

## **5 Million Plastic Bottles Targeted in Bring Bank Launch**

(07.10.05) As part of Repak Recycling Week, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has launched a special plastic bottle recycling initiative which could lead to the recycling of an additional five million plastic bottles.

Through the scheme 8 plastic bring banks will be rolled out throughout the local authority area and it is expected to collect around 210 tonnes of used plastic bottles.

The new banks which are unique open caged skips and will be located beside regular bring banks, where the public can bring plastic bottles for recycling. Banks in the first phase will be located in:

- Loughlinstown Leisure Centre
- Dundrum Shopping Centre (Old Car Park)
- Marlay Park, (Car park College Road)

It is estimated that over 36,000 tonnes of plastic bottles are produced on the Irish market each year. Last Repak reported a 240% increase in the amount of plastic bottles recycled but this accounts for only 14% (5,000) of all plastic bottles being recycled versus a recycling rate of 63% for glass.

Studies suggest plastic bottles represent around 10% of the average household bin or approximately 2% of the weight. This equates to 8 kilos per person per year.

Commenting on the launch of the initiative An Cathairleach, Cllr Pat Hand said he was delighted to announce the roll-out of Phase 1 of the plastic recycling Project by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown. From Friday October 7th residents of the county will be able to recycle plastic bottles at recycling centres in Marlay Park, Loughlinstown Leisure Centre and the old Dundrum Shopping Centre. Phase 2 of the project will see a further five locations launched by the end of the year in response to public demand for increased local recycling infrastructure he added. This along with the Ballyogan recycling centre means we will hopefully recycle in excess of 500 tonnes of used plastic bottles (or 11 million bottles) in a full year.

Darrell Crowe, Marketing Manager, Repak commented "Plastic bottle recycling outside of Dublin has been at a more advanced stage for some time. We are delighted to see Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council respond to the demand from local householders for additional plastic bottle recycling in their area. This will help householders to do the right thing and help recycle the 800 million bottles that currently end up in landfill."

Repak Recycling Week continues until Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October. A listing with full details of participating local authority recycling centres can be found on

[www.repak.ie](http://www.repak.ie). This information will also be available through the locall number 1850 909999 operated between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

### **About Repak**

Repak is a not-for-profit voluntary member's based packaging recycling scheme established under a voluntary agreement between industry and the Department of the Environment and Local Government. It was established as industry's response to the obligations placed on Ireland by the EU directive on Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) and is the only government approved packaging compliance scheme under the Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations 1997. Repak succeeded in reaching and exceeding Ireland's EU National Packaging Recovery and Recycling Target of 25% of packaging waste in 2001 and is well on the way to achieving our 2005 EU packaging recovery target of 50%.

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