which will eventually ensure environmental considerations are a requirement for all.

This brochure will provide you with valuable insight into a range of initiatives and opportunities relating to plastics recycling. I also hope that it encourages you to consider how your organisation can work with and support RECOUP.

For more information please visit:
www.recoup.org @Recoup_UK
RECOUP IN NUMBERS

Established in 1990
Over 500 enquiries each year
Over 90 Members

Over 90 Members

Plastics Resource Groups / Conferences / Meetings

150+ in 2017

RECOUP in the press 2017

Downloads in 2017
Recyclability by Design

UK Household Plastics Collection Survey

Disposal ‘On the Go’ Local Authority Survey

RECOUP Plastics Recycling Conference

In 6 years
1800 delegates
over 150 speakers

2017
280 delegates
28 speakers

RECOUP in Numbers

Over 90 Members

Plastics Resource Groups / Conferences / Meetings

150+ in 2017

RECOUP in the press 2017

Downloads in 2017
Recyclability by Design

UK Household Plastics Collection Survey

Disposal ‘On the Go’ Local Authority Survey

RECOUP Plastics Recycling Conference

In 6 years
1800 delegates
over 150 speakers

2017
280 delegates
28 speakers
Recyclability By Design

There is much work being done to align materials and reduce their complexities through packaging consistency work. RECOUP continue to encourage packaging manufacturers and designers through their Recyclability By Design Guidance to ensure that packaging life cycle end destinations remain high on the agenda.

Packaging manufacturers and developers are able to utilise RECOUP’s Recyclability By Design Guidelines to aid in the production of packaging which looks at recyclability from the outset. This document has gained wider following and RECOUP have been busy updating the guidelines with wider industry input and specific case studies. The latest 2017 version was presented at the last RECOUP Conference, where many of the issues surrounding packaging recyclability and consistency were discussed.

Polymer tables updated

The polymer specific recyclability tables have been reviewed and revised for the updated version. To ensure the accuracy, RECOUP have engaged with sorting facilities and reprocessors to ensure the information is current, informative and accurate.

As the polymer specific recyclability tables are the most important and relevant part of the document, RECOUP are very grateful to members from the recycling industry for their valuable time, input and approval in reviewing and confirming the accuracy of the tables.

As with previous updates, RECOUP members have contributed their thoughts and opinions, to relay details of ongoing projects to improve the quantity and quality of recycled plastic packaging.

You can download the current edition from the website
www.recoup.org/design
The Black Plastic Packaging Recycling Forum, has been established to tackle the challenge of recycling black plastic packaging and is led by RECOUP.

The group has agreed to new commitments that will enable this plastic to be recycled into a raw material source, with the outcome of less waste and improved resource efficiency.

The group is made up of members from packaging manufacturers, packers, brands and retailers to material reprocessors, trade associations and individual specialists.

The group has made clear a commitment to the industry and public to:

“Find sustainable solutions by the end of 2018 that will enable the recycling of all black plastic packaging bottles, pots, tubs and trays.”

This will be delivered within the Black Plastics Packaging Recycling Roadmap with representatives from all sectors engaged with ongoing activities to explore available and new opportunities, including:

- Building on previous work, assessing the impacts of black plastic packaging items and use of detectable black packaging on material sorting facilities;
- Developing a defined roll out of detectable pigment;
- Encouraging and enabling technical providers to develop sorting and reprocessing solutions;
- Testing the viability of using different colours and shades to ensure any changes of pack colour will demonstrably improve detectability for recycling;
- Assessing new alternative sorting solutions;
- Researching and testing closed and open loop end markets.

All of this will feed into best practice guidance for brands, retailers and Local Authorities on how they should collect and use black plastic packaging.

Stuart Foster said: “Despite the inevitable politics and positioning behind issues such as black plastic recycling, our role at RECOUP is to bring the various groups and stakeholders together to make practical steps forward and build on the great work of individual organisations to date. The ultimate aim is to drive black plastic recycling forwards in a practical and sensible way, turning ambitions and collaborative thinking into actual delivery.”
RECOUP illustrate simple steps towards plastic packaging recyclability.

