



### **Biffa and Nestlé Waters UK partner to deliver 100% rPET made from British recycled plastic**

Biffa, the UK's leading sustainable waste management business, and Nestlé Waters UK are delighted to announce a new partnership to help accelerate a circular economy for plastics in the UK.

Biffa will be supporting Nestlé Waters UK to achieve its commitment of making every BUXTON® bottle from 100% recycled PET (recycled polyethylene terephthalate or rPET), by collecting recyclable PET bottles and reprocessing them here in the UK into rPET.

The partnership will enable Nestlé Waters UK to significantly reduce the amount of virgin plastic in circulation and lead the shift to using high-quality food-grade recycled PET in the UK, which today is sourced from Europe. Plastic is a lightweight, durable and low energy-intensity packaging material that when recycled properly can play a sustainable role in modern life, helping to shape a waste-free, lower carbon future. Together, Nestlé Waters and Biffa will ultimately offer a more sustainable choice for consumers of natural source waters and encourage the UK to recycle more.

The partnership, which is being announced during the 17<sup>th</sup> year of WRAP's Recycle Week, is further demonstration of Nestlé Waters' commitment to help consumers do more to recycle their plastics and ensure PET plastic is recovered, recycled and reused.

Biffa has set a target to quadruple its plastic recycling by 2030, and the rPET supplied to Nestlé Waters will come from the company's new £27.5m state-of-the-art plastic recycling facility in Seaham, County Durham. The plant has the capacity to process the equivalent of 1.3bn plastic bottles each year and will supply recycled material to Nestlé Waters' Buxton factory from 2021.

**Michel Beneventi, Managing Director for Nestlé Waters UK**, said: "This is a hugely significant step forwards in achieving our commitment of making our BUXTON® range from 100% rPET. By working together, sharing expertise across our companies to advance PET recycling for circularity, I believe we can be a force for good, helping to create positive, long-lasting impact and change for the planet.

"Having access to a local rPET supply reduces the carbon footprint of producing, sourcing and transporting our packaging from outside the UK and demonstrates the value that plastic drinks bottles have when they are recycled.

"Nestlé Waters has ambitious commitments to sustainability, with a pledge for all its brands to be carbon neutral by 2025. This collaboration with Biffa is a big step towards helping us achieve that and making a circular system for plastics a reality.

"We are very proud of our collaboration and what we will can achieve by working together."



**Chris Hanlon, Commercial Manager, Biffa Polymers,** said: "At Biffa, a key pillar of our sustainability strategy is to help build a circular economy in the UK, part of which is to help our customers develop sustainable packaging that can fit into the closed-loop recycling system that we are working to develop. The collaboration with Nestlé Waters UK is a great example of this strategy in action, using recycled plastic to manufacture plastic bottles for resale. It demonstrates that when used correctly, plastic can have a sustainable role in modern life and we're very much looking forward to working with Nestlé Waters UK and helping it to achieve its recycling goals."

**Helen Bird, Strategic Engagement Manager at WRAP,** said: "We are very pleased to see two of our UK Plastics Pact members embracing the spirit of collaboration on which the Pact is founded. It is only by working together, across the supply chain, that we can reduce our reliance on virgin plastics and bring an end to plastic pollution. Using recycled plastic in the manufacture of new plastic products and packaging is the whole point of recycling, and announcements like this help give confidence to the UK recycling industry to invest in new capacity, so that we can keep even more plastic in use and out of the environment."

**-ENDS-**

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#### **Notes to Editors**

Biffa and Nestlé UK & Ireland are proud members of WRAP's UK Plastics Pact, a collaborative initiative that aims to tackle plastic waste and create a smarter, cleaner circular economy for plastics.

#### **About Biffa**

Biffa has been at the forefront of the UK's waste industry for over a hundred years, with operations that span the entire breadth of the waste management process including collection, recycling, treatment, disposal and energy generation.

We exist to change the way people think about waste; to help people see the opportunities that exist when we manage our waste in the right way, and to make that happen.



We understand the vital role we have to play in helping the UK to address the climate emergency and deliver sustainable growth. This involves an ambitious investment programme in green economy infrastructure and low carbon collections, alongside an ongoing commitment to sector leadership in the health, safety and wellbeing of our people.

Biffa is a Great British company. It has been listed on the London Stock Exchange since October 2016 under the ticker "BIFF". In March 2020, Biffa entered the FTSE-250.

For more information visit [www.biffa.co.uk/investors](http://www.biffa.co.uk/investors)

### **About Nestlé Waters**

Nestlé Waters is the water division of the Nestlé Group and the number one bottled water company worldwide. We operate in 30 production countries with 85 production facilities and more than 28,000 employees. We are present in most distribution channels and consequently offer a large portfolio of 49 unique brands. In the UK these include our local brands, BUXTON® Natural Mineral Water, PLANT+WATER by BUXTON™ and Nestlé Pure Life as well as our international sparkling water brands Perrier® and S.Pellegrino®.

For more information visit [www.buxtonwater.co.uk](http://www.buxtonwater.co.uk)