**Background, examples include:**

* Co-op removed plastic stems from its cotton buds back in 2006
* Co-op sells no products which contain plastic microbeads
* The Co-op has the lowest plastic footprint of any major retailer. To date, almost three out of four Co-op branded products are now widely recyclable, which accounts for 95% of packaging for these products when measured by weight
* The Co-op has introduced not-for-profit compostable carriers into more than 1,000 stores where the local authority accept them as part of household food waste recycling – the bags can be turned into peat free compost, and Compost is contacting other Councils to urge them to accept the bags. While we would prefer customers to reuse their strong, durable, bags-for-life, this move has removed an estimated 60M single-use plastic bags in the first year alone
* In 2018, Co-op switched all of its own brand water to bottles made of 50% recycled material (rPET) - saving 350 tonnes of virgin plastic and, importantly, creating a market for recycled plastic to give consumers and recyclers increased confidence
* Co-op also increased the recycled content of its milk bottles to 30% saving a further 1,246 tonnes of plastic
* Co-op switched non-recyclable polystyrene pizza discs to card – saving c200T of polystyrene from going to landfill
* The Co-op will use a minimum of 50% recycled plastic in PET bottles, pots, trays and punnets by 2021.
* The Co-op has cut its direct carbon footprint in half over the last decade and all its food stores, offices and funeral homes use 100% renewable electricity.