While press coverage concentrates on messages to the public; usually informing of packaging that is not recyclable; RECOUP have found a way to provide constructive advice to the industry showing that simple changes can make a difference.

It is hoped that a suite of Recyclability Case Studies will help provide a constructive message; there is work which can be done.

RECOUP produce Recyclability Guidelines, aimed at Packaging Technologists, Buyers and Designers, to inform how to make their packaging more recyclable.

However, as RECOUP stated at their annual conference in September, they “continue to be surprised by the number that are not aware that such guidelines exist”.

To help spread a more simplified message, RECOUP have been working for a while on Case Studies; illustrations of both packaging considered not recyclable, with reasons why, and examples of recyclable alternatives.
RECOUP Packaging Technologist Paul East explained “We are often asked what are the main issues for recyclability of plastic packaging. The idea of this latest work is not only to illustrate some of the issues, as we and others have done before, but just as importantly provide examples of alternatives”.

Stuart Foster, RECOUP CEO, added; “We would invite companies who provide or use plastic packaging to contact us, so we can help them to understand what recyclability means, and how we can provide an independent view on the recyclability of their packaging”.

RECOUP Trustee and Co-op Environmental Manager Iain Ferguson added “The work RECOUP have done will provide a simplified message to the retail industry about how to improve recyclability. This will help smaller businesses and non-specialists in larger businesses. It supports major cross-industry initiatives aimed at improving recyclability and collection of packaging.”

You can download the Recyclability Case Studies from the Download Centre of the RECOUP website.
The UK Household Plastics Collection Survey outlines the collection of household plastics in the UK. Supported by LARAC, it takes data and opinion from Local Authorities and informs those working across the plastics supply and recycling chain who have responsibilities or interests in developing plastics recycling.

The 2017 Survey includes facts, stats and views and opinions from Local Authorities about:

- Plastics collection services and quantities
- Kerbside containers & frequency
- Treatment of residual waste
- Recycling consistency guidelines
- Commercial collections and service providers
- Recycled plastic markets
- Consumer communications
- Plastic recycling in the EU
- Plastics packaging placed on the market

It was reported for the first time that the milestone of collecting half a million tonnes of plastics packaging from UK households has been achieved. The 512,475 tonnes collected for recycling in 2016 consisted of over 340,000 tonnes of plastic bottles and nearly 170,000 tonnes of plastic pots, tubs and trays.

Although the collection data represents great progress over the last 20 years, it doesn’t tell the whole story. The increase in collection of plastics bottles from UK household represents an increase of less than 1% from the previous year. New collection schemes are also slowing down, with only 7 new kerbside schemes in 2016 reporting that they introduced the collection of plastic pots, tubs and trays.

“Making kerbside systems as good as they can be will inevitably lead to higher household plastic collection levels. Consumer communication particularly needs financial backing. The question is, over the next 2-3 years, is there the funding and real desire to carry this forward?”
The 2017 Survey highlighted that investment is needed in kerbside recycling collections infrastructure and communications. Consistency of materials collected for recycling, consumer communications and the effects of budget restrictions are all key areas for Local Authorities.

Consistency in Materials Collected for Recycling

Consistency in materials collected for recycling, how they are presented for recycling and a long-term investment programme in consumer communications need to be central to building household recycling in the future. If the UK is serious about increasing recycling rates it needs a strong strategy and delivery plan that is also financially backed.

Consumer Communication Campaigns

There is an increased demand to engage and communicate with householders by running plastics recycling communication campaigns. However, this is one of the first areas to suffer from budget restrictions.

Did You Know?

