



# Composting compostables

The UK composting landscape in September 2018

Lucy Frankel

# UK composting methods

- **In-Vessel Composting (IVC)**
  - 53 in the UK, over 1/3 of which already accept Vegware
- **Equipped Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plants**
  - Rethinking the depackager – getting value from run-off
  - May include a composting phase - very common outside UK
- **Open Windrow (OAW) – garden waste composting**
  - 150+ in the UK – certified compostable DRINKS waste only, no food
  - Allowed since July 2018 – trials underway
- **On-site composters**
  - Such as the Rocket by Tidy Planet (Dundee & Angus College)

# Hands-on collaboration



REA ORG monitoring a large-scale Vegware trial 😊

<<< After just 3 weeks at average temp of 72°C, only the cutlery is discernible (heat produced naturally by process)



Plastic contamination is a major issue for composting facilities



# Labelling, signage, education



The Green Leaf band – now our stock design

- On products
- On bin signage
- On posters for clients
- Clarity for consumers & waste partners

WE'LL  
*Compost*  
THIS

.....

Put it in our  
**FOOD WASTE &  
COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING** bin

Catering disposables made from plants, not plastic.  
Composted in under 12 weeks,  
to feed soil and help plants grow.



# Trade collections for Vegware: regional, but growing...



Back in 2012:  
Aberdeenshire 😊

# And now in September 2018...

## CLOSE THE LOOP

(Vegware's own collections):

- Edinburgh, Glasgow, Central Belt, Dundee, parts of Fife, Fort William
- Bristol, Worcester, Gloucester

## DRINKS WASTE ONLY:

- Isle of Man
- More in development

## COMPOSTING REGIONS:

M3 corridor (Basingstoke, Guildford, Reading, Swindon, Oxford, Salisbury, Winchester) | Cambridge | Hackney | Highlands of Scotland - Aberdeenshire | Hull & surroundings | Shrewsbury, Telford & some surrounding areas | Northern Ireland

## HOPEFULLY IN 2019:

London, Leeds & York, parts of Midlands

# It's already happening



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### Why 12 is the magic number when it comes to composting

By Lucy Hooker  
Business reporter, BBC News

12 September 2018



Calum Richardson was determined from the outset to eliminate plastic from his restaurant

The BBC's Circular Economy series highlights the ways we are designing systems to reduce the waste modern society generates, by reusing and repurposing products. This week we look at compostable and biodegradable packaging.

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### UK Parliament to dramatically reduce plastic use through new compostable products



20 September 2018