- Collection rate for plastic bottles of 58%, with a 32% collection rate for plastic pots, tubs and trays
- An average UK household uses nearly 500 plastic bottles a year, but only recycles just under 290 of them.
- Since 1994 there has been over 70 BILLION plastic bottles collected - that’s over 3 MILLION tonnes!
- There were just over 9,000 tonnes plastic pots, tubs and trays being collected when collections levels were first reported, and this has now reached nearly 170,000 tonnes - in total there has been nearly 1 MILLION tonnes collected!

As the UK moves towards Brexit, one legislative option is that the UK generates a producer fund which would be responsible for the delivery of national communications to raise awareness of recycling and increase participation, and would support Local Authority campaigns at a local level.

Budget Restrictions

Local Authority and waste management providers should be applauded for their efforts, but Local Authority budgets continue to be squeezed. The RECOUP Survey confirms, that from nearly 160 responses, 51% of Local Authorities in the UK received budget cuts for providing waste and recycling collections or delivery of communications to householders about waste and recycling. This represents a significant change to the results when the same question was asked the previous year - when just 13% reported budget cuts.

In terms of legislation, the role of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and ambitions for the future the next 2-3 years provides a window of opportunity for the UK.

The 2017 RECOUP Survey is available to download for FREE from the website http://www.recoup.org/p/229/uk-household-plastics-collection-survey-2017
There is an increasing shift from Government, media and the public around the leakage of used packaging into the natural environment. Reducing litter, disposal ‘On the Go’ i.e. in public spaces such as high streets and parks, and use of Deposit Return Schemes are all being debated.

Disposal of used packaging away from home is a key strategic issue to tackle littering and promote positive disposal behaviour, including recycling.

RECOUP carried out a survey of Local Authorities in the UK with the aim of gaining an insight into the service provision and collection ‘On the Go’, and over 100 Local Authorities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland responded to the call for information.

Key Barriers

A consistent picture soon became apparent that ‘On the Go’ disposal in the UK was failing.

There is inadequate ‘On the Go’ collection infrastructure for both collection of recycling and residual waste material. There were key barriers reported, particularly around developing a recycling ‘On the Go’ infrastructure:

- High levels of contamination
- Inadequate budget for consumer communications and education
- Procurement, maintenance and collection costs
Local Authority Recycle ‘On the Go’ Survey

Cost vs Benefit

For many Local Authorities the cost vs benefit does not add up. There are significant costs in providing ‘On the Go’ collection services and high levels of contamination from the material collected, and many Local Authorities reported that the budget can be better spent on increasing quantities and reducing contamination in kerbside collections.

Urgent Investment is Needed

It was made clear investment is needed to prove the business case for ‘On the Go’ collection schemes. To do this effectively it was reported good data is needed to assess costs and potential benefits, with funding needed for procurement and installation of bins, scheme maintenance and collection of material, and also for consumer communication and education to promote effective use of the schemes.

The Local Authority Disposal ‘On the Go’ Survey report is available on the website http://www.recoup.org/p/300/disposal-on-the-go-local-authority-survey
RECOUP leads Pledge 4 Plastics and provides support for core activities through its internal team. Pledge 4 Plastics is the consumer facing brand for its recycling and litter communications and campaigns. RECOUP, under the Pledge 4 Plastics brand work in partnership with others or as a stand alone activity for your organisation.

Aims
• Boost plastic packaging recycling in the UK
• Achieve real behaviour change through consistent and simple messages

Mission
• Promote consistency, remove confusion and increase plastics collected for recycling through education, communication and mobilisation

Vision
• Our vision is that all recyclable plastics are collected for recycling

@pledge4plastics
Pledge 4 Plastics in Action

Pledge 4 Plastics is used as a communication channel for consumer facing activities of RECOUP.
RECOUP was asked by Norfolk Waste Partnership to assist with a roadshow being delivered in Downham Market to inspire householders to cut down waste and save on food bills. RECOUP developed and delivered a roadshow to show the householders in Downham Market the recycling journey of plastic packaging and how it is recycled into other products.

The initiative formed part of the Discovery Communities programme through which Norfolk Waste Partnership were awarded funding through Sainsbury’s Waste less, Save more Programme.

The pop-up activity was arranged to back up the Plan, Eat, Save, leaflets that were delivered by the Waste Partnership to all households in Downham Market, informing and educating on aspects of positive behaviour in terms of waste from the food the packaging contains to the packaging itself.
The Danone Nations Cup is the World’s largest football tournament for children aged between 10 - 12 years. In England Danone have partnered with the English Schools’ Football Association to run the event. For the second year running, RECOUP were asked to build on the previous year’s intervention to deliver a recycling message and education piece at the tournament’s Regional and National Finals.

The initiative brought to life the Danone “Healthy Habits Recycling Lab” with RECOUP providing and manning a roadshow at the events demonstrating with an interactive sensory display of the recycling journey for plastic bottles to T-shirts.

Working in partnership with Havas (who commissioned and operated small scale working models of machinery to grind, extrude and mould small plastic items), RECOUP was able to explain through practical demonstrations the plastics recycling journey for moulded plastic products. Unique medals were moulded from recycled plastic on the day and handed out to the children to take home.

The National Final was held at Stoke City FC. Danone commissioned a recycling bin in the shape of a XXL football trophy and the children were able to place their plastic drinks bottles in the bin for recycling while the Recycling Lab helped them to understand the ongoing recycling processes. The initiative was aimed at inspiring the children, teaching them about the importance of recycling, to reiterate how key the decisions are to put their empty plastic drinks bottles in the right place to enable them to be turned into other products.
RECOUP was invited to partner with Keep Scotland Beautiful and Simply Cups to provide and deliver a roadshow to showcase the recycling journey of coffee cups and plastic bottles at the Gallery of Modern Art in Glasgow on the 24th and 25th October 2017.

Keep Scotland Beautiful had engaged with schools from Greater Glasgow and the community from across Scotland through competitions centred around the use of art and photography to drive an awareness campaign on the relationship between drinks packaging and disposal habits.

Thousands of visitors attended the exhibition over the two days and were encouraged to ask questions on the recycling journey of plastic bottles and coffee cups. Consumers were asked to commit to changing their behaviour following the exhibition and to ensure that when disposing of plastic drinks containers, they ‘do the right thing’ and place the bottles for recycling.
At a large event in Buxton, the Buxton Spring Fair on 1st May, RECOUP in partnership with Nestlé Waters hosted an interactive stand to raise awareness of the importance of plastic recycling. The visiting community was also asked to help recycle as many of their used plastic bottles as possible during the day.

**Interactive Stand**

The stand contained many facts and stats, information about how recycling works and recycled products. This was done in a tactile way so visitors could touch and feel plastic flake, pellet and fibre, which was particularly effective for the children.

**Win a Baby Busta Cuddly Toy!**

There was a quiz focussed on families and children, with the stand providing recycling information for people to answer questions to enter a prize draw to win a prize - Baby Busta, a cuddly toy made from 5 plastic bottles. Thirty Baby Bustas found new homes that day!

**Recycled Plastic Benches**

Thanks to the efforts visitors and people from the local community made to recycle their used bottles, Nestlé Waters donated two benches made from recycled plastic which were supplied by RECOUP member Marmax Recycled Products, and these were installed at Cote Heath park in Buxton.

The stand was a huge success and the RECOUP team didn’t stop talking plastics recycling all day, with many repeat visitors coming back to try to win a Baby Busta.

Hayley Lloyd-House, Head of Communications, Nestlé Waters, said: “We were delighted to have been able to work collaboratively with the community and RECOUP to highlight the many benefits of recycling and the value of plastic which, if recycled, can go on to have many uses. We hope these benches will be enjoyed by the community and be a great reminder of the positive impact recycling can have for society and the planet.”
Consumers play a critical role in the success of any plastic packaging recycling system. The effective engagement of consumers is also recognised a key barrier to improving the quantity and quality of material collected for recycling, whether in or out of the home.

RECOUP worked in partnership with PlasticsEurope to take the first steps in developing an international picture of consumer recycling views with a focus on plastics. The aim was to examine consumers’ behaviour and provide more intelligence on the public perception of plastics recycling.

Over 4,100 participants from the UK, Germany and Poland, took part in the survey. Using the UK as a baseline, Poland was also selected given that it has emerging opportunities for plastic recycling but with more limited current infrastructure. Germany was also selected as a well developed system with established recycling and energy from waste infrastructure.

Areas covered included:

- Barriers to recycling
- Acceptability of plastic waste management options
- Where do you think the plastics go once collected for recycling
- Interest in knowing more about what happens to plastics
- Awareness of environmental terms
- Willingness to pay for sustainability
Lack of Awareness about Recycling amongst Young Citizens

The main finding revealed there is a lack of awareness about recycling amongst young citizens (18-24 age group). In particular, less than 1 out of 3 young people in the UK recycle plastics (29% in the UK, 24% in Germany and 18% in Poland).

Confusion is Universal

When it comes to the average population, less than 50% of consumers recycle all plastics after using them in the UK (45% in the UK, 51% in Germany, 35% in Poland). Interestingly, the main reason consumers do not recycle is that they are confused and ill-informed about what types of plastics are accepted for recycling. In Poland, respondents cited other barriers, such as less willingness (17%) or inconvenience to recycle (17%).

Consumers Prefer Recycling

To the question of what plastic waste management system consumers are more likely to accept, i.e. recycling, energy recovery, landfilling; 93% of UK consumers prefer recycling over landfilling and energy recovery. This result was echoed in both Germany 95% and Poland 94%.

The study also shows that there is huge resistance among consumers to send plastic waste to landfills (Germany 70%, Poland 74% and the UK 82%). Views seem to be divided about waste-to-energy solutions. Consumers in Germany (63%) and the UK (70%) are generally positive about energy recovery, while the Polish population is evenly split: 46% pro and 45% against.

The Public Wants to Know More

The survey concludes that over half of consumers in each country are eager to know more about what happens to plastics once they are collected (64% in the UK, 74% in Germany and 54% in Poland). However, consumers are also less willing to pay more for the production of resource efficient products (43% in the UK, 28% in Germany and 30% in Poland).

Do Consumers Understand Environmental Terms?

When questioned about their awareness and understanding of environmental terms, there was a clear divide between the three countries. In the UK, there was a high level of awareness and understanding of sustainability (81%) and carbon footprint (88%). Only a small fraction of respondents had heard about resource efficiency (21%) and the circular economy (7%).
UK Best Recycled Plastic Product Award 2017

The 2017 Plastics Industry Awards were presented by TV celebrity, Nick Knowles, in front of a packed audience of industry professionals at the London Hilton on Friday 27th October. Swindon-based Recycling Technologies beat off four other shortlisted companies to claim the accolade, in a hotly contested category.

RECOUP have sponsored the award for the UK ‘Best Recycled Plastic Product’ for the past 4 years to demonstrate the potential of plastic recycling to the manufacturing sector. There were some great entries to the award this year and below you will find the winner and finalists.

Recycling Technologies - Plaxx

The 2017 award went to Recycling Technologies for its Plaxx oil product. Plaxx is a low-sulphur hydrocarbon feedstock derived from residual scrap plastic using a continuous process that can be based at an operator’s site.

www.recyclingtechnologies.co.uk

Axion Polymers & 1env Solutions Ltd - The Rotech® Bullet bait box

The Rotech Bullet Bait Box is made from 100% Axpoly PP 51 polymer. This material is made from 98% recycled plastic recycled in the UK from automotive waste feedstock.

www.axiongroup.co.uk
UK Best Recycled Plastic Product Award 2017

Marmax - Buddy Bench

The Buddy Bench is made from 100% recycled plastic, the Junior Buddy Bench saves 2,603 two-pint milk containers from landfill, whilst the Adult Buddy Bench saves 3,146 plastic containers from landfill.

www.marmax-products.uk

Fishy Filaments Ltd - 3D printing filament

Fishy Filaments Ltd is a specialist in recycling marine plastics into supplies for 3D printing. It’s a nylon filament for use in low cost, fused filament 3D printers. The product is 100% recycled nylon.

www.fishyfilaments.com

HAHN Plastics - hanit® Ultra Ecocrib Wall Plastic

HAHN’s hanit® Ultra Ecocrib Wall Plastic Profiles have 100% Recycled Plastic contents & it is 100% Recyclable as-well. Not only is it strong, durable, maintenance-free, weather and rot-resistant, it comes with a 120-year BBA approval, providing a reliable structure ideal for their new builds.

www.hahnplastics.com

For more information please visit http://www.recoup.org/p/244/uk-best-recycled-plastic-product-awards

UK Best Recycled Plastic Product Award 2018

The 2018 Award Entries for 2018 will open in March 2018 and will close for entries 22nd June 2018. Short-listing will take place in July 2018.

All finalists are required to attend the Plastics Industry Awards Ceremony on Friday, 29th September 2018 at London Hilton on Park Lane, where the winner will be announced.

Keep an eye on the RECOUP website for more information about the award and finalists.
Working with EPRO

EPRO is a pan-European partnership of specialist organisations that are able to develop and deliver efficient solutions for the sustainable management of plastics waste, now and for the future.

The organisation provides a unique forum for the leading specialists in plastics resource management from across Europe to exchange learning, develop integrated plastics packaging waste strategies and support technological development.

EPRO members are working to optimise national effectiveness through international co-operation: by studying successful approaches, evaluating different solutions and examining obstacles to progress. By working together EPRO members can achieve synergies that will increase efficient plastics recycling and recovery.

EPRO Aims

To exchange and publish information and experiences.

To develop improved strategies for prevention, recycling and recovery of plastics packaging waste with regard to the EU thematic strategy on waste and recycling.

To support technological projects designed to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of plastics recycling and recovery throughout Europe.

To evaluate new technologies and to stimulate improved quality and value of used plastics on a scientific basis.

For more information about EPRO please visit www.epro-plasticsrecycling.org
Just some of the other activities RECOUP have been able to deliver in 2017 thanks to our members contributions are listed below;

- Promotion of plastic recycling at exhibitions and events.
- UK representative and board involvement within EPRO (EU organisation for plastics recycling).
- Support of innovation in plastics recycling through project management of plastic recycling trials and tests.
- RECOUP Plastics Recycling Conference regularly attracting 300 cross sector delegates.
- Sponsorship of the UK Best Recycled Plastic Product Award at the Plastic Industry Awards.
- Support for individual members: meetings, projects and research relating to plastic recycling.
- OPRL ownership to maximise recycling of plastics packaging by engaging consumers more effectively.
- Consumer insight research focussed on attitudes and behaviours to plastics packaging and recycling.
- Providing accurate information, educational material and local promotional services to increase plastic recycling levels.
The RECOUP Plastics Recycling Conference has quickly become the event of the year in the plastics recycling calendar. 2017 did not disappoint with delegate numbers approaching 300.

In the keynote address, journalist Lucy Siegle challenged and inspired the audience to engage with what she viewed as the many new and innovative areas of development within plastics recycling including the use of plastics within textiles and the critical requirement to engage the consumer. Throughout the day there was a shared view that increasing recycled content in manufacturing would be one of the keys to success, whether through voluntary arrangements, incentives or a legislative approach. The importance placed on designing recyclability into product and packaging manufacture was also significant with a number of examples referenced, together with a call from Plastic Recyclers Europe to mandate recycled content.

Robin Baird from Resource Efficient Solutions challenged the audience by saying, “It is essential in delivering a sustainable and thriving society that we must all take responsibility for our actions. This includes householders seeing and being aware of the importance of their choices when handling recyclable packaging. Only when we all take collective responsibility can we truly work towards a circular future”.

Throughout the day some speakers referenced the apparent lack of progress and re-visiting of old issues. But said it was evident that there has been more dialogue in recent years between sectors to address the barriers to improving plastic recycling.
The thought provoking final session of the day brought Greenpeace, Sky News, Keep Scotland Beautiful, INCPEN, Marks and Spencer and Icaro together to discuss the consumer perceptions of plastics within the natural environment. Icaro shared results from a new survey focusing on attitudes to plastics in the marine environment. The survey included questions to consumers on locations where they had seen plastic litter, the consumer perception of the reason for littering behaviour, and attitude towards a DRS system. Greenpeace speaker, Elena Polisano, commented that the tide was already turning, the impacts were already visible and the consumer was engaging with the issue. Greenpeace pointed out that increasing recycling and producer responsibility reform remained one of the future challenges.

There was agreement that there were no silver bullets or magic wand to solve the recycling conundrum but that there were real opportunities and signs of change. Sectors are becoming more co-ordinated, and more partnership working is evident. RECOUP continue to be a conduit through which the reprocessors, manufacturers, brand owners, local authorities and waste management companies can solve issues for the benefit of the whole of the value supply chain.

2018 Conference

The 2018 Conference is already being planned in Peterborough, for 27th September 2018. Keep an eye on our website and twitter page for regular updates about the Conference and when registration is open.

If you are interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the 2018 Conference please get in touch with RECOUP on 01733 370021 or enquiry@recoup.org
Becoming a supporter of RECOUP, as a valued member, will provide you with the opportunity to play your part in improving plastics resource management in the coming years.

RECOUP’s membership packages are designed to offer you the greatest access to services and information required to maximise your environmental performance within plastics recycling. Membership entitles you to a greater level of support and brings with it increased involvement of the RECOUP team on your specific projects. This includes project management of research programmes, pilot schemes and best practice roll-out.

RECOUP work to maximise efficient plastics recycling. RECOUP does this by activities in the following areas:

- Stimulating the development of sustainable plastics waste and resource management, especially the development of plastics recycling schemes across the UK.

- Undertaking research and analysis to identify good practices and remove barriers to the development of efficient plastics recycling systems.

- Providing expert technical support, training and consultancy services for the development of efficient plastics recycling schemes for local government and waste contractors.

- Promoting the use of recycled plastics in high quality end products.

- Providing strategic guidance, training and consultancy services to plastics supply chain businesses on the commercial opportunities and risks resulting from a growth in recycling and associated legislation.

- Representing the interests of the plastics recycling supply chain to National Government and other key stakeholders and lobbying for improved national approaches and allocation of finance.

- Providing accurate information, educational material for behaviour change initiatives and local promotional services to increase consumers use of current plastic collection facilities and to encourage the development of new facilities.
RECOUP Membership

With our three levels of membership it should be easy to find which type of membership would best suit your requirements.

- **Affiliate** membership is for charities and not-for-profit organisations.
- **Associate** membership is for Local Authorities.
- **Corporate** membership is for plastic supply chain organisations including polymer producers, packer fillers, brand owners, retailers, waste management companies, plastic reprocessors and end product manufacturers.

Governance Of RECOUP

A real strength of RECOUP is that it is supported by members from all sectors of the plastic packaging supply and recycling chain.

The Board of Trustees meets throughout the year to represent their sector and develop RECOUP’s strategy and tactics.

The Trustees are supported by a team of professional advisors with specific expertise in recycling, finance and legal issues. Trustees are all senior managers and directors, providing valuable input and expertise on issues affecting the plastics recycling industry. They bring particular knowledge of their sector areas, ensuring that the financial and operational activities of RECOUP serve the best interests of plastics recycling, providing value for members.

Trustees are nominated and elected by RECOUP members.
We need your support to continue taking plastics recycling to greater heights!

www.recoup.org
@Recoup_